

NPPC Picks Assistants For PRV Eradication Program

DES MOINES, IA. — Former Iowa state veterinarian Dr. Merle Lang of Cumming, Iowa, and the Livestock Conservation Institute (LCI) have been named to assist the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) in coordination of a

massive ten-year program to rid the pork industry of pseudorabies. It has been estimated that PRV annually costs U.S. pork producers in excess of \$20 million.

A ten-year timetable for eradication and control of the disease

was approved by delegates at NPPC's 1987 annual meeting. The program has an overall price tag of \$182 million, with financing to come from state and federal governments and producers. The producers share of the cost would

come from testing, down-time and vaccination. Congress recently appropriated \$2.4 million for a start-up of the program this year.

According to Orville K. Sweet, NPPC executive vice president, Dr. Lang will be a consultant with the chief responsibility of estab-

lishing contact with state PRV advisory committees. He will initially coordinate activities designed to encourage formation of such committees, and then will coordinate the state efforts as the program progresses. Dr. Lang may be contacted through Dr. David Meeker, NPPC's Director of Research and Education at the Council's Des Moines office (515-223-2600).

A contract has been signed with the Livestock Conservation Institute to make available the services of Neal Black for the information/education responsibilities of the PRV control and eradication program. Black is the former editor of National Hog Farmer, and was president of LCI until his semi-retirement last year. Black will work out of his home at Eagan, MN and may be contacted at 612-454-5928.

Dr. Frank Mulhern, NPPC's consultant on scientific and government affairs in Washington, DC and Dr. Meeker will handle other aspects of the PRV control and eradication program effort.

USDA Proposes Procedures For Cattle Referendum

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is proposing procedures for conducting a referendum among cattle producers and cattle and beef importers to determine whether the beef

promotion program authorized by the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 will be continued.

J. Patrick Boyle, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Market-

ing Service, said the voters will decide if current assessments funding the program -- \$1 per head of domestic or imported cattle sold, and an equivalent amount assessed on imported cattle, beef, and beef products -- will continue.

The act outlines general procedures governing the referendum, one of which states that registration and voting occur on the same day at USDA's Extension Service county offices, Boyle said.

Among procedural details USDA is proposing for the referendum are the assistance of USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service personnel to count ballots, determining eligibility of challenged voters, and reporting referendum results.

The secretary of agriculture will consider all comments received on the proposal before deciding to issue a final rule. AMS monitors the activities of the beef board for the secretary.

The proposed procedures were published in the Jan. 8 Federal Register. Cattle producers, importers, and other interested parties have until Feb. 8 to submit comments, in duplicate, to the Marketing Programs and Procurement Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2610-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. More information is available from Ralph L. Tapp, Chief, Marketing Programs and Procurement Branch, AMS, USDA, telephone (202) 447-2650.

Montgomery Agent Wins Award

Nancy M. Kadwill, of Creamery, was awarded the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Communicator Award for her Video Cassette Program entry during the 4-H Agents National Meeting November 8-12 in San Diego, California.

Ms. Kadwill, County Agent, Agriculture & Youth, won the award for the tape made to give the viewing audience a brief introduction to the 3 most common riding styles as well as what to look for in horse, rider, and equipment. Therefore, they could better enjoy themselves as a spectator at a horse show. Nancy's entry was named a state winner and went on to become a national winner in the communications program.

The Communicator Awards were initiated by the National

Association of Extension 4-H Agents in 1985 to recognize members' accomplishments in presenting 4-H to the public. Coppinger and Affiliates/Majestic Associates sponsored the national award which consisted of a plaque and a cash award to attend the 4-H Agents National Professional Improvement Meeting. On the Pennsylvania level, awards and certificates were sponsored by the *Lancaster Farming Newspaper*.

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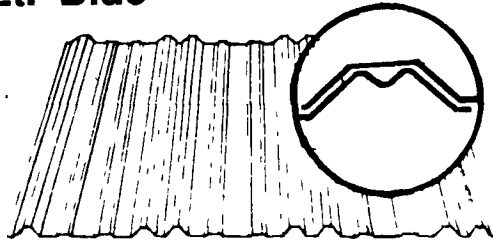
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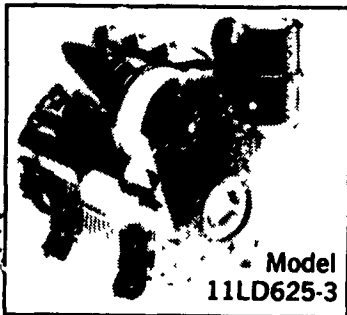
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