

Unveils plans for new computer

Lancaster DHIA honors top members, supervisors

BY SUZANNE KEENE

LANCASTER — The Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association has purchased a new computer that will allow its 6,500 members to more easily access their records, DHIA administrative assistant Raymond Pruss told dairymen at the Red Rose DHIA banquet this week.

With the new computer, which is expected to be available to DHIA dairymen in June, DHIA members with home computers will be able to plug into the main frame computer any time of day to check their records.

"We can handle 200 phone calls simultaneously," he said.

DHIA members interested on setting up the program on their home computers will be able to get help from a DHIA employee, Pruss said. The benefit to dairymen without computers, he added, is that they will receive their reports more promptly.

Under the current system, dairymen receive a monthly management report in the mail. By getting that report earlier, the dairyman will be able to make changes that will benefit his dairy herd.

In a related interview earlier this month, DHIA general manager Dick Barth said the purpose in installing the computer is to provide on-line data processing to the farmer and to deliver better management tools to DHIA members.

The \$300,000 IBM computer was delivered to the Penn State University campus this week and

should be fully installed by Jan. 15, Barth said. However, he added, the computer will not be available to DHIA members until later in the year, after the old computer programs have been converted into a new language for use in the new system.

Barth said that during the first six months of 1986 DHIA will be working to convert the old programs to a new language that will make updating programs easier. And, he continued, once the current programs are converted and DHIA members are benefiting from calling up their management reports on their home computers, DHIA will work to develop new programs that will provide its members with new information.

"These new programs will provide different and new information to the dairyman than he has ever had before," Barth said.

Improved feed recommendations is one of the options possible with the new computer, Pruss said. The computer, he explained, will be able to calculate recommendations based on exactly what the dairyman is feeding.

Other possible options include a herd health program, a young stock program and a genetic inventory through which DHIA members will be able to pull out genetic information on a particular cow.

"The future is the options that you want," Pruss said, stressing that DHIA needs to know what options its members are interested in.

Red Rose DHIA Awards

The annual meeting also offered a time to recognize outstanding Red Rose DHIA members and supervisors.

A host of certificates and awards went to Red Rose DHIA members who had outstanding production records in 1985.

Receiving awards for high milk herds, by breeds, were: James Martin, R1 Stevens, Ayrshire; Richard Wenger, R2 Manheim, Brown Swiss; Kenneth B. Garber, R2 Willow Street, Guernsey; John H. Howard, Willow Street, Holstein; Paul H. and Marvin Herr, R1 Holtwood, Jersey; J. Douglas Marsh, Nottingham, Milking Shorthorn; and Leon N. Sensenig, R2 Quarryville, mixed.

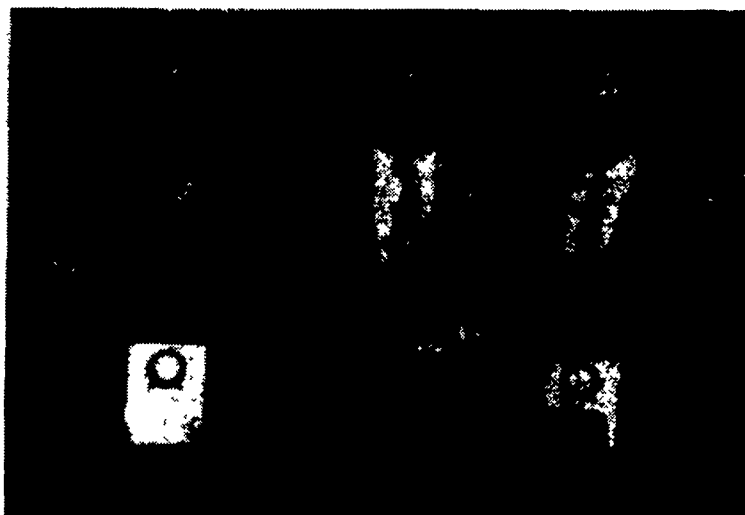
John Howard received special recognition for having the top fat herd, recording 23,730 pounds milk and 858 pounds fat on 43 Holsteins.

The county's top 10 protein production herds belonged to: Rael Holsteins, Ephrata, 656 pounds; Robert L. Kauffman Jr., Peach Bottom, 657 pounds; Jonas E. Stoltzfus, Gap, 668 pounds; John and Barbara Brubaker, Christiana, 672 pounds; Dale and Steve Hershey, Manheim, 678 pounds; D. Lamar Witmer, Manheim, 678 pounds; J. Mowery Frey Sr., Willow Street, 689 pounds; Fertrell Farm, Bainbridge, 699 pounds; Benuel Z. Lapp, New Holland, 718 pounds; and John H. Howard, Willow Street 753 pounds.

Dairymen with herds with somatic cell counts of 100,000 or less received awards for their clean milk. They were Jacob G. Esch, Ronks; Curtis E. Akers, Quarryville; and Eby W. Burkholder, Ephrata.

Seven Red Rose DHIA supervisors were recognized with \$300 Red Rose Superior Service Awards. They were Thomas Garrett, Wilbur Houser, James Lehman, Harold Lindecamp, Moses Martin, Harold Probst and Jay Risser.

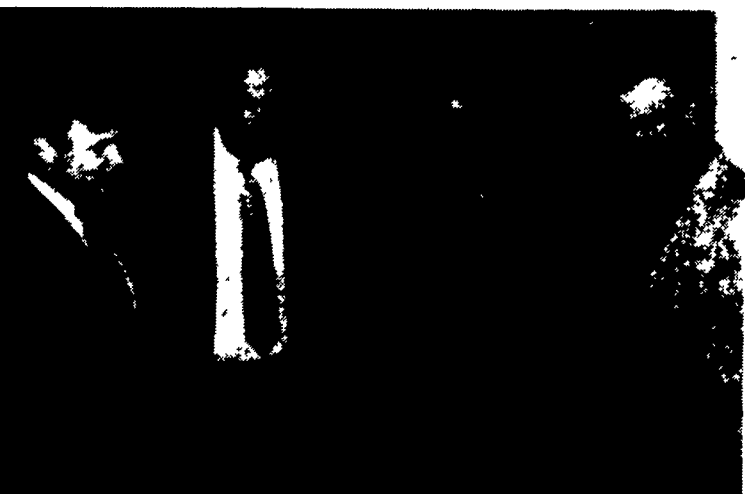
New directors elected at this year's annual meeting, were Clifford Blank, Kinzers; Raymond Brubacher, Morgantown; David Dum, Mount Joy; and Dale Stoner, Lancaster.



Lancaster dairymen recognized for high milk herds included, from left, James Martin, Ayrshire; John H. Howard, Holstein; and Kenneth B. Garber, Willow Street.



Seven area supervisors were recognized with a \$300 Red Rose Superior Service Award. They included, front from left, Wilbur Houser and James Lehman. In back from left are Jay Risser, Harold Probst and Thomas Garrett. Not available for photo were Harold Lindecamp and Moses Martin.



County extension agent Glenn Shirk, left, presented Breed awards for high milk production to Jersey producers Paul H. and Marvin Herr, center, from Holtwood RD 1, and Brown Swiss producer Richard Wenger, right, of Manheim RD 2.



Red Rose DHIA Vice President James G. Kreider, right, presents a \$300 Red Rose Superior Service Award to DHIA Supervisor Harold Lindecamp, left.

Crawford Co. Holstein Club

BY NANCY KUNICK
Staff Correspondent

MEADVILLE — The Crawford County Holstein Club, at its annual meeting here last week presented awards recognizing outstanding efforts by club members.

The Club recognized juniors who owned and bred 4-H projects which placed in the top five in their class. Dan and Loretta Dickey, youth leaders, presented the awards to Julie Custead, Sandra Black, Jennifer Dickey, Lee Livingston, Leslie Pegan and Karen Black.

This year those who participated in the county dairy judging were also recognized. The team was coached by Mark and Melanie Bachman who felt they had an exceptional team, which placed third at State Achievement Days in August.

Mark Bachman thanked the Club for its financial support which allowed the awards to be given.

Jill Hyde received the high individual award. Twelve youth

members were presented participation gifts: Jill Hyde, Marsha Anthony, Tim Fiely, Jennifer Dickey, Jamie Holler, Paige Hyde, Janet Bryer, Kellie and Chad Kunz, Michelle Lyons and Amber and Rodney Donovan. Jill Hyde, Tom Fiely and Marsha Anthony made up the State Days senior team.

Committee reports were given and remarks were made by Crawford County Dairy Princess Jill Hyde and Pennsylvania Holstein Assoc. Vice President Art Baxter.

Jack Rynd urged everyone to help out with the Winter Holiday Sale December 12 at the fairgrounds in Meadville. "Seventy one head are consigned. Our ad has drawn thirty calls from all over U.S. and Canada... really good to attract this type of person who will make a long distance call." He also pointed out the successful Irish Holiday Sale that the Club held in March.

Ken Raney, PHA director of



Owner-Breeder Awards were presented to juniors: (back) Lee Livingston, Jennifer Dickey and Julie Custead (front) Leslie Pegan and Sandra Black. Absent from the photo was Karen Black.

membership services told of current changes. He urged everyone to get their calves drawn off now. He also emphasized youth membership. He pointed out that the price will jump from \$2.00 to \$15.00 on January 1.

He praised Crawford County for

its "very active club" and interest in youth. He commended the efforts of everyone for the State Holstein Show held in the county in September.

"We owe you a debt of thanks. We've heard nothing but praise for the fine job you did."

Club president Jeff Raney then announced those elected to serve as directors. Mark Bachman, Richard Black and incumbent Bryan McCurdy were selected. Ed Doeberiner and Milton Schweitzer were thanked for their work as their terms expired.