

Fine Tuning Feeding Programs For Dairy Cows Can Pay

QUENTIN (LEBANON CO.)
— The business of dairy farming has become more complicated

because the business of milk marketing has become more complicated.

"Dairy farmers who receive a differential premium for butterfat content or protein content want to

produce that in the milk. You have to change the feed ration to get the type of product you want," Dr. M.E. McCullough of the University of Georgia told a full house of farmers attending the workshop on livestock and crop production this week organized by Agri-Dynamics of Martins Creek.

Through the partitioning of rations the farmer sends a message to the cow's system what she will produce. However, the feedstuffs which produce either butterfat or protein, do not work together.

Consequently, the farmer needs a ration for optimum conditions.

The amount of fiber in the diet depends wholly on the state of maturity at which the forage is harvested. Starch content should be kept under 30 percent. When starch begins to climb milk production falls off. A cow with 20 percent starch in its diet produces 70 lbs. per day, but at up to 50 percent milk production falls to 61 lbs. Although 61 lbs./day is far from poor, the point is that with a

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Agri-Dynamics hosted their annual workshop on livestock and crop production. Guest speakers were: Jerry Brunetti, President of Agri-Dynamics; Dr. Lewis Goyette, President of Marketing and Consulting Services, Greg Ositko, Marketing Representative for Aqua Treatment Services and keynote speaker Dr. M.E. McCullough, Head of the Dept. of Animal Science at the University of Georgia.

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