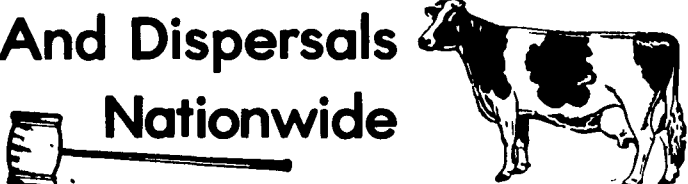


Major Dairy Sales And Dispersals Nationwide



Reports from five sales for the week of May 9 to 14 showed 279 head averaging \$895.10. These sales were held in Vermont, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio. The top prices at the sales ranged from \$7,800 to \$351. Here is a brief look at the results of these sales.

AYRSHIRES

The KENTUCKY NATIONAL SALE averaged \$642.50 on 44 head. The top price of \$1,400 was garnered by three animals. A first calf heifer, sired by Ben Firme Amigo and out of a dam with a high record of 16,726 pounds of milk, was the first entry to achieve this price.

Also selling for this price was a 4-year-old daughter of the Canadian bull, Lagacy Betty's Bestuso. She had a high record, as a 2-year old of 13,620 pounds of milk with a four percent test. The third animal to sell for the price of \$1,400 was a bred heifer sired by Wilshore Captain Pegasus. She is due to freshen May 18 to Ardrossan Bellringer.

Five calves, less than two months old, averaged \$208. Twenty-one animals sold were less than a year of age.

The sale was managed by the Kentucky Ayrshire Club and auctioneered by Barry Smith

JERSEY

The MIDDLE AND WESTERN TENNESSEE SPRING SALE averaged \$351.52 on 46 head. A 2-year-old sired by Generator SSP topped this sale with a price of \$575. Second in the bidding was a 2-year old from Boss Man with a price of \$540. Also selling for \$540 was a 2-year old sired by MBS Favorite Saint.

Auctioneer for the sale was Jack Holbrook.

The BRUENING BROTHERS COMPLETE DISPERSAL, held in Ohio, averaged \$794 on 85 head. Topping the sale was a dry 5-year old by Advancer Sleepy Milestone.

This cow classified EX-91 and is due in June to A-Nine Top Brass.

Twenty-five animals sold for over the \$1,000 mark. This sale was managed by the Jersey Marketing Service.

HOLSTEIN

The NORTHEAST KINGDOM SALE held in Vermont averaged \$1,932 on 37 head. This sale was topped by a January calf sired by Walkway Chief Mark. Her pedigree includes two generations of excellent cows and her fourth dam had a record of 26,800 pounds of milk.

Second high in the bidding, with a price of \$7,500, was a November calf by Arlinda Rotate. She is out of a VG-88 dam and an excellent granddam who had records over 30,000 pounds of milk.

Included this week for comparison is a herd dispersal of grade animals.

The LAKEWOOD FARM COMPLETE DISPERSAL averaged \$700 on 72 head. The top price of \$1,050 was achieved on a 4-year old milking 90 pounds a day and a 5-year old with a top record of 19,017 pounds of milk

Auctioneer for the sale was Dennis Ownby.

An additional sale scheduled for this past week was cancelled due to a lack of consignments.

"Would it not make sense to establish quotas for dairy farmers at the 1986 production level?" asks Alpheus L. Ruth, president of Lehigh Valley Farmers.

Writing in this month's newsletter to members of the Lansdale, Pa. dairy cooperative, Mr. Ruth suggested that the dairy production termination program has gone into effect with some long-range questions on the effectiveness of the whole herd buyout.

"Milk producers have mixed reactions to the termination program. Some are biting their lips that they missed their chance. Others are upset that they are in the program and wish they could get out.

"How will the remaining producers react to the program? Producers who continue to market milk are faced with a 67-cents-per-hundredweight deduction - 40 cents to fund the buyout, 12 cents for the

Graham-Rudman Act and 15 cents for the national promotion program. That's a sizeable cut in our pocketbook.

"The only way to meet the costs is to increase production. I'm sure many plans are already made to do just that.

"If that's the case, how will production be controlled in the long term? I have never heard so much talk about quotas. I am told by reliable sources that the two largest coops in the United States have submitted proposals in Washington for a quota system.

"It could work. A formula could be developed. It wouldn't be easy, but it would be feasible. And when supply and demand do come into line, the government could change the support price - or make cuts for Class II or excess milk.

"I hope I haven't sounded too pessimistic," the Lehigh president concluded. "After all, American

agriculture has surpassed all challenges in food production. But the dairyman has been the most effective farmer of all in meeting those challenges."



Alpheus L. Ruth



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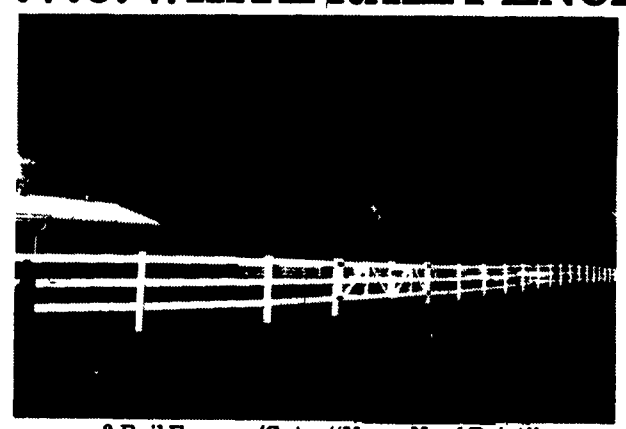


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