



Highland Orchards



Bob Werthington works the packing line by sorting out apples that are blemished and bruised. See story on page 23

Milk Prices Make Record Gains

BY KARL BERGER
Special Correspondent

Near record gains in the Minnesota-Wisconsin price series have left area dairy economists happily shaking their heads and given farmers an unexpected boost for the holiday season.

After jumping an "unheard of" 50 cents between August and Sep-

tember, the M-W (a measure of the prices paid for milk by manufacturing plants in the upper Midwest) climbed another 40 cents in October, to \$11.88 a hundred-weight for milk containing 3.5-percent butterfat. Since April, when it bottomed out at the federal government's \$10.33 support

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Poultry Survey Indicates Changes Needed

BY LOU ANN GOOD

LANCASTER — Poultry producers across the U.S. are focusing on the Lancaster Poultry Association to see which way the industry plans to go in response to the egg crisis.

In order to see what direction to take to stabilize the egg market, the association had mailed 2,100 questionnaires to producers nationwide.

On Monday, November 21, Dr. Milt Madison from Penn State and a Poultry Association committee

reviewed the first 600 questionnaires received. To date, 824 responses have been returned.

The survey elicited responses from 40 percent of the producers who with their combined operations produce 60 percent of the birds nationwide.

Jay Irwin, county extension agent, said, "Normally, a survey generates about a 20 percent reply, but in this case more than 40 percent have responded."

According to Irwin, the responses reveal a significant belief that some type of control management and marketing order should be sought for the egg industry.

Al Wenger, manager of Wenger Feeds in Rheems and a spokesperson for the committee, said the committee is not going to drop the issue because the survey's results dictate a need for some type of supply management and marketing order.

To pursue further direction a national meeting is planned in Chicago on December 8. At that time,

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Ken Sellers, (left) Lebanon County DHIA 1988 Director presents the top award for herd milk production to Roy E. Nolt (right). Nolt's herd captured the top spot in the county with a herd average of 23,006 pounds of milk.

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Financial Correspondent Sees Good Year Ahead

BY
EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER—Even though the U.S. economy is now finishing its sixth year of expansion, Mike Jensen, NBC News, chief financial correspondent, said he expects the good times to continue through 1989. Jensen gave the key-note address at the Lancaster Agriculture-Industry banquet here Thursday evening.

"I think we'll have another expansion year ahead of us," Jensen said. "So I don't see a recession in 1989. However, I do see very serious difficulties in terms of the federal budget deficit that has nearly tripled in the last



Mike Jensen

eight years. My concern is that the George Bush administration's idea

of reducing the deficit slowly may not work in time."

Since President Elect Bush has ruled out cuts in two-thirds of the federal budget, Jensen thinks a recession in 1990 may stop economic growth and thus reduce the federal government's income to the point where the deficit may grow to 200 to 300 billion dollars from the present 255 billion. "We will have a recession," Jensen said.

"You can't stop the business cycle. But after we get over the turbulent time--the bubble of undoing the damage of the budget deficit of the last eight years--I see good times ahead."

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Atlantic Dairy Coop Members Reap Benefit:

BY PAT PURCELL
LANCASTER — The Atlantic Dairy Cooperative hosted more than 500 members at the 71st

annual meeting held in Lancaster Nov. 17-18. This was the second annual meeting since the merger in February 1987 of Lehigh Valley

Farmers and Interstate Milk Producers.

Atlantic neared its two-year mark in strong financial shape. Although member numbers and production figures were down from last year, Atlantic members received \$7.7 million from over-order premiums. In addition to over-order premiums, \$8.1 million in equity payments were made to members.

Atlantic can boast of a good year, according to General Manager Dr. Paul E. Hand. The \$2.9

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Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference

YORK — After 14 years, the annual Mid-Atlantic No-Till Conference has a new look and a new name. It's now the Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference. The name change represents an effort to present a broader scope of information for crop farmers in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

As in past years, the event is being sponsored by the Coopera-

tive Extension Service at land-grant universities in the participating states, with assistance from interested agribusiness representatives. This year's one-day educational meeting and industry dis-

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Cabbage Harvest Time



Andy White, a senior at Garden Spot High School in New Holland, spent some time last week harvesting some of his cabbage crop. The vegetable was part of a supervised occupational experience (SOE) project. Andy intends to sell his produce at a road-side stand in front of his house.