

Role Of NDHIA Outlined At Delaware Annual Meeting

BY SUE CROW

Maryland Correspondent
FELTON, Del. — "Despite all the issues and questions, the role of the National DHIA still remains to be promotion, profit for dairymen and a voice of each state." This was the underlying message that speaker Robert Kindig left with the dairymen at the Delaware Dairy

Herd Improvement Association meeting.

Robert Kindig, Conestoga, Pa., National DHIA Director and President of Pennsylvania's DHIA, spoke on the topic Current and Future Trends in DHIA. Kindig stressed the importance and the consequences of rule violations. "There is a problem in

Pennsylvania, but we are going to get through that, he said. Issues in the past years have been successes now," he said.

"The role the farm computer will play in the future will also be a challenge," he noted. With private enterprises more available, without boundaries, DHIA is faced for the first time, with real com-

petition. "We can't afford to lose herds to this type of practice," he emphasized. The best information comes from large herds and it is important to keep this type of record in the DHIA system."

Another issue facing DHIA, is whether to eliminate state boundaries. "Where will the farmers in outlying areas go," he questioned. "Will they go to cheaper prices or good quality or will they be lost?" These are some of the questions yet to be answered, but must be addressed before it's too late. More mergers across the country have formed to condense and to gain strength. "This is a good sign," he noted.

The growth hormone is still a questionable issue. "At this time," he said, "DHIA's role is one of awareness." All records are handled the same, DHIA just wants to know who is using it and on which cows.

"DHIA is still the envy of other countries," he stated. "As a director, I'm confident we can do whatever has to be done." The successes in the past have proven that, Kindig explained.

Following Kindig's speech, president Wayne Collison introduced Dr. George Haenlein to give the annual herd summary report.

Haenlein praised the three counties for their growth and the efficiency of each farmer as managers. "For the first time ever the state average is above 17,000 pounds of milk and the top 10 herds are all above 700 pounds of fat," he said.

There are 46 herds on test in the three-county state.

In New Castle County the top for milk and butterfat was Dave Reed. He averaged 18,491 pounds of milk and 669 pounds of fat on 38 cows.

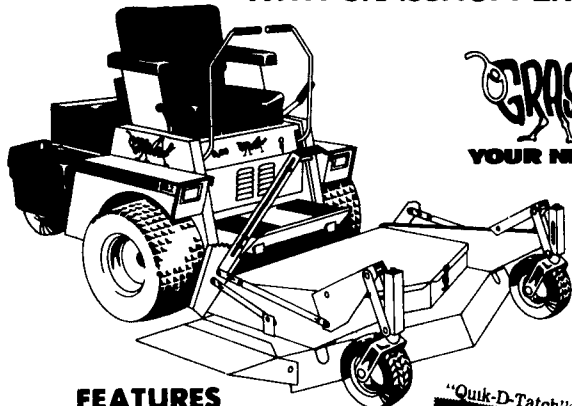
The top herd in Kent County for milk went to Norman Voss. His 96 cows averaged 21,641 pounds of milk. Mr. Wyatt had the high herd for fat with 756 pounds of fat on 21 cows. J. E. and S. Bailey had the top herd for milk and fat in Sussex County with 21,743 pounds of milk and 763 pounds of fat on 111 cows.

Three herds averaged above 21,000 pounds of milk in the three counties. They were the Baileys, Wyatts and Voss'. This is a first for the state. The top cow for lifetime of fat production was Jenny owned by Middessa Farm — Lloyd and David Sheats. She has, at 13 years of age, 7,560 fat and 232,769 milk.

The award for top cow for milk went to William Wells of White Oak Farm. His cow had, at 13 years of age, 237,328 pounds of milk and 7,164 pounds of fat.

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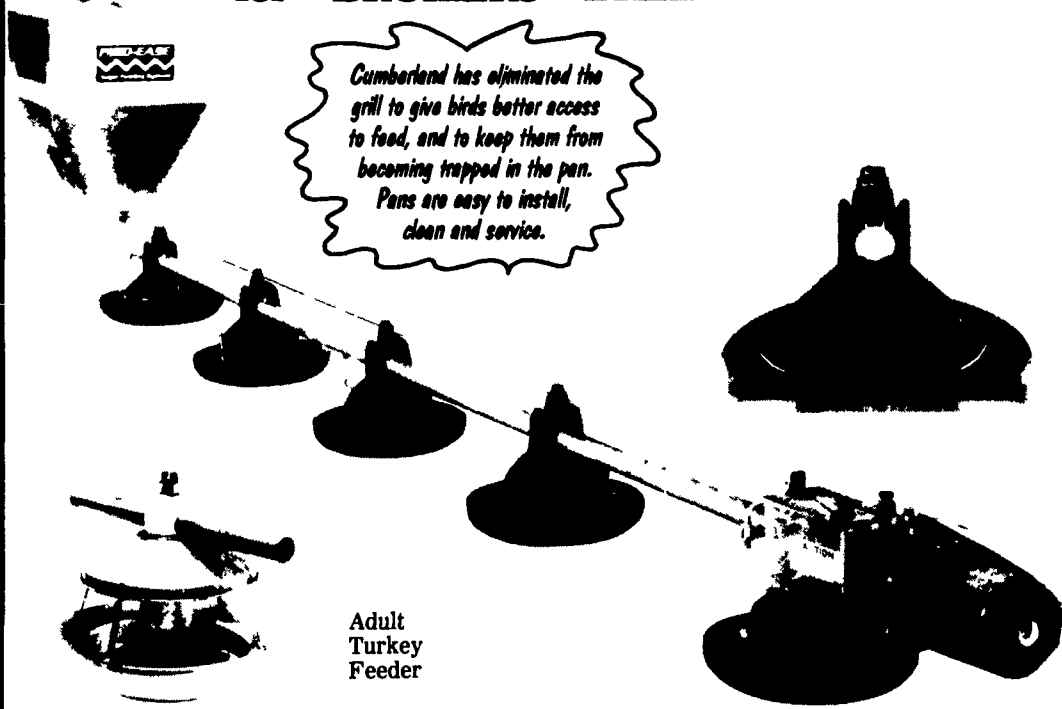
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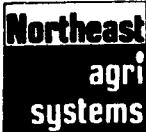
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