

Cecil DHIA elects officers

BY JOHN SCHMIDT
Staff Correspondent

SANDY COVE, Md. — The 39th annual Cecil County dairy meeting was held March 14 at Sandy Cove Morning Cheer Campgrounds. Election of DHIA officers and directors yielded three new faces.

Re-elected were: president Ronnie Underwood of North East; vice-president Wayne Stafford of Elkton; and treasurer Tom Crothers of Rising Sun. Dairy extension agent Robert Halman will act as secretary for the DHIA program in Cecil County.

Leslie Davis and Bob Haines will become directors for County Units III and II, respectively. Carroll Davis, of Earlville, and president Underwood will act as State DHIA directors, while supervisors Robin Adams of Colora and Ed and Ila Frederick of Port Deposit will continue in their present positions.

"Milk and Fat Deviation within the DHIA Test" made up the

program for the annual event. A slide show developed by the Penn State Extension Service demonstrated many possible causes for error other than testing. Such things as irregular milking times, changing feeds, varying bulk tank temperatures and others were given to illustrate the variations occurring with the same cows and same feed each year.

Bob Hope, manager of the new Mid-East DHIA Testing Lab in Hagerstown, Md., reinforced the slide show information and discussed procedures and equipment at the new facility. "We are doing everything possible to make our tests accurate," said Hope. Test completion times and mailing to farms have been reduced.

Numerous awards were given to area DHIA members for outstanding performance. Honor roll Holstein farms (county herds above the state average in milk,

fat and protein) were Pioneer Valley, Long Green, Aion Meadows, Heritage Hill, Far View Albeck Farm Inc., Pembroke, Wil-0-Mar, Carl Stafford & Sons, Lovdal, Pleasant View, Cherry Valley and Kilby's Inc. Guernsey honor roll farms were T.Howard England, England Farms Inc. and Mt. Aravat Farm.

Many of the same farms were recognized for high increases in milk and fat production also. Albeck Farms of Rising Sun took first for "fat corrected" milk for Holsteins, while Kilby's Inc. placed second. The Guernsey "fat corrected" competition found Mt. Aravat Farms of Port Deposit on top, and Pleasant View Farm of North East was high herd for Jerseys.

The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service awarded certificates for the Profitable and Efficient Production (PEP) program. When presenting the awards, by Dr. Kim Cassel, dairy specialist, noted many benefits for the 30 Maryland herds already involved in PEP, such as jumps in milk production and decreases in somatic cell counts and feed costs.



Current Cecil County DHIA directors and officers include: Bob Halman, Cecil Co. extension agent; Carroll Davis; Ron Underwood; Bob Haines; Leslie Davis; Ron Holt; Steve Haines; Neal McCleary; and Tom Crothers.

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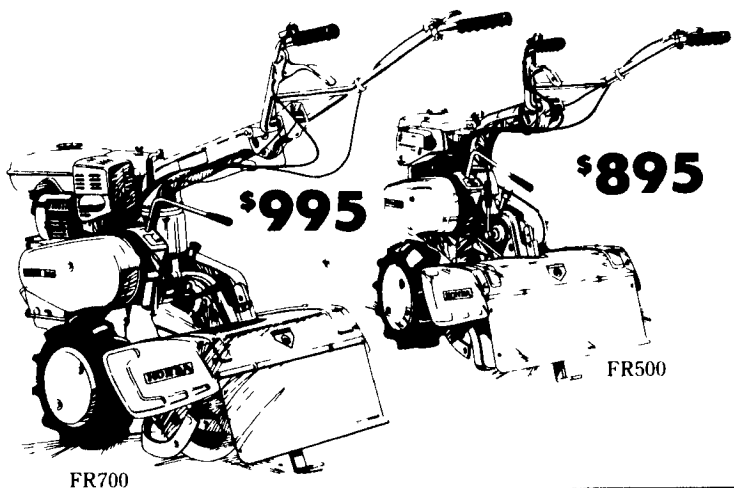


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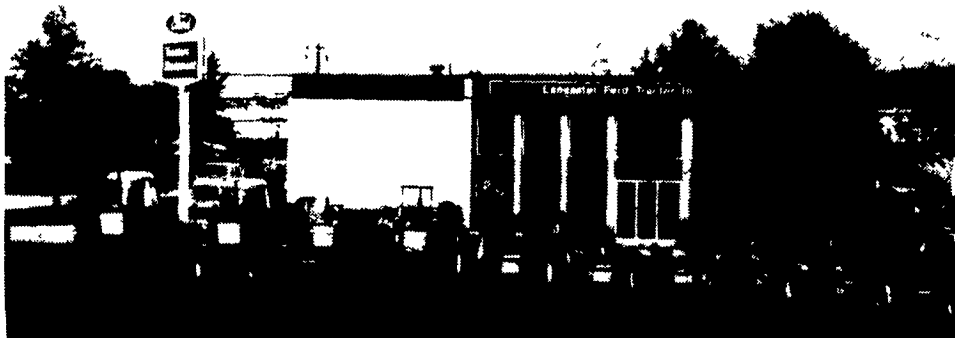
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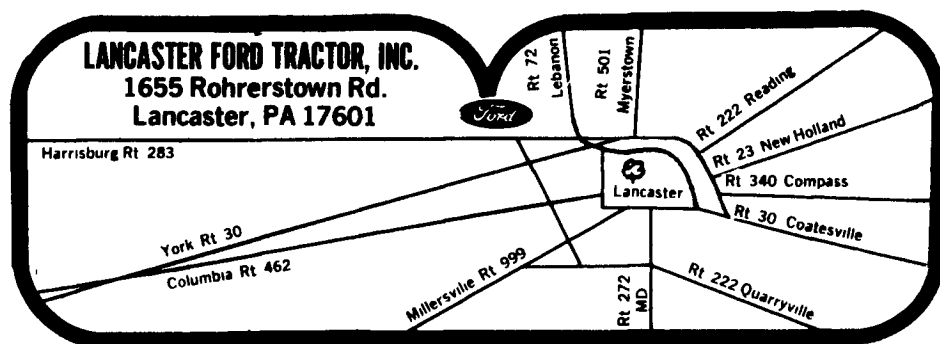
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