

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 30 No. 32

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, June 15, 1985

\$7.50 per Year

Duties on Canadian pork just one step away

BY JAMES H. EVERHART

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Commerce Department has confirmed its preliminary finding that the recent surge of Canadian pork imports has been stimulated by a Canadian subsidy of pork producers.

The Department announced its conclusions in a ruling this week that confirmed the existence of a Canadian subsidy of pork exports to the U.S., and set the amount of the countervailing duty that it feels should be levied to protect the American pork industry.

"We're delighted," said Charles Harness, spokesman for the National Pork Producers Council, which initiated the complaint about the Canadian subsidies.

The amount of the duty was raised slightly from earlier estimates, to a total of \$3.21 a hundredweight on live hogs and \$4.03 a hundredweight on pork products. The increase amounts to 17 percent over preliminary duties for live hogs, and 4 percent for pork products.

Harness indicated that the duty on products may be raised slightly.

He said an apparent clerical error was made by the government in calculating the figure, and the council will attempt to have the amount raised.

He added that the industry group was relatively optimistic about the prospects for favorable final action on the countervailing duty request.

The International Trade Commission has 45 days to make its decision on the case. The commission will have to rule that the U.S. pork industry is being hurt by the subsidy, in order to put the countervailing duty in effect.

"We have no indication that the ITC will not reaffirm its original ruling made last December and find that the industry has been injured by the Canadian subsidy," Harness said. "Proving the amount of the subsidy to the Commerce Department was the hardest part."

Canadian pork producers have been required to post a bond equal to the amount of the estimated subsidy on all pork exported to this country after April 2. The bond reportedly will be held until the Canadian actually makes the payments to the producers, then paid into the U.S. treasury if the ITC affirms the duty.

All funds collected after the ruling is finalized will be disposed of in the same way, being retained in bond until the Canadian government actually determines the amount of its subsidies each year and makes the payments to producers.

The request for U.S. intervention in the matter was filed last November by NPPC. Both the Commerce Department and the ITC, in preliminary findings, had indicated that the subsidy was hurting the American pork producing industry.

Officials in the Commerce Department said they did not know if the interim duty — or the increasing likelihood of an official countervailing levy — had stemmed the tide of Canadian imports.

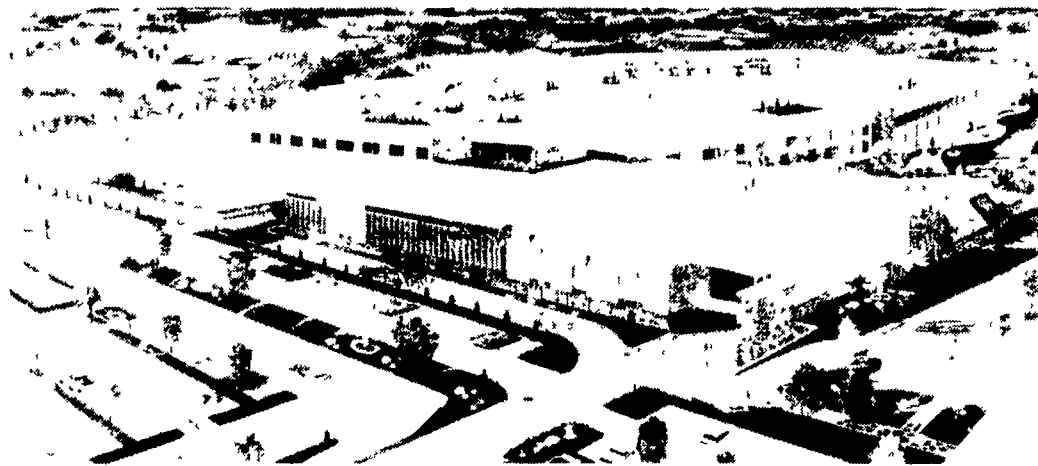
"According to what I read in the Wall Street Journal, the duty has had a noticeable, but minor effect on the futures market," said Commerce's Chris Parlan.

He added that other reports indicate prices have continued to slide in the short run, as Canadian pork producers begin to liquidate their holdings.

The NPPC's Harness noted that preliminary duty has had an ef-

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Welcome, Jersey Breeders!



Jersey breeders from across the nation will attend the Jersey Cattle Club's annual meeting at the Americana Host Farm in Lancaster this week.

BY SUZANNE KEENE

LANCASTER — Nearly 600 Jersey breeders will be arriving at the Americana Host Farm Resort in Lancaster this weekend for the start of the American Jersey Cattle Club and the National All-Jersey Inc. annual meetings.

"We're really delighted with the response," convention co-chairman Helene Dreisbach reported. The convention, scheduled Sunday through Wednesday, is expected to be the largest in recent years.

One reason for the excellent response could be the meeting agenda, which includes tours of Lancaster County Jersey farms, business meetings, a national heifer sale and a banquet honoring retiring American Cattle Club Executive Secretary James Cavanaugh.

Cavanaugh will be roasted during the Cattle Club's banquet Tuesday night, when he will also receive a distinguished service award for outstanding and unselfish service to the Jersey breed. Leading the list of Cavanaugh's many contributions are his work toward increasing production and marketing Jersey products, Cattle Club Assistant Secretary Calvin Covington said.

A private reception for Cavanaugh and his wife will follow the banquet. Maurice Cove will take over Cavanaugh's position starting July 1.

The Master Breeder award will go to Newell Mills of Fallon, Nevada, and seven young couples will receive Youth Jersey Dairyman Awards.

Another highlight of the national convention is the 28th Annual Heifer Sale, scheduled for Tuesday afternoon at the Solanco Fairgrounds. The sale bill features 55 of the nation's best pedigreed Jersey heifers.

Included on the sale bill is A-Nine Top Brass, a heifer whose granddam is a leading lifetime milk and fat producer in the Jersey breed. She has three records over 30,000 pounds and in 365 days produced 32,660 pounds milk and 1,589 pounds fat.

A top Pennsylvania bred heifer to be sold is Briarcliff Soldier Boy, out of a cow with a two year, five month record of 17,260 pounds milk and 721 pounds fat. Soldier Boy has one full brother and one maternal brother in bull studs.

The Ogston Golden Opportunity Sale, featuring outstanding Jersey cows and bred heifers, will be held Thursday in Columbus, N.J. Although the sale is not an official part of the convention activities, transportation to the sale from the hotel will be available.

On Monday, convention goers will have an opportunity to tour some of Lancaster County's outstanding Jersey farms. Included

on the tour are.

- MilkHoney Farm, Peach Bottom, owned by George and Doris Hough. The Houghs raise 180 Jerseys with 87 milk cows on the 317-acre farm. They have bred a top AI bull.

- The farm of Paul and Charlotte Trimble, Peach Bottom. The Trimbles milk 100 Jerseys and purchased their foundation herd in Vermont in 1968.

- The Robert Ulrich, Jr. farm, in Quarryville. The Ulrichs milk 100 Jersey cows and had the second high DHIR record for a Jersey herd in the state in 1984, with 14,102 pounds of milk and 694 pounds fat.

- Lynmoore Farm, Quarryville, owned by William, Tom and Larry Aaron. The Aarons stress milk and fat production on their Jersey farm.

- An Amish Jersey farm.

During business meetings, the National All-Jersey Inc. will elect one new director and will appoint a new director. The American Cattle Club will re-elect their president, who is running unopposed, and will elect four directors.

The Jersey breeders will also hear from Carl Wolf, president of First World Cheese Associates in South Orange, N.J. Wolf's business makes about \$100 million of cheese sales annually and includes Jersey Pride Cheese in its list of specialty cheeses.

The 75 to 80 Jersey Juniors expected to attend the convention will have separate breakfasts on Tuesday and Wednesday and will have their own hospitality suite open during the course of the meetings.

Jersey Stories

Other stories of interest to Jersey breeders in this week's Lancaster Farming are:

- Ogston Farm. A22
- Jersey Juniors' Cookbook. B22

June is Dairy Month at Lancaster Farming

Week 3: Genetics

LANCASTER — Week three of Lancaster Farming's coverage of Dairy Month focuses on biology, the genetics and breed characteristics that can be so critical to a dairyman.

The latest research a review of some important techniques . . . and a rundown on the traits that make the different dairy breeds special. . . it's all here in this week's edition.

The specifics.

- The individual breeds. Officers of the various dairy breed associations talk about their breeds' distinctive traits. For more, turn to page A20.

- The Ogston Golden Opportunity. A Lancaster Farming correspondent travels to this "mecca" of Jersey enthusiasts, to talk with the people who have contributed so much to the Jersey breed. Find out more on page A22.

- Embryo Transfer. Will E.T. eclipse A.I. as the 20th Century's major contribution to the advancement of dairy science? Read more on page A26.

- Four decades of A.I. Lancaster Farming dairy editor Wendy Wehr talks to some of the people who helped pioneer artificial insemination techniques in the 1940s. To hear their account of the early days of A.I., turn to page A27.

- New Bolton Center. Where will the advances of the future be uncovered? Most probably, in research facilities like this University of Pennsylvania campus near Kennett Square. Read more on page A32.

- Research up close and personal. How does it feel to be on the forefront of agricultural research? For one woman's account of the rigors of the life of a researcher, turn to page B2.

