

Grange backs standby dairy diversion plan

WASHINGTON — "The Grange is fighting hard in Washington, D.C. for a dairy program in the 1985 Farm Bill which will provide stability both for producers and consumers," said Edward Andersen, Master of the National Grange. He said the dairy program should reduce present surpluses and meet the goals of budget reductions without severe price cuts or mandatory quota-based supply controls.

Andersen said these goals could be met through a series of coordinated programs. For example, the Grange supports the continuation of the Federal Milk Marketing Order System and a dairy price support program in which the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) would purchase surplus cheese, butter and nonfat dry milk at announced prices.

"The Grange recognizes the country is faced with a national surplus of dairy products," said the national farm leader, "and we are recommending a voluntary standby diversion program with producers being paid \$10/cwt to divert between five percent and 30 percent of their production."

Producers who participated in a previous diversion program would be given credit for the amount of milk they diverted plus an average production increase of non-participating producers when figuring their base for purposes of participating in the new program.

The cost of the program would be financed by an assessment on dairy farmers on a per hundredweight basis. The Secretary of

Agriculture should have some discretionary authority to administer the diversion and/or assessment program apportioned on the basis of geography in order to recognize present regional successes in reducing current milk production and to avert severe shortages of milk in local market areas.

To establish C.C.C. purchase prices, the Grange supports replacing the parity formula with a new dairy pricing index which would take into account cost of production and increases in dairy

cow productivity. The Grange also wants a separate supply-demand adjuster index to give the Secretary of Agriculture the discretion to raise or lower C.C.C. purchase prices within a predictable range based on estimated purchases for the coming year.

The Grange is opposing current legislative proposals to amend several Federal Market Order Class I (fluid milk) transportation differential prices. Andersen said the Grange opposes the proposals for three reasons:

- market orders should not be amended legislatively;

- current projections show that adjusting the differential prices at this time could cause an increase in milk production by up to two billion pounds annually, all of which would have to be diverted under present conditions at increased costs to dairy farmers and

- differential price adjustments would be redundant if current market pool and transportation pool proposals, which the Grange support are used instead to meet

the problems of milk-deficient areas.

Andersen said the Grange is strongly in favor of changing the tariff classification of imported dairy proteins (caseins) to a dairy product from an industrial chemical and limiting casein imports to 50 percent of current levels. He said imported caseins used in imitation dairy products displace genuine dairy products in domestic markets and materially interfere with price support programs.

June Order 2 price \$11.47

NEW YORK, NY. — Dairy farmers who supplied milk plants regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during June 1985 will be paid on the basis of a uniform price of \$11.47 per hundredweight (24.7 cents per quart).

Market Administrator Thomas A. Wilson also stated that the price was \$11.78 in May 1985 and \$12.29 in June 1984. The uniform price is a marketwide weighted average of the value of farm milk used for fluid and manufactured dairy products.

The seasonal incentive plan removed \$.40 per hundredweight from the June uniform price, a total of \$4,112,312.62. Deductions for March through June 1985 aggregated \$13,476,710.97. The fund, plus interest, will be distributed in the August through November uniform price calculations.

June's uniform price was lowered \$.05 per hundredweight because \$467,348.76 less was available in unreserved cash from the May 1985 pool. Failure of Northeast Dairy Cooperative Federation, Inc. to pay its pool obligation for May accounted for this shortage.

A total of 16,487 dairy farmers supplied the New York-New Jersey Milk Marketing Area with 1,028,078,155 pounds of milk during June 1985, an increase of 3.2 percent (about 32 million pounds) from last year. The gross value to dairy farmers was \$119,235,428.03. This included differentials required to be paid to dairy farmers but not voluntary premiums or deductions authorized by the farmer.

Regulated milk dealers (handlers) used 364,106,799 pounds of milk for Class I, 35.4 percent of the total. This milk is used for fluid milk products such as

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homogenized, flavored, low test, and skim milks. For June 1985, handlers paid \$13.87 per hundredweight (29.8 cents per quart) for Class I milk compared with \$14.32 a year ago.

The balance (663,971,356 pounds or 64.6 percent) was used to manufacture Class II products including butter, cheese, ice cream, and yogurt. Handlers paid \$11.09 per hundredweight for this

milk. The uniform price is based on milk containing 3.5 percent butyfat. For June 1985, there was a price differential of 16.3 cents for each one-tenth of one percent that the milk tested above or below the 3.5 percent standard.

All prices quoted are for bulk tank milk received within the 201-210 mile zone from New York City.

USDA working on viruses to control grasshoppers

WASHINGTON — Viruses that kill grasshoppers may someday be a new control for this insect pest now on a rampage in the West, a U.S. Department of Agriculture researcher said today.

"Seven viruses from overseas look promising for grasshopper control in North America," said John E. Henry, an entomologist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service. They are entomopox viruses that cause diseases, or poxes, in grasshoppers but not in humans and livestock.

"We want to find viruses that would be a natural plague for grasshoppers and only grasshoppers," he said.

Ideally, the viruses would be ones that continue to infect succeeding generations of grasshoppers, said Henry, who works at the Rangeland Insect Laboratory, Bozeman, Mont. One application might last several years, he added, and could prevent crop losses and damage to rangelands.

He said hot and dry weather conditions in the West have upset a delicate balance in which naturally-occurring diseases keep grasshopper numbers fairly stable. Grasshoppers thrive in this weather, he added, and are reproducing faster than their natural diseases can infect them.

Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block recently declared an emergency to make an additional \$15 million available to help control grasshoppers, bringing this year's federal commitment to \$25 million. So far, Idaho and Utah are the hardest hit of 13 infested states. Canada's Alberta and Saskat-

chewan provinces also are suffering severe damage.

"Chemical controls are effective in knocking down grasshopper populations in a hurry, but the question is whether we can find acceptable, long-term natural controls that will suppress populations below damaging levels," said Robert D. Jackson, the agency's national program leader for research on insects.

Henry thinks viruses may be the most promising new control strategy.

"During a typical grasshopper outbreak, six to 10 grasshopper species predominate. Each is slightly different and reacts to viruses in different ways. Ideal viruses would infect all grasshopper species that are pests," said Henry.

Because he hasn't found any native viruses that are virulent enough among the more than 600 species of grasshoppers in this country, he is now sorting and classifying ones he collected worldwide.

Of the seven entomopox viruses identified as promising candidates, Henry has tested one on a 10-acre test plot and found "results worth pursuing." He is continuing his studies this summer.

Henry and coworkers at the Montana State University laboratory also are researching the basic science of grasshopper viruses. They say they may need to know the genetic structure of the viruses should modification be necessary to make them more infectious among the many grasshopper subfamilies.

Fisher to host goat field day

LANCASTER — A dairy goat field day will be held Saturday, July 20, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the home of Jacob Fisher, Windy Hill Goat Dairy, Manheim. Anyone interested in dairy goats is invited to attend.

There will be demonstrations on a variety of topics such as—hoof trimming, dehorning, clipping, deworming, etc. Milking, milk handling and mastitis will be discussed. There will be an op-

portunity to ask veterinary-related questions.

Guests are invited to bring: chairs, folding tables, and cold drinks, plus recipes and samples of their favorite dairy goat products to share with other guests. Samples of hay and "poisonous" weeds are also welcome; they'll be used for discussion purposes.

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Public Auction Register

Closing Date Monday 5:00 P.M.
of each week's publication

JULY

THURS. JULY 25 - 11AM
Hackman Milking Herd Dispersal: 47 High Grade Holsteins. Located on Dean Hill, 3 mis. from Wellsboro, PA. Take Pearl St. out of Wellsboro. Willard G. Hackman.

Herd of Grade Cows, pick 45 out of 60, average 61 lbs.

717-354-4374

Owner: Arlow Kiehl, Auct
Gordon Wood, Sale Mgr.

FRI JULY 26 - 12 Noon
Dairy Sale Penns Valley Livestock Auction, Centre Hall, PA. Ron Gilligan, Auct

SAT. JULY 27 - 9:30AM
Public Auction of Farm Eq., Riding Mowers, Air Compressor, Car, Tools, Hshd., Antiques. Located along Rt. 443, 3 mis. W. of Leighton; 7 mis. E. of Rt. 309. Sale held at former McCall farm. Sale by: Gene Durlingan, Curt, Doug, & Tim Houser, Aucts.

SAT JULY 27 - 10AM 3rd

Annual Southern Tier Mennonite Relief Sale. Located Steuben Co. Fairgrounds, Bath, NY 50 Hand Stitched Quilts PIRRUNG TIONEERS, INC. AUC.

SAT. JULY 27 - 9AM
Public Auction of Garage Eq. & Tools. Located in Chadds Ford, 1 mi. S. of Rt. 202 and Rt. 1 intersection of Baltimore Pike. Terms by: Robert & Susanna Griffith. Horning Farm Agency, Inc.: Alvin Horning, Auct.

SAT. JULY 27 - 9:30AM
Public Auction of Carpenter Tools & Lumber. Located along Cold Run Rd. just E. of Rt. 82 in Geigertown, Berks Co. Terms by: Albert A. Stallone, Executor. Estate of Joseph B. Zeiders Elton Horning Farm Agency: Elton Horning & Rodney Horning, Aucts.

PUBLIC AUCTION



New Holland Sales Stables, Inc.
New Holland, Pa.



Tractors & Horse Drawn Farm Equipment-Supplies-Small Items

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1985

SALE OF SMALL ITEMS 9:00 A.M.

FARM EQUIPMENT 10:00 A.M.

New customers and out of state buyers must have current bank letter of credit with guaranteed amount or cashier checks

A list of your sale items must be in our office by July 23 to be included in our complete listing in the July 27 issue.

Abe Diffenbach, Manager

For more information contact Abe Diffenbach or Norman Kolb at 717-354-4341

NEXT FARM EQUIPMENT SALE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13