

## RCMA Issues First Checks

BATAVIA, N.Y. -- The Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency Inc., an organization made up of independent dairy farmers and cooperatives in 11 northeastern states, is issuing checks this week that represent the completion of the first step in over order prices

for dairymen.

According to Edward D. Anna, RCMA executive director, premium checks for farmers in the RCMA Order 2 region, which covers parts of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and RCMA Order 4, which cover Mid-Atlantic

states, are being distributed. Earlier checks were issued to farmers in New England for September milk. A total of \$2.6 million has been put back into the farm economy by RCMA, which represents dairymen from Maine to Maryland.

"RCMA's goal is to get dairymen a fair price for the raw milk they produce. In the last few years

the minimum price set by the federal government for milk has been cut from \$13.38 per hundred-weight to \$11.73. At the same time, farmers have faced increased costs of doing business. If dairy farming is to survive in the northeast, farmers must receive a fair price for milk," Anna said.

He noted that consumers should see very slight price increases

because of the RCMA premiums paid by milk dealers.

"Most dealers in the northeast are cooperating with RCMA. They realize that the health of the dairy industry is based upon the economic situation of individual farmers. RCMA is the only real hope at the moment for northeastern farmers to receive fair prices," Anna said.

## Farm Builders

All kinds of farm construction, from freestall barns to refrigerated fruit and vegetable storage, will be covered in the seventh annual Pennsylvania Farm Builders Conference. The conference will be held at the Berks County Ag Center in Leesport on January 26 and 27.

Topics will include manure storage construction; diaphragm strength; laminated pole usage; concrete finishing, placement and reinforcement; natural ventilation of freestall barns, and refrigerated fruit and vegetable storage.

Related business topics will cover managing employees for results; advertising to get the most for your money, and growing in business.

A diverse group of speakers are on the agenda -- five builders, five industry representatives, and five university or educational spokespeople. Larry Hedlin, a well-known Iowa firm president, is the banquet speaker and will present the talk on "Managing employees for results."

The conference includes a half-day tour of local businesses and farms. The businesses toured will be one of the largest cement companies in the northeast, the Allentown Cement Company, which manufactures one million tons of cement a year; and Construction Fasteners Company, which produces a large variety of such items as nails and screws.

The tour will also stop at a new 60-cow dairy stall barn with a gravity flow channel manure system, and a swine farm with two naturally ventilated grower-finisher buildings. During the tour, the farm buildings will be tested for air quality with relatively new equipment, to look at factors that can put stress on animals.

Cost of the two-day conference, including meals, is \$63. For registration forms and more information contact your county Extension office after Dec. 15, or write to Dan Meyer at 208 Agricultural Engineering Building, University Park, PA 16802, or call him at (814) 865-7685.

# There's Only One Way To Get Seedway performance: through your Seedway dealer.

For twenty-five years farmers who have been searching for ways to get more bushels and more tons from their acres have looked to Seedway. That's because Seedway varieties have proven their worth on farm after farm.

There's only one place you can get Seedway performance, Seedway varieties, and Seedway advice about how to get the best results in your specific area. And that's from your local Seedway dealer. Call today for information on our new high performing seed corn, alfalfa, soybean, vegetable, forage, and small grain products.



55 Willow Springs Circle, York, Pa.  
717-764-9814