

## March milk price set at \$11.50

NEW YORK — Dairy farmers who supplied milk plants regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during March 1986 will be paid on the basis of a uniform price of \$11.50 per hundredweight (24.7 cents per quart). Market Administrator Thomas A. Wilson also stated that the price was \$11.84 in February 1986 and \$12.64 in March 1985. 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 \$.20 per hundredweight from the dairy farmers' uniform price for March, a total of \$2,105,950.71. Deductions will continue through June and will be returned in the August through November uniform price calculations.

A total of 16,376 dairy farmers supplied the New York-New Jersey Milk Marketing Area with 1,062,975,355 pounds of milk during March 1986. This was an increase of 5.5 percent (about 55 million pounds) from last year. The gross value to dairy farmers for milk deliveries was \$124,924,704.18. 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 396,568,262 pounds of milk for Class I, 37.7 percent of the total. This milk is used for fluid milk products such as homogenized, flavored, low test, and skim milks. For March 1986, handlers paid \$13.37 per hundredweight (28.8 cents per quart) for Class I milk compared with \$14.65 a year ago.

The balance (666,407,093 pounds or 62.3 percent) was used to manufacture Class II products including butter, cheese, ice cream, and yogurt. Handlers paid \$10.97 per hundredweight for this milk.

The uniform price is based on milk containing 3.5 percent butterfat. For March 1986, there was a price differential of 15.8 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 from farms in the 201-210 mile zone from New York City.



Plain and Fancy Egg Ranch held their 20th Anniversary Celebration Banquet last Sunday evening at the Treadway Resort Inn, Lancaster. One hundred eighty guests and employees of the ranch were entertained by Howard Helmar, known as the Omelet King, and made omelets for their dinner. Paul Hess, Jr., president, honored the founders of the organization. Pictured from left, John Snader, Paul Hess, Sr., Paul Hess, Jr., and Claude Hess.

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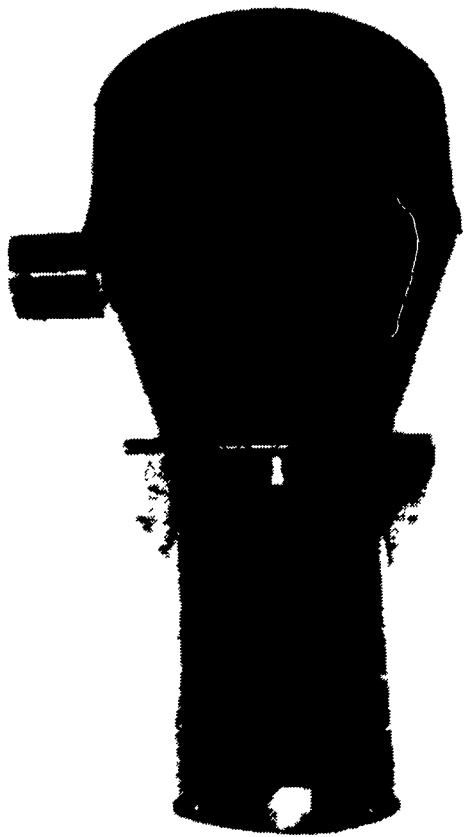
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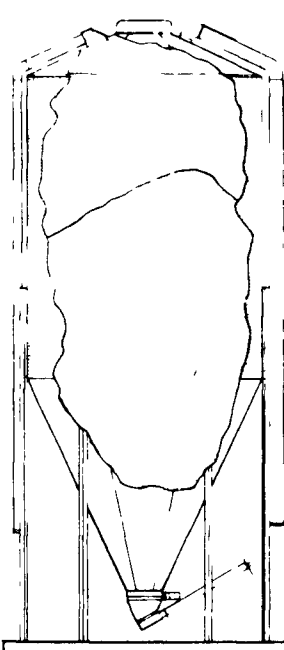
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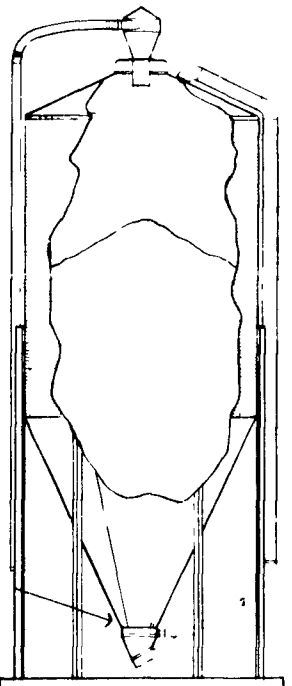
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