

Milk dealers appeal for PMMB okay

HARRISBURG — The future of Pennsylvania's 50-year old Milk Marketing Law and the economic stability it provides for farmers and dairy employees depends on speedy action by the state's House of Representatives which will only be in session a few days before adjournment, according to the Pa. Assn. of Milk Dealers.

Under the new Sunset Law passed by the General Assembly a few years ago, the Milk Marketing Board and the law which regulates it are up for review. Unless legislation is passed the Board will go out of existence no later than next June.

The job of analyzing the Board's activity was first given to the Pennsylvania Senate's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs early this year. It suggested a few minor amendments to update the law. This was contained in Senate Bill 1527 which then cleared the Senate by a 49 to 0 vote.

The bill then went to the House of Representatives where it was sent to the Appropriations Committee and it remained there as the legislature adjourned for an election recess. It will not return until Monday, Nov. 19.

Since this is Thanksgiving week there only will be a few days to work before it again recesses until Monday, Nov. 26. And this is the last day of the 1983-84 session since the Constitution mandates final adjournment Nov. 30. This also is the opening week of deer season which could have an effect on attendance.

If Senate Bill 1527 or some other legislation does not pass this could be disastrous to farmers and dealers alike and ultimately to consumers, according to Earl Fink, executive vice president of the Milk Dealers Association, Harrisburg.

Without Milk Marketing there would not be any bonding or

Grange urges bill signing

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania State Grange is urging the Governor to sign a bill increasing fines for timber theft to deter the practice in rural areas.

H.B. 1980, on the Governor's desk, increases fines for convicted timber thieves to twice the determined value of the stolen timber. This new law was sought by the State Grange because of the high incidence of timber theft in the northern tier counties of the state. Timber thieves found that they could make out financially by stealing timber and paying the fine, which did not come close to the price of the timber. The legislation was introduced earlier this year by Rep. Roger Madigan (R-Bradford).

Other Grange supported bills passed by the Legislature right before the election recess include:

- * S.B. 11, requiring school buses to stop at all railroad crossings;
- * S.B. 1153, appropriating \$35,000 to provide fencing materials to farmers to prevent wildlife crop damage;

- * S.B. 1154, allowing farmers to hunt without license don owned or rented farmlands which do not adjoin the home farm within 10 air miles of the base farm;

- * H.B. 163, exempting corn cribs and grin bins from real estate tax assessments.

Security Fund protection, he said, and this is vitally necessary.

"Milk dealers went on a financial limb to help pass newer and stronger bonding and Security Fund legislation," Fink added. "This will cost the Pennsylvania dealers hundreds of thousands of dollars, but they wanted to offer protection for their producers to guarantee an adequate supply of top-quality milk."

"If the legislation does not pass it also could be the finish for a number of small dealers as big operators, store chains and others start price wars. Temporarily, consumers might get a short break, but experience in other states indicates that when the small dealers are sent to the wall the prices go even higher than before. In addition, many jobs would be lost and markets for farmers would disappear."

Roshel Ayrshire dispersal

BY BARB RADER
Staff Correspondent

ALBION — Eighteen-year-old Lisa Coleman from Saltsburg, succeeded in placing the top bid of \$1,925 at the Roshel Ayrshire herd dispersal, held last week in Albion.

Represented by her parents, H.D. and Pauline Coleman, Lisa purchased the high seller of the dispersal, Roshel Pride Winnie, a Mar-Ral Commander's Pride daughter.

Contending bidders for the 5-year-old Winnie were Eddie and Pauline McConnell of Wellington, Ohio.

Just fresh with a Royal Welcome bull calf, which was also purchased by Coleman, Winnie has two previous milk records well over 13,000 lbs. milk and 450 lbs. butterfat.

Six other herd mates of Winnie will also be joining Lisa's dozen other Ayrshires at the Coleman farm. Lisa is a 9-year veteran of 4-H and FFA, and is a senior at Apollo Ridge High School in Indiana County.

The Erie County Roshel farm of Robert and Elizabeth Dorchester provided quality Ayrshires, including some sired by Royal Welcome, Meredith Liberator, Royal Command, Mar-Ral Fickle's Boy, and Donholm

Commander's Victory. A majority of the herd had traces of Wauwatosia's Commander's Laddie in their pedigrees.

Twenty-one head brought well over \$1,000, with 24 cows averaging \$1,190. The total sale average for 55 head was \$800.

The second high seller was grand champion of this year's Crawford

County Fair, Roshel Victory Eileen, sired by Donholm Commander's Victory. The six-year-old cow was purchased by John Hartman, Farmdale, Ohio, for \$1,650.

The volume buyer was Uhl Ayrshire Dairy, St. Mary's, taking 13 head with over \$10,000 value.

The Ayrshire sale was managed by Bob Dix, DeGraff, Ohio, and he commented, "The sale was better than any other sale around."



Pictured with the top-seller of the Roshel Ayrshire dispersal, Roshel Pride Winnie, are, left to right, Earl and Dave Nicols, auctioneers; Bob Dorchester, seller, Eddie and Pauline McConnell, contenders; H.D. and Pauline Coleman, buyers for their daughter Lisa; and Gary Miller, leadsman, at halter.

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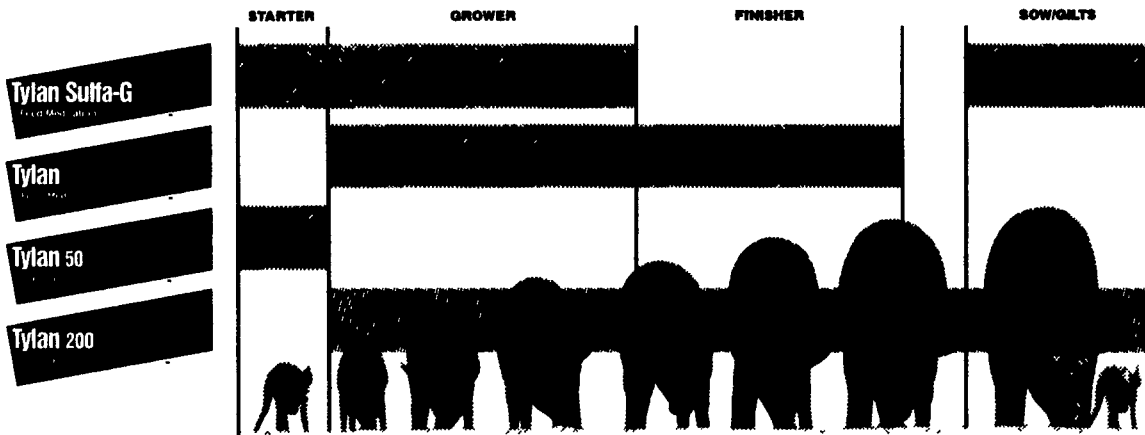
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