

Menu Of Nutritional Management At Cooperator Meeting

GETTYSBURG — Dairymen were served a Grade A menu of nutritional management recommendations and updates on worming and foot problems at Agway's Annual Cooperator Meeting held here last week. Similar meetings were held in two other locations the southeast region of the state.

Dr. James Nocek, Director of Dairy and Livestock Research and Applied Technology, addressed the topic, "Feeding and Managing the High Producing Cow." He started his presentation noting that a cow's gestation-lactation cycle is divided into four parts and these are the four phases dairymen should gear their feeding program towards.

These four areas include early lactation when the body stores are being used for milk production, peak milk production when feed intake peaks, a decline in production when the body stores are regained for the next lactation, and finally, the dry period.

While Nocek strongly endorsed a total mixed ration feeding system, he acknowledged that different management conditions may call for a different feeding approach. However, regardless of how the cows are fed several recommendations still stand.

Nocek stressed that energy is the key factor in balancing rations for high producing cows. Stated Nocek, "You must get enough energy, or carbohydrates, into the cow's rumen. If you don't have enough, then she can't utilize her protein efficiently. If you have too much, the protein is wasted. The ultimate feeding system is one in which there is a synchronization of rumen available protein and carbohydrates."

Other management techniques Nocek urged the audience to consider were to maintain a 12-12 hour milking schedule rather than a 10-14 interval, using superior genetics, 3x a day milking, and the use of bovine somatotrophin.

Dr. Carl Johnson, DVM, with the research department of the Student Chapter To Hold Farm Toy Show

DOYLESTOWN — Toy collecting is a growing hobby in which whole families participate. Farm and antique toy collectors from Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York will meet at the Delaware Valley College Student Center on Saturday, February 27, 1988.

The public are admitted from 10:00 a.m. on to observe displays, negotiate purchases, or discuss collections. At 4:00 p.m. an auction of consigned toys will be conducted with bidding open to all. Admission for children under 5 is free; 6 to 14, \$1.00 and adults above 14, \$2.00.

Farm toy collectors tend to concentrate on different sizes, brands or time periods. One collection will be John Deere toys of the 1930s including both horse-drawn and tractor-drawn. Others will include many brands and models popular in the 60s and 70s.

This activity is sponsored by the National Agri-Marketing Association, Del Val student chapter. The college is located on U.S. Route 202, southwest of Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Specific information can be obtained from Maryann Vogt at (215) 345-6314.

Pfizer Company, gave dairymen an update entitled, "How to Strategically Use Wormers on the Dairy."

Stated Johnson, "If we can effectively time the use of these products (wormers), we can break the life cycle of these parasites... The hallmark of a strategic deworming program is a spring worming program."

Johnson explained that a spring deworming program helps cattle minimize the effect of residual worms on the pasture from the previous season, plus it aids in reducing re-infestation. Also, spring deworming allows the life-cycle of the worms to be interrupted before the warmer months when larvae infestations multiply more rapidly due to the warmer temperatures.

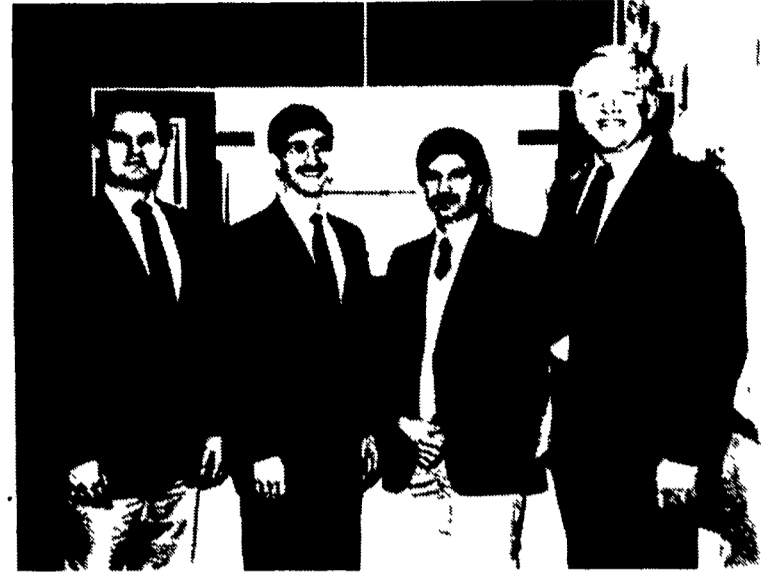
Johnson recommended deworming cattle when they are put out to pasture, again one month after they have been on pasture, in

the fall, and prior to freshening.

While Johnson ranked first-calf fresheners as the most important to deworm, he noted that dairymen can benefit from whole-herd deworming plus regular deworming of all dairy herd replacements.

"Using Feed Additives Intelligently," was the topic of the day's final speaker Dr. Normand St. Pierre. After relating the different types of products on the market and their chemical reactions, St. Pierre told dairymen that they must measure the value of a feed additive by four criteria.

He labeled these criteria the 4 R's. These include: 1. Does the additive yield positive results? 2. Is the response what you anticipated or are your cows having any negative reaction to the additive? 3. Is the feed additive's claims backed by reliable research? 4. Does the additive justify its costs with positive net returns?



Dairymen across the southeastern corner of the state were updated on their feeding and management techniques by these Agway specialist- (l-r) Dr. Carl Johnson, Dr. Normand St. Pierre, Dr. James Nocek, and District Agway Manager Roy Brenneman.

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