

Bush, Dukakis Camps Lay Out Farm Planks

WASHINGTON, DC — Farmers wondering what 1988's Presidential candidates have planned for farm policy got some insight this week as representatives of both campaigns met with the National Farmers Union Board of Directors Tuesday in Washington.

Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran told the NFU Board that Vice-President George Bush wants only modifications in the '85 farm bill and would probably oppose major changes including measures to decouple government

farm supports from production. Some members of the Senate have already proposed such a plan, but Cochran says it would treat farm programs like any government entitlement and therefore could be easily eliminated.

Cochran, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, told the group that Bush is "committed" to the present farm bill but that the Vice-President wants better targeting of farm program payments.

On the question of grain embargoes, Cochran said there would be no such thing under a Bush Administration. "Agriculture won't be used as a foreign policy weapon," said the Senator.

A sharply contrasting approach to Bush's farm proposals was spelled out by Michael Dukakis's Midwest Campaign Director, Ted Mondale, son of 1984 Democratic Presidential Nominee Walter Mondale, said Dukakis supports supply-management programs and "reasonable" price supports.

Dukakis attacks present farm

policies in his agricultural platform when he points to a loss of over 300,000 farms since 1981 and a 146 billion dollar decline in farmland values between 1982 and 1985.

Mondale said the Reagan Administration has tried to take credit for this year's higher grain prices, but that the increases had much more to do with the drought than government programs. Mondale said Dukakis wants to stop the policy of lowering target prices to undercut competition. "That's gambling with agriculture's

future," says the Dukakis position paper. "Still lower prices are not the answer."

As the Farmers Union leaders met to begin discussions on farm bill proposals, they also heard from former Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland who told them the next farm program must have improved income as its primary objective. Bergland pointed to the need for rural development in the 1990s but said the best rural revitalization program would be achieved if farm income was increased.

Kutz Elected To NAAB Board

TUNKHANNOCK (Wyoming) — DuWayne A. Kutz, Sire Power General Manager, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the National Association of Animal Breeders (NAAB) Board of Directors during the 42nd Annual NAAB Convention held recently in Tysons Corner, Virginia. The nine-member board is comprised of leaders in the cattle breeding industry who serve to maintain and perpetuate a sound trade association which meets the needs of the NAAB membership.

In this position, Kutz will be a member of the board which determines and establishes NAAB policy, as well as reviews and acts on management recommendations, financial statements, and committee reports. The NAAB Board is also responsible for selecting individuals to serve on various NAAB committees representing areas such as dairy sire evaluation, inseminator training, research, and international marketing.

Kutz began his employment in the A.I. industry over 25 years ago at a Wisconsin-based cooperative. He is presently in his eighth year as General Manager for Sire Power, Inc. Kutz has served on the NAAB Dairy Sire Evaluation Committee



DuWayne A. Kutz

and Managers Committee. Currently he is a member of the Board of Directors for both U.S. Genes and World Dairy Expo.

Sire Power extends its congratulations both to General Manager Kutz on his newly-elected position and to Sire Power President Gary Rickard who retired from the NAAB Board after serving two successive terms.



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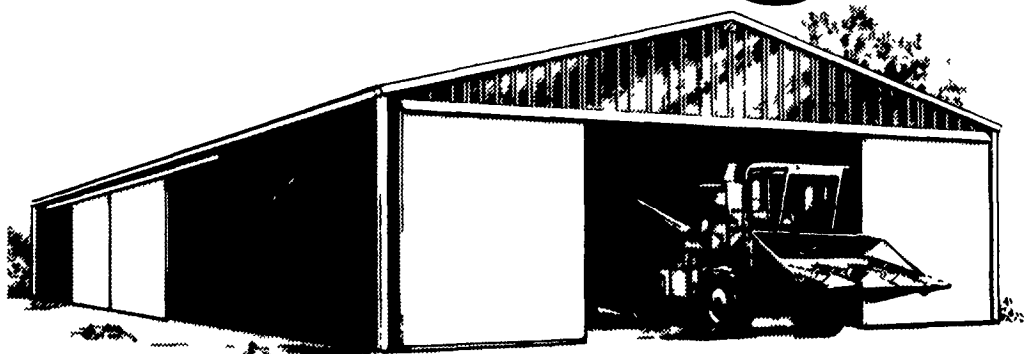
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