

-ATTENTION PRODUCE GROWERS- DUTCH COUNTRY GROWERS NEED YOUR CROPS TO HELP FILL EXISTING PRODUCE ORDERS.

Peppers, tomatoes, canteloupes, sweet corn, egg plants & cold crops are especially needed. A special meeting will be held at the PA Tobacco Auction facility on Pumping Station Rd., Quarryville, PA. Please plan to attend for more information.

MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1987
7 P.M.

Bob Todd, Sales Manager, 717-786-8500

RCMA Plans Elections, Near 95 Percent Signup

BY MARTHA SHELDON
New York Correspondent
SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency officials will evaluate the economic climate for triggering over-order prices as soon as elections of independent board members are completed in mid-April.

Following a board meeting on Wednesday in Syracuse, RCMA's President William Zuber announced meetings to elect independent board members to represent all 17 regions in the Northeast. The first meeting is slated for March 18.

"As soon as the elections are complete," Zuber said, "RCMA will evaluate the economic conditions and establish its over-order price as the economic environment dictates." Zuber hopes to be able to enact over-order premiums by July.

Both Zuber and RCMA Executive Director Edward Anna, whose full-time position and office are budgeted for the current year, are confident the agency will reach its 95 percent enrollment goal by the time the elections are com-

plete. Neither, however, will venture to guess how much those over-order premiums will amount to per hundred pounds of milk shipped.

Zuber and Anna estimate RCMA can add between \$100 million and \$150 million to the pockets of Northeast dairy farmers during 1987.

Zuber said RCMA is within "a couple of points" of its 95 percent membership target. Pennsylvania continues to lag behind, Anna said, primarily because some handlers are actively discouraging producers from signing.

"There is no risk at all to farmers who join RCMA," Zuber said. "Today the board passed a resolution guaranteeing a market to any producer whose handler drops him because of his RCMA membership."

In addition, Zuber said the board agreed that if RCMA has to divert any producers milk away from his current handler, RCMA will pay that producer the regulated price plus, if funds are available, any premiums the producer had been receiving from his handler. Those premiums will be paid "for a reasonable length of time" Zuber said, although the board has not yet defined how long reasonable is.

Only those farmers who are members of RCMA on the day of the election will be able to vote for their representatives to the board of directors or to receive any of the money collected by RCMA. The money to run RCMA will be deducted from the over-order premiums paid by handlers, not collected directly from farmers. RCMA bylaws limit that cost deduction to 2 percent of the over-order premiums, but Zuber expects them to be considerably less.

Anna has been on board as the executive director for only eight weeks but said, "I refuse to see this thing drag on. This is a major step in finalizing RCMA."

Dates have been set for all but one of the regional meetings, but some of the locations have not yet been determined. Anna expects to finalize those locations next week.

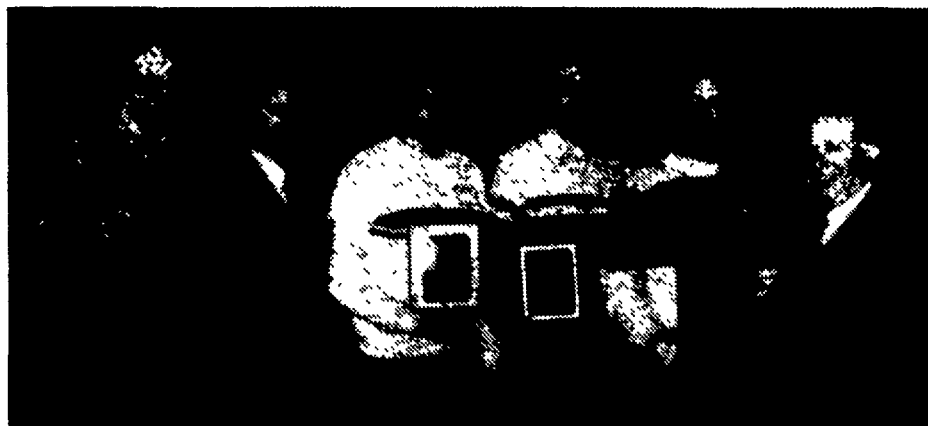
Regions and their meeting dates are:

- March 18, Region 1 — Augusta Civic Center, 1 p.m.
- March 19, Region 2 — Plainfield, New Hampshire, no time set
- March 24, Region 5 — Minerville Town Hall, 1 p.m.
- March 25, Region 6 — Wampsville Fireman's Park (Next to Madison City Courthouse), 1-3 pm.
- March 26, Region 4 — Deerville Restaurant on Rt. 12, 1-3 p.m.
- March 27, Region 3 — West Potsdam Volunteer Fire Hall, 1 p.m.

W-L Alfalfas

Why grow anything but the Best?

These producers did, and they have the awards to prove it!



left to right:

C. Lee Caldwell, 1st place, Region 3, Beaver County, Alfalfa Grass, with WL 313
John Reed Rodgers, 1st Place, Region 2, Mifflin County, Alfalfa Grass, with WL 320
Rick Telesz, Telesz Bros., 1st Place, Region 4, Lawrence County, Alfalfa, with WL 315
Gary Truckenmiller, R & G Truckenmiller, 2nd Place, Region 2, Northumberland County, Alfalfa, with WL 316
Norman H. Graham, 1st Place, Region 3, Butler County, Alfalfa, with WL 320
shown with Dr. John Baylor of Beachley Hardy Seed Co.

We also salute the following special producers and achievements:

John Tautin, Top 10% in Region 4, Crawford County, was last year's champion with the same field. In four years of competition, this WL 316 field has yielded 27.5 tons, 6 tons crude protein, and 16 tons TDN.

Harold, Mark and Grant Gayman, Gaymere Farm, Franklin County, recorded an outstanding yield of 5.41 tons off a new seeding of WL 316, the highest yield of all new seedings entered in the competition.

E.J. Parker Tobacco Company Bobby Oldham

We are still buying & receiving tobacco at our receiving station on Manheim Pike, Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings. We are paying .50 cents per lb. for good middles and tops w/no green. We are also buying bottoms. We are also processing tobacco. We will buy part of your crop & process part of your crop, or whatever you would like to do. It will cost you the farmer nothing up front to process your tobacco.

717-299-9520

Thank You! Ron Bowen



Beachley-Hardy Seed Company

PO Box 336 · Camp Hill, PA 17011 / (717) 737-4529