

Northeast Beef Producers To Attend Pregnant Cow-Care Meeting

ITHACA, NY — Up to 200 Northeast farmers who produce beef calves are expected to attend a meeting at Cornell University on Jan. 28 to learn more about how to care for cows during pregnancy, calving and the period following the birth. The meeting will be held in Room 146 of Morrison Hall on campus.

"With the approaching calving season, which usually begins in February and March, those who raise beef calves are particularly concerned about how to minimize the loss of calves," said William M. Greene, coordinator of the daylong meeting and a beef specialist in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell. "The upcoming conference is designed to help participants upgrade their management skills to cut economic losses to a minimum."

The meeting-- "Management of Beef Cattle during Late Pregnancy, Calving and the Early Postpartum Period" -- will cover:

- Causes, diagnosis and prevention of abortion.
- Do's and don'ts during the normal and difficult birth of calves.
- Preventing and treating calf-hood diseases.
- Complications in beef cattle before and after the birth.
- Nutrition for the beef cow

during pregnancy and after calving.

Speakers are from Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Animal Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, which are sponsoring the event jointly with Cornell Cooperative Extension.

More information about the

program may be obtained by phoning Greene at 607 255-2856.

With about 85,000 calves born and raised annually, New York leads other northeastern states in beef production, Greene said, adding that about half the calves raised here are exported directly to cattle feeders in other states, espe-

cially in the Midwest.

Production of beef cattle goes through several stages. First, cow-calf producers raise their calves for 7 to 8 months, boosting the weight of animals to between 400 to 600 pounds, Greene explained. Calf producers then sell their animals to other producers called "backgrounders," "stockers" or

"cattle feeders." Backgrounders and stockers raise the calves until they weigh from 700 to 800 pounds; then they market the animals to cattle feeders, who raise them to slaughter weight of about 1,150 to 1,300 pounds; these animals are sold to packers, who market the meat to retail stores for consumers.

Entries Sought For FFA Writing Contest

COON RAPIDS, IA — FFA members from Pennsylvania and across the nation will be testing their creative writing skills in the annual Up With Agriculture® Writing Contest, an event sponsored by the Garst Seed Company.

Now in its fifth year, the contest invites FFA members to create a poem, essay or short story of 100 words or less that describes their thoughts and feelings about agriculture in the year 2000.

Last year, a record 8,000 entries

were submitted by FFA members from 20 states. From the entries, the overall winner was Doug Dru-dik of Grand Island, Nebraska. He received \$1,000 for his winning entry.

The grand prize in this year's contest is an all expense-paid trip to tour the corporate headquarters of ICI Americas in Wilmington, Delaware. State winners will receive \$250 each, and honorable mention winners will be awarded a plaque. Winners will be

announced in April, 1989.

At ICI Americas, the U.S. office of the U.K.-based Imperial Chemical Industries which owns the Garst Seed Company, the winner and his or her family will meet with company officials and observe state-of-the-art research being conducted on a wide range of agricultural and consumer products.

According to Garst Seed Co. President David Garst, the continued growth of the annual writing contest is a positive sign for agriculture. "The outlook by our nation's young people for American agriculture seems to get brighter every year," he says. "This contest confirms there is an increasing amount of interest in pursuing a career in agribusiness...and that's refreshing."

In previous years, Garst notes,

most entrants have been realistic about the condition of agriculture. "They wrote of the struggles that farmers have faced in recent years, and what lessons they've learned from these experiences. But the common theme has been their enthusiasm for agriculture and the need to uphold the family farm tradition," he says.

Initiated in 1984, the "Up With Agriculture" program is designed to highlight the importance of agriculture to communities through positive messages about American agriculture and the country life.

Entries must be received by March 1, 1989. Mr. Garst and representatives of the Garst Seed Company will select winners based on originality and creativity. Entries should be sent to: Up With Agriculture Writing Contest, P.O. Box 300, Coon Rapids, Iowa 50058.

Northeast Grange Leaders

Hold Summit

CORTLAND, NY — State Grange leaders from Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York met at the Greenfield Center Grange in Saratoga County today to support the proposed Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact, a so-called Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency with government backing and enforcement.

"We support the compact as a means of strengthening the position of the Northeast Dairy Industry," said Bart S. Morse, Master of the New York State Grange. "This would help ensure the future of dairying as a viable industry."

The meeting marked the first time Grange leaders have been able to get together to discuss the compact proposal, and they took advantage of the opportunity to discuss other vital issues as well.

Those discussions touched on Grange communications, its ritual, its image in the community, its attractiveness for young people,

its declining membership and its leadership training and membership services.

Joining Morse at the session were Vermont Master Margaret Richardson, Pennsylvania Master Bill Ringler and Maryland Master Alan Brauer. National Grange Overseer Kermit Richardson was also in attendance, along with key support personnel from each state.

The purpose of the compact, now in its second draft under the direction of the state Legislative Commission on Dairy Industry Development, is to recognize by statute the regional nature of the dairy industry, and to form an interstate commission for the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic region.

Key Commission tasks would be to help participating states modify laws and regulations that add to the cost of moving milk among the states or that impede the free flow of milk in the Northeast.

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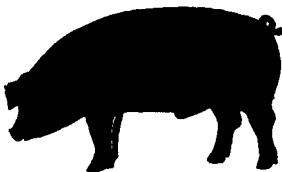
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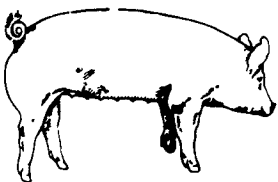
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Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa.

Thursday, December 29
Report supplied by PDA

CATTLE: 323. Sl. cows 25-1.00 higher;
individual Choice holstein sl. steer 70.00;
few Select 56.85-63.50; individual Select
sl. heifer 63.25; few Select holsteins
55.25-57.00; Breaking Utility & Commer-
cial sl. cows 47.75-52.25, several to 54.60;
Cutter & Boning Utility 47.25-52.50, couple
to 54.25; Canner & Low Cutter
44.00-48.00; shells down to 40.00; YG 1,
1000-2030 lb. sl. bulls 55.00-62.00; few
YG 2, 900-1300 lb. 54.50-56.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: Heifers few Med. 1,
375-520 lb. 69.50-73.50.

CALVES: 483. Few Choice vealers
96.00-112.00; few Good 80.00-96.00;
Standard & Good 75-100 lb. 66.00-75.00;
Utility 60-90 lb. 58.00-67.00; hol. bulls
80-90 lb. 73.00-100.00; 90-125 lb.
95.00-159.00, mostly 120.00-155.00.

HOGS: 25. US 1-3 sows 200-316 lb.
31.00-41.00; 2 boars 25.25 & 26.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 7. Not enough for mark-
et test.

SHEEP: 1.
GOATS: 1.

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Thursday, Dec. 22, 1988

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