

ASCS Reports 'Near Record' Acreage Reduction Sign-Up

LEBANON — Calling the preliminary figures "a near record sign-up," Eugene F. Thompson, ASCS State Executive Director, announced that over a quarter of the eligible farms in Pennsylvania have signed up 588,332 acres of feed grain and wheat bases under the 1986 Acreage Reduction Programs.

The total acreage required to be taken out of production and devoted to an acreage conservation reserve cover totals 122,174 acres.

The enrolled acreage represents 46 percent of the 1,289,497 acres of total crop acreage bases established for these commodities. For the 1985 programs, 36.7 percent of the 1,244,822 acre crop acreage base was enrolled.

Base acreage enrolled in the program includes 499,079 acres of corn, 51,423 acres of wheat, 7,498 acres of barley, 28,065 of oats and 2,269 acres of grain sorghum.

Producers who participate in the acreage limitation programs agree to reduce their plantings by at least 20 percent for feed grains of 107,000 acres; 25 percent for wheat, or 12,900 acres. Winter wheat producers also had the options of reducing their wheat acreage by an additional five or ten percent for diversion payments. The special wheat diversion will take an additional 2,274 acres out of wheat production. This acreage must also be devoted to an acreage conservation reserve.

Nationally, producers have signed contracts to place 186.3 million acres of upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, feed grain, rice and wheat crop acreage bases in the 1986 programs.

The total acreage to be taken out of production and devoted to an acreage conservation reserve totals 43.9 million acres. The final acreage conservation reserve may

be smaller since total requirements are based on actual plantings.

Participating producers will be eligible for program benefits such as Commodity Credit Corporation

loans and purchases, deficiency payments and diversion payments. At the time they enrolled in the programs, feed grain and wheat producers had the option of requesting 40 percent of their

projected 1986 deficiency payments. Also, feed grain and wheat producers may obtain 100 percent of their land diversion payment at anytime between April 30, 1986 and September 30, 1986.

Wilkinson Named to Board

HARRISBURG — Leon H. Wilkinson, Landenberg, was approved by the senate this week to fill the vacancy on the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board.

Wilkinson is a lifelong dairy farmer who also serves as president of Broad Run Valley, Inc., a family farm corporation which involves his four sons. They are currently actively farming 5700 acres in southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware.

He also continues to advise his sons on the operation and management of Wilkinson Farms.

Wilkinson Farms is a commercial dairy farm with about

2,300 head of cattle. Their 500 milk cows pump out seven million pounds of milk each year. Part of their herd inventory consists of approximately 800 head of surrogate heifers to supply the needs of Genetics Unlimited, an embryo transfer service. They also house 200 head of dairy bulls for a New York investor group that raises young sires for A.I.

Wilkinson has always been interested in milk marketing. Several years ago he assisted the state of Delaware in enacting a milk marketing law. "Since we ship much of our milk to Delaware, I could see what having no

regulation of milk prices was doing," he said.

"There has never been a time when our milk industry needed a more stabilized market. I believe our Milk Marketing Board can lend that leadership," Wilkinson noted in remarks before the Senate Agricultural Committee.

Included among the duties of the Milk Marketing Board are: providing adequate supplies of milk for the consumer at fair prices; provide orderly functioning of the industry; assure payments for the farmers' milk through bonding of the milk dealers; and encouragement of efficient and dependable milk dealer operations.

Ayrshire Herd Averages \$600

BY CRAIG BINGMAN

WINFIELD — When R.W. Campbell, Narvon, bought the top Ayrshire cow at Roy W. Kline's sale here on May 10, he didn't expect to take home an Appaloosa. At the beginning of the sale, auctioneer Bryan Imes announced that Mr. Kline would give a free horse, of which he raises 15 Leopard Appaloosa, to anyone bidding \$1,000 or more.

Campbell, representing Campbell and Becker, bought a total of five animals at the sale and including the top cow for \$1,000.

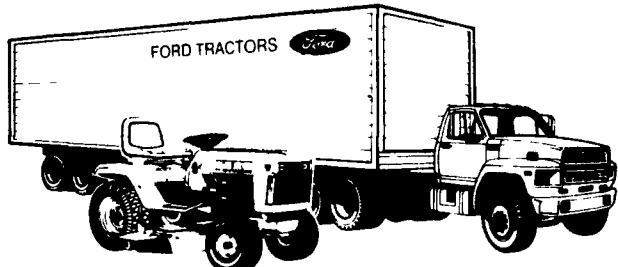
The top selling cow was Gallant Star Delish, a 4-year old that freshened in April with a heifer by Gambler. This cow boasted records of over 18,000 pounds of milk with a 4.6 test. She was sired by Reidina Dawner Gallant Man and her dam is Stars Delight. Dave Imes of Port Royal was the contending bidder.

Commander Julie was the second highest selling animal with a price of \$825. This 4-year old, an offspring of Oak Ridge Commander's Star and Gallant Man's Judy, was purchased by Glen Sheaffer of Mt. Pleasant Mills.

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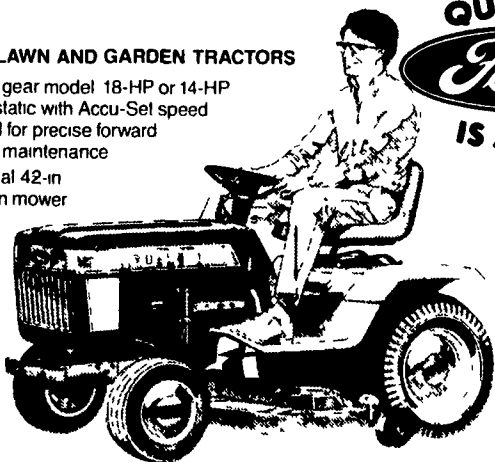
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