

Get Better, Not Bigger

(Continued from Page A26)

Texas. Although Pennsylvania producers receive a higher price for their milk due to the over-order premiums and the premiums from component pricing, Kirkland cautions that there is no way Northeast dairy farmers can expect to stay in business, by premium pricing alone. The average cost of production in the Northeast is much higher than in the Pacific region. In the Northeast, the average cost of production is \$9.11, while in the Pacific region, it is \$8.92. However, the return to management portion in the Northeast is only \$1.27, while in the Pacific is \$3.10, a substantial difference.

In comparing figures for production costs, California estimated net income is at least three times higher than the net income for Pennsylvania producers. The average number of cows per farm in California is 442 versus the 50/70 average in Pennsylvania. Labor costs alone are nearly three times as high as California labor costs.

Kirkland sees 1988 as a critical year for Northeast dairy farmers and for those farmers who are not in a solid financial position now; the future may be short for them.

"There are many farmers sitting on a fence, and I'm not sure how many of them will be knocked off the fence in the coming year. Some will be," stated Kirkland.

Valuable Management Tools From DHIA

Why are only 50 percent of Pennsylvania's dairy farmers on test with Dairy Herd Improvement Association? Apparently DHIA does not have a product to suit the needs of the other 50 percent. With the myriad of reports available to DHIA members presently, it is difficult to imagine that there is not a report for everyone. William Heald, Penn State dairy specialist told farmers that in 1988 DHIA will be introducing many new reports that could be valuable management tools.

DHIA has the information stored on somatic cell count by individual cows, number of breeding services by cow, or last pregnancy check, and days open. And the list of what the DHIA can supply dairymen goes on.

The problem is that the DHIA has no way of billing the farmer for this service and presently the DHIA does not have a printer for these reports. However, the DHIA is working on ways to supply these reports to dairymen. Those farmers with IBM compatible computers may be able in 1988 to access this DHIA information.

The Nation's Economy

According to Louis Moore, Penn State agricultural economist, with 1988 being an election year, anything can happen with regard to the nation's economy.

"The nation's economy is celebrating 60 months of economic growth. That is the longest period

of economic growth since WW II. The next question is, how much longer can it last," stated Moore.

According to Moore, many people are worried about a recession. Moore noted that in the past when the people have been concerned about having a recession, it usually occurs. Also, although many of the economic problems stem from the huge federal deficit, government has done little to cut the budget.

Moore told farmers that the exodus from the farm sector is not over and that more farmers will be leaving the industry. He does not see surpluses going away because American farmers are continuing to overproduce and further production increases are imminent with future technological advancements.

Moore told farmers that as all nations endeavor to become self-sufficient the food world market may decrease. According to Moore, the percentage of agricultural government subsidy was 72 percent in Japan, 33 percent in the Eastern European Community, 35 percent in Canada, and a low 22 percent in the United States.



QUESTIONNAIRE 20/30 TRAFFIC RELIEF ROUTE

We request your input into this project. Your responses to the following questions will assist us in determining the needs of the area and which alternatives help to solve these needs. Please fill out the rankings for each section, answer the questions and include your name and hometown on this sheet. You may either return this form to a Study Team representative following the public meeting, or mail it at your convenience to the address on the back of this form. We must have your responses by January 8, 1988.

Thank you for your assistance.

Name: _____

Town: _____

	1N	3N	4N	1S	2	3S	4S	7	No Build
Rank preference 1-Best to 9-Least									
Check if you feel an alignment splits communities									

Note: If you prefer a combined route, rank those two together in order of preference (e.g. 4N-1. 3S-2).

Which existing traffic condition do you feel is more important to solve? (Please Check Only One)

Route 23 _____
Route 30 _____

Interchange Locations

	Check if Road Access Should Be Provided
23/30 Goat Path	
Near Route 340	
Near East Towne Mall	
At Gap	
Coatesville Bypass Connection	
Route 23 between Leola and New Holland	
Goat Path and Horseshoe Road	
Route 23 south of New Holland	
Route 23 between New Holland and Blue Ball	
Route 23 and PA Turnpike	
Route 340 near Intercourse	
Route 30 near Kinzer	
Route 896 near Strasburg	
Route 741 near Strasburg	

Should Proposed Alignments Skirt Around or Go Through Towns.

(Yes, through Towns; No, around Towns [takes more farmland])

Strasburg	
Bird in Hand	
Ronks	
Gordonville	
Paradise	
Gap	
Blue Ball	

Which issues are most important to you and should be stressed in this analysis? Rank 1 To 6 (1 most important, 6 least)

- _____ Farmlands
- _____ Traffic (Congestion)
- _____ Land Use (Concern About Increased Development)
- _____ Cultural Resources (Historic Sites)
- _____ Community Groups (Amish)
- _____ Tourism

Comments: _____

Please Submit Only One Rating Per Person

Please Return to: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
District 8-0
21st and Herr Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Attention: Mr. Phil Miller
Project Liaison Engineer

CONTACT US

For

**SUPER GROUND DRIVE
TANK - SPREADERS
PIT - ELEVATORS**

COMPACT ROTO BEATERS

**WISCONSIN & ALLIS
CHALMER POWER UNITS**

**HAND-O-MATIC BUNK
FEEDERS**

**COMBINATION MOWER
AND CRIMPER UNITS**

455 AND 456 MOWERS

NEW IDEA CRUSHERS

NOW AVAILABLE

**Crimping Rolls To Fit
Your New Idea Crusher
Speeds drying time approx. 1/2 day.**

SMUCKER

WELDING & MANUFACTURING
2110 Rockvale Road
Lanc., PA 17602