

050010192240 CUM  
PERIODICALS DIVISION  
#209 PATTER LIBRARY  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY PARK PA 16802

OCT 14 1985

# Lancaster Farming

VOL. 30 No. 48 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, October 5, 1985 \$7.50 per Year



## Milk price set at \$11.60 for 45 days

**BY JAMES H. EVERHART**  
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Congress has given itself another 45 days to adopt a Farm Bill, by passing emergency legislation extending existing dairy price supports until Nov. 15.

The measure, adopted by the House and Senate earlier this week, effectively removed the pressure to enact a Farm Bill by the time existing provisions expired Sept. 30.

The act freezes the support price at \$11.60 per hundredweight, effectively preventing prices from climbing to over \$16 a hundredweight, as they would have if the old legislation had been allowed to expire.

The legislators also added an amendment empowering USDA to make one million pounds of nonfat dry milk available for casein production. An open bid among manufacturers would be used to distribute the products.

It was signed into law by the President, despite threats from the administration that no extensions would be accepted.

Other amendments to the dairy title prevent the USDA from considering when in their estimate of milk price supports, and raise the government's red meat purchase during any diversion program to 250 million pounds.

The House was expected to complete its consideration of the Farm Bill early next week. The Senate, meanwhile, was scheduled to begin consideration of its own Farm Bill legislation on Oct. 15.

The Senate bill differs markedly from the House version, especially on dairy price provisions. The bill drafted by the Senate Agriculture Committee would lower prices until the government's dairy purchases dropped below five million pounds annually. Currently, they are running about 12 million pounds.

The Farm Bill package moving toward approval in the House contained a dairy title quite similar to the measure recommended by the House Agriculture Committee last month.

The wide differences between the two bills, officials said, indicate a need for extensive negotiations between the two houses. The two sides are expected to hold conferences on the Farm Bill by the first week in November, observers noted.

The dairy title would establish standby authority for a diversion program, and include a cost-of-production formula in its support pricing mechanism.

USDA Secretary John Block has threatened to recommend a presidential veto if the Congress

On opposing sides--Keith Eckel, president of the Pennsylvania Farmer's Association, offers testimony in opposition to the confirmation of Dr. Richard E. Grubb as state Secretary of Agriculture. Dr. Grubb, right, was confirmed by the Senate in a 47-1 vote Tuesday.

## Grubb confirmed overwhelmingly as State Agriculture Secretary

**BY JAMES H. EVERHART**  
HARRISBURG — Despite the opposition of the powerful Pennsylvania Farmers Association, Dr. Richard E. Grubb has been confirmed by the State Senate as the new Secretary of Agriculture.

Master, said his group is "confident that Grubb is the leader agriculture needs in Pennsylvania."

"Dr. Grubb has already proven at Penn State University that he is an excellent administrator," Wismer noted. "His successful career at the University is exemplified by his service under three university presidents."

Grubb has been serving as Acting Secretary of Agriculture since he was nominated in June. He replaces Penrose Hollowell,

who resigned in April after serving six years in the Thornburgh Cabinet.

Despite the opposition, Grubb said in the confirmation hearings that he believed he could work with his opponents for the betterment of Pennsylvania agriculture.

He also defended his qualifications, noting that he had been born and raised on the Centre County Farm where he now lives, and received his undergraduate and master's degree training in agriculture.

(Turn to Page A37)

The legislators ratified Gov. Dick Thornburgh's nominee in a 47-1 vote Tuesday.

Grubb said Wednesday that he was encouraged by the size of the vote, and considered it proof that the administration and the legislature take agriculture seriously.

The Pennsylvania Farmer's Association had opposed the appointment in confirmation hearings Monday before the Senate's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

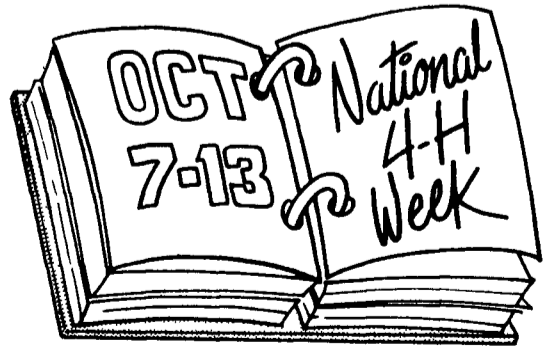
Keith Eckel, president of the PFA, said the group was opposed to the nomination of the Penn State administrator, because of his relative inexperience in production agriculture and state government.

The Secretary of Agriculture, Eckel said, must have "firsthand experience and a working relationship with agriculture and agri-business," in order to be an "advocate and spokesman" for the industry in administration councils.

"Dr. Grubb has pursued a career outside the realm of agriculture for the past 25 years," Eckel concluded. "He has chosen to become a university administrator, not an intricate part of the agriculture industry."

The Senate Ag Committee, which endorsed the nomination by a 7-3 vote, heard nothing but favorable comments from the four other witnesses who testified at the hearing. Groups supporting the nomination included the Grange and the Pennsylvania Farmers Union.

## INSIDE this week's Lancaster Farming



In recognition of National 4-H Week, Oct. 7 to 13, Lancaster Farming devotes several pages of this week's issue to Pennsylvania 4-H'ers. Look for stories on outstanding 4-H members and leaders on pages B20 and 21 and in E section.

Junior exhibitors turned out in force to compete at the Eastern National Livestock Show this week. Look for coverage of junior beef events, as well as Wednesday's market hog show and the open Polled Hereford show on pages A26 and 27.

Charles Wismer, State Grange