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Order 4 milk price \$15.42 for November

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine announced a Class I milk price of \$15.42 per hundredweight for November 1984. This price is up 34 cents from October and is 16 cents above last November's Class I price. This is the first month since November 1983 that the Class I price has been higher than the same month of the previous year.

Mr. Shine announced a Class II milk price of \$12.72 per hundredweight for September 1984 and a butterfat differential of 18.2 cents for the month. The Class II price was up 30 cents from August while the butterfat differential increased by nine-tenths of a cent.

The November Class I price and the September Class II price are based on the September 1984 Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price of \$12.64 per hundredweight at a 3.5 percent butterfat content. The price increased 34 cents from the previous month and was a the highest level since April 1981, when it was also \$12.64 per hundredweight.

The USDA reported that the wholesale price of Grade A butter at Chicago for September was \$1.5812 per pound and the nonfat dry milk price was \$.9068 per pound, f.o.b. plants in the Chicago area.

Garbage feeding explained

WASHINGTON, D.C. Feeding garbage to swine has its benefits, but it also has its risks. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and its state Plant Health Inspection counterparts are trying to minimize those risks. According to Bert W. Hawkins, administrator of USDA's Animal and

Service, "garbage feeding" is more than recycling leftovers from restaurants and cafeterias. To the ap-

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proximately 8,000 commercial feeders who use this practice, it also includes products like stale bread from bakeries, and heads, tails and other waste from fish processors.

"The benefits from recycling food waste through swine are ob-vious," said Hawkins. "Why waste food that's unsuitable for people to eat, but is suitable and nutritious for foodproducing pigs?"

Nevertheless, he said, there is a continuing risk that disease organisms could be fed to swine along with the meat products in food waste, and controls are needed to prevent this.

The risk is more than theoretical, Hawkins saıd.

"Recently, USDA participated in an international task force to eradicate African swine fever from the Dominican Republic and Haiti," Hawkins said. "African swine fever is a foreign animal disease for which there is no treatment or vaccine. It doesn't affect humans, but it can kill up to 100 percent of infected animals.

"The eradication campaign took more than four years and cost \$20 million. The outbreak in the Dominican Republic began when untreated airline garbage originating in foreign countries was fed to local swine.'

Congress helped balance the benefit of waste prevention against the risks of disease transmission by passing the Swine Health Protection Act in October 1980. Under this law, USDA is authorized to establish a uniform system to regulate the treatment of food waste fed to swine. States with laws as strong as the federal statute, or stronger, may take the lead in enforcing the rules. Otherwise, federal inspectors take over the function of seeing that food waste is properly treated. States may also ban garbage feeding altogether, and 16 of them do. "Most food waste feeders respect the trust placed in them. A few, however, still don't take feeding rules seriously," Hawkins said.





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