

PA Jersey Cattle Club

(Continued from Page A24)

8:30 - Liberty Jersey Sires "Bull Session," Room B

Saturday, March 12th
 9:30 - PA State Jersey Calf Sale, Penn State Ag Arena
 12:00 - PJCC Annual Meeting and

US Dairy Forum Report

BY KATHY E. GILL

TARPON SPRINGS, FL. — Although local dairy farmers have not yet felt the effects of the most recent 50-cent per hundredweight cut in dairy price supports, analysts are already predicting a second cut in 1989.

Industry analysts and government leaders at the fourth annual US Dairy Forum here suggest that the current expansion in dairy production will trigger another 50-cent price cut, courtesy of the untouchable 1985 Food Security Act.

Milk production in 1987 was 142.8 billion pounds, down from 1985 levels. However, estimates for 1988 are at 146.2 billion pounds, with 6.9 billion of that going to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) as surplus government purchases.

Based upon projected supplies, analysts at the Forum predicted the Minnesota-Wisconsin price will bottom out at \$10.10 or \$10.20 per hundredweight in June and rebound to \$10.60 in the fall. Current support is at \$10.60.

National production is undeniably on the increase; however, these increases are not occurring uniformly across the nation. For example, from 1986 to 1987, milk production declined 4.7 percent in Minnesota and 3.6 percent in New York. Conversely, increases were registered in Pennsylvania (0.3 percent), Wisconsin (1.6 percent), California (3.8 percent) and Texas (4.5 percent).

Recognition of the blossoming dairy product surplus has led some farm and dairy groups to suggest that the industry need a new supply management program -- either another whole herd buyout or a CCC quota plan such as that proposed by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt).

However, Congressional leaders at the Forum dismissed suggestions that the 1985 Food Security Act should -- or would -- be revisited, despite the temptation to do so.

Instead, the saving grace of the Northeastern dairy industry could come in the form of organized over-order premiums, according to Dr. Richard Stammer of Agri-Mark, a New England-based dairy cooperative. The regional supply situation is illustrated by two statistics: in 1987, national production exceeded 1983 levels by 2.4 percent; Northeast production lagged 1983 by 2.1 percent.

Stammer indicated that without unified support for the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency (RCMA), Northeastern dairy farmers could see a continuation of regional production lagging national increases.

Although industry analysts agreed that production is increasing precipitously, they disagreed on the level, cause and solutions. In general, though, the finger-pointing was directed toward Pacific states and Texas.

Production continues to climb in California, even though the state market order sets some of the lowest pay prices in the nation. The California blend price in 1987 was \$11.52; that compares with an average of \$12.52 for all federal orders.

According to Dr. Andrew Novakovic of Cornell University, Cali-

fornia prices dropped more than the national average during the period 1983-86. The California average for that period has dropped \$1.32; the national average is down only \$1.11. Pennsylvania prices have moved with the national average over that period.

In Texas, the 4.5 percent jump in milk production during the past year is attributed to Class I differential increases that were mandated in the 1985 Food Security Act. David Beren, Southland Corp., indicated that Class I prices in parts of Texas jumped 96 cents per hundredweight in 1986.

Awards Banquet

Meal Ticket Reservations

All meal ticket reservations must be received not later than March 7th. Send all meal ticket reservations and payments to: Florence Robinson, 9269 Mentzer Gap Rd., Waynesboro, PA 17268 (717) 762-3380. All ticket prices include tips and gratuity.

Friday Evening Buffet Banquet,

6:00 p.m., LePapillon Dining Room, Toftrees Hotel Resort. Adults at \$20.00 per ticket. Children under 12 years of age. (No charge. Tickets compliments Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders).

Saturday, March 12th, PJCC Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet, Noon, LePapillon Dining Room, Toftrees Resort. Adults at \$12.00 per ticket. Children under

12 years of age. (No charge. Tickets compliment Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders.)

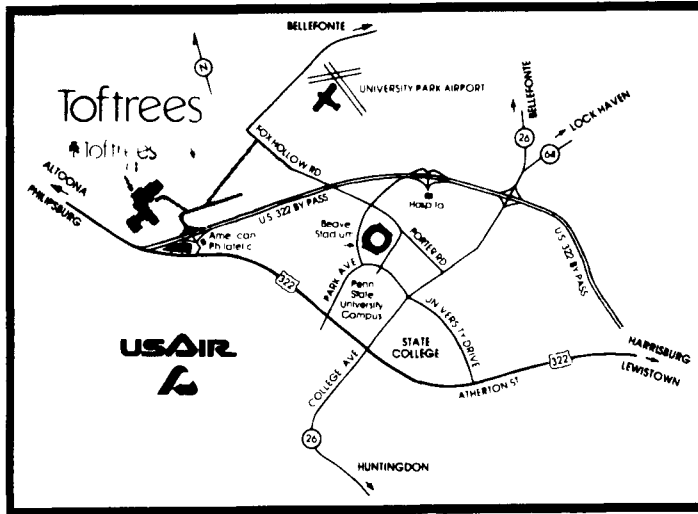
Please make all checks payable to: The Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club. Payment must accompany ticket order.

ROOM RESERVATION
Toftrees Hotel Resort
 One Country Club Lane,
 State College, PA 16803
 800-458-3602

Rates Quoted Per Night, Per Room. Double: \$68.00; Single: \$48.00. Additional person in the room, \$7.00 per person. Children under age 12 stay free. All rates subject to 6% PA State Sales Tax.

Reservations must be sent to or phone confirmation must be made directly with Toftrees NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 22nd.

Valley Jersey Breeders will underwrite the costs of all the meal tickets for children under 12 years of age. Children under 12 also may stay in their parents room free of charge. However, reservations and meal tickets must still be ordered for these children.



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