

Del-Myr Farm Tops December DHIA

WSTMINSTER, MD — Del-Myr Farm (Roger and Jeff Myers), Westminster, Maryland, had the herd with the highest average for the month of December according to figures just released by the Carroll-Baltimore Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

DHIA is a milk testing and record system used by the modern dairymen to help him to manage his business more efficiently. These records are also used in improving sires for artificial breeding and are used in research conducted by the USDA and the University of Maryland.

During the month of December 117 dairymen on Carroll-Baltimore counties participated in this program. Listed below are the top ten herds based on their herd averages over the past year.

1st- Del-Myr Farm (Roger and Jeff Myers), No. Cows- 56, Milk 21,894, Fat 800; 2nd- Maple Lawn Farm (C.E. Iager and Son), No. Cows- 136, Milk- 20,412, Fat- 764; 3rd- Windsor Manor Farm (Jason and Donna Myers), No. Cows- 50, Milk 20,247, Fat- 748; 4th- Joe Schwartzbeck, No. Cows-

113, Milk- 19,765, Fat- 741; 5th- Rose Croft (Gary Derr and Brad Garst), No. Cows- 87, Milk-

19,882, Fat- 735; 6th- Marlin Hoff, No. Cows- 307, Milk- 20,010, Fat- 731; 7th- James and John Myers, No. Cows- 60, Milk- 19,586, Fat-

722; 8th- Edrich Farm, No. Cows- 130, Milk- 21,437, Fat- 719; 9th- D. Richard Flickinger, No. Cows-

46, Milk- 18,396, Fat- 717; 10th- Robert Prigel, No. Cows- 74, Milk- 17,978, Fat- 705.

Farm Costs Survey Starts Next Week

HARRISBURG — Interviewers will begin knocking on the doors of 500 Pennsylvania farms next week for the fourth-annual Farm Costs and Returns Survey.

The major, nationwide survey of costs of production and financial conditions throughout the farm sector is conducted by the state offices of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Across the nation, 24,000 farmers will be contacted. The 500 Commonwealth farm operators will be surveyed between Feb. 19 and March 21 by representatives of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS).

State Statistician Wally Evans said interviewers will collect data on farm expenses, finances, capital purchases and costs of production for 1987. The information will be

used to determine farm production expenditures, measure farm income, and assess other key indicators of the farm sector.

"This survey is important to Pennsylvania farmers, because in addition to national results, state-level information will be published," Evans said.

"This will give those who participate in this state the opportunity

to tell their story and represent Pennsylvania farmers in the national sample.

"We are asking for their time and cooperation so that the survey can present an accurate, up-to-date picture of agriculture in Pennsylvania and the U.S.," Evans said.

Responses to survey questionnaires are confidential and are only used with other reports to arrive at state and national totals.

The results will be published by USDA in various reports scheduled for release beginning this summer.

Questions about the survey should be directed to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service at (717) 787-3904 or through the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's toll-free number, 1-800-AG-PENNA.

Atlantic Payments \$6.95 Million In Equity

SOUTHAMPTON — Atlantic Dairy Cooperative distributed \$6.95 million in equity payments Feb. 1 to more than 4,000 members, according to Treasurer Evan L. Fineman.

The payout was the second of its

kind since Atlantic was formed one year ago. It represents a return of investment that dairy farmers made in Atlantic's predecessor organizations, Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative and Lehigh Valley Farmers.

Since Inter-State and Lehigh merged on Feb. 1, 1987, nearly \$16 million in equity and patronage refunds have been returned to

Atlantic members.

"The success of the Atlantic merger has made these payments possible," Fineman said. "Atlantic has continued the tradition of a strong and stable cooperative."

Atlantic Dairy Cooperative represents 4,000 dairy farm families in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.





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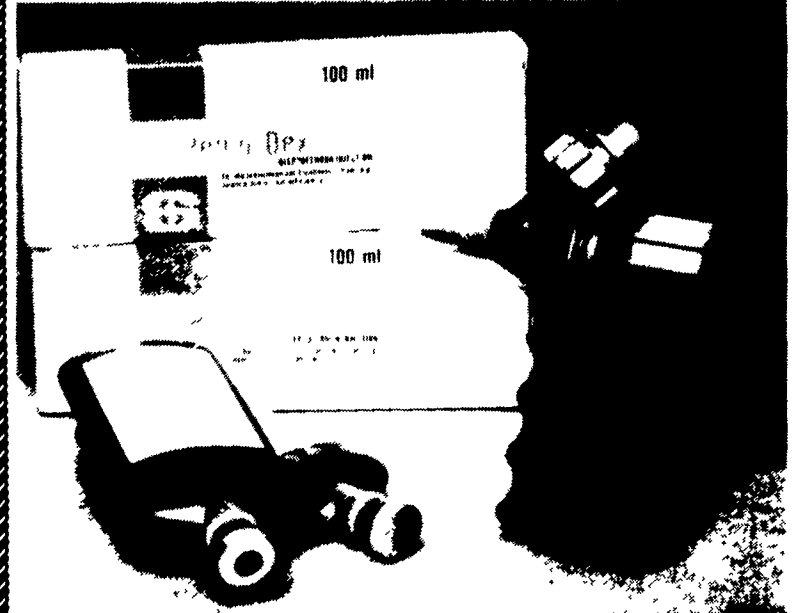
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