

Lyng Declares Results Of Wheat Poll 'Inconclusive'

WASHINGTON — Although slightly more than half of the wheat producers who submitted valid ballots in the recent U.S. Department of Agriculture wheat poll favored mandatory production limits, no such controls will be advocated by USDA.

"Based on the relatively small response to the wheat poll, I don't think a great deal of significance can be attached to the results," said USDA Secretary Richard Lyng in a prepared statement. "I therefore consider the poll to be inconclusive."

Lyng's remarks refer to the fact that about 78 percent of those eligible to vote declined to participate in the poll.

Since the results of the poll are non-binding on the Secretary of Agriculture, many producers viewed the poll as little more than a formality mandated by the 1985 Farm Bill.

Of the 1,565,517 ballots mailed to wheat producers, 346,034 were returned, and of those, 26,626 were determined to be invalid.

The remaining 20 percent — 319,408 — were valid. Of those, 171,389 — 54 percent — favored mandatory production controls; 148,019 — 46 percent — opposed

them.

The poll contained six questions. In summary, they were:

- Do you favor mandatory limits on production that would result in prices of at least 125 percent of the national cost of production?

- How do you classify your farm operation?

- Do you own or rent to others or are you an operator/producer?

- What is the predominant class of your wheat?

- How big was your operation in 1986?

- Did you produce a crop of wheat with an acreage base of at least 40 acres during at least one of the 1981-1985 crop years?

The wheat poll ballots were mailed to wheat producers in 47 states June 25. The closing date

was July 14.

Approximately 16,000 ballots were rejected at county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices,

because producers failed to follow instructions for placing the ballots in the proper envelopes or because they enclosed more than one ballot in the envelopes. The use of en-

velopes is a routine practice designed to ensure ballot security and guarantee the integrity of the polling process.

Some 10,000 ballots were rejected at the ASCS Kansas City management office, where all ballots were sent for tabulation. The vast majority of these were disqualified because producers failed to answer the first question.

Troy Hosts Northeastern 4-H District Dairy Show

TROY — The 39th Annual Northeastern Pennsylvania 4-H District Dairy Show was held on Aug. 16, at the Troy Fairgrounds here, with 221 4-H dairy project animals from Bradford, Columbia, Potter, Wayne, Sullivan, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Tioga and Wyoming Counties competing at this show.

Wayne County 4-H dairy members competing in this show include: Mike Hardler, R.D. 1 Honesdale (Cold Springs 4-H Ag Club), Brown Swiss Senior Calf - second place; Jay Vail, R.D. 3 Honesdale (Cold Springs 4-H Ag

Club), Brown Swiss Summer Yearling - second place, Jersey Junior Calf - sixth place, Jersey Intermediate Yearling - six place, and Ayrshire Junior 2-year-old - second place; Dave Jonas, R.D. 1 Pleasant Mount (Cold Springs 4-H Ag Club), Holstein Junior Calf - eleventh place, and Master Showman, Holstein Junior Yearling - eighth place and Master Showman; Carrie Rutledge, R.R. 1 Equinunk, (Tri-Gal 4-H Club), Holstein Junior Calf - tenth place; Tim Rutledge, R.R. 1 Equinunk, (Tri-Gal 4-H Club), Holstein Senior

Calf - sixth place, and Master Fitter and Holstein Intermediate Yearling - ninth place; Melissa Megivern, Pleasant Mount (Pleasant Mount Go-Getters 4-H Club), Holstein Intermediate Calf - fifth place; Lynn Megivern, Pleasant Mount (Pleasant Mount Go-Getters 4-H Club), Holstein Intermediate Calf - Thirteenth place; Sharon Rutledge, R.R. 1 Equinunk, (Tri-Gal 4-H Club), Holstein Senior Calf - eleventh place; Dave Banicky, R.D. 2 Thompson, (Pleasant Mount Go-Getters 4-H Club), Holstein

Summer Yearling - third place blue ribbon, Holstein Senior 2-year-old - sixth place, and Holstein 5 years and over cow - second place; and Karen Dix, R.D. 1 Pleasant Mount, (Pleasant Mount Go-Getters 4-H Club), Holstein Senior Yearling - fourth place and Master Showman, Holstein 3 years and over - dry cow - fifth place.

All of the blue ribbon winners for type at this show are now eligible to be shown at the 31st Annual Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show, on September 22 at the Farm Show Building, in Harrisburg.

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