

Ardrossan Farms

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everyone accomplishes more. Excitement over new programs being offered to Ayrshire members pervaded the convention. Headlining some of the new offerings is the Young Sire Program and the Type Traits Approval program. Equally as important is the Ayrshire Cow Connection being established for the first time this year. The ACC is where the Ayrshire buyer and seller will meet, according to Director Doug Evans from New York.

Mike Creek has been hired as the sales coordinator. Creek is with the Palmyra Farm owned by Ralph Shank and son, Ralph Shank Jr. of Hagerstown. The ACC is prepared to handle private treaties and dispersal sales. According to Evans, the ACC is looking into invitational sales on a national or by state basis and also into special group sales. Contracts and treaties are drawn up and ready for members' use.

"There are a lot of good cattle out there for sale, and there are a lot of buyers out there who want them," said Evans. "We believe that this is one step closer to laying the groundwork for the 1990s." The next step in preparation for the future is embryo transplant, according to Evans. This was seconded by Buffington, the key speaker at the awards luncheon. "There is no better way to take advantage of the great genetic potential available which is virtually untapped," said Evans. "We are hoping ACC can handle this for you also." Evans said that members have shown an interest in this, but fear the costs may be too high and that they won't be able to sell

the embryos or ET calves.

"We look forward to sale of frozen embryos at the 1992 meeting which will be held in New York," said Evans. "We strongly believe this is an area of untapped potential for the 1990s."

A new Sire Summary Blue Book will be coming out soon with more useful information for members and according to Art Gaddis, director from Wisconsin, it will also be easier to read. In addition, a computer mating service is in the making and will be available in the very near future.

Starting in 1989 any junior member wishing to enter the record book competition at the national level can now bypass the state level, according to Ralph Shank Jr. of Hagerstown. Juniors may send their record books directly to the national contest. Shank said the change was made to encourage more juniors to compete and to develop more interest in the national contest.

Also new for juniors is the establishment of a scholarship fund. According to Shank, the association already has means of obtaining some funds and also will

be soliciting for additional scholarship money.

Bob Ritchie, director from New Hampshire, reported on four possible by-law changes that will restructure the districts across the country. Every three years the bylaws committee examines the population distribution of Ayrshire breeders to determine how breeders can best be represented.

The proposed change would combine the New England and New York area for district 1; Pennsylvania, New Jersey and to the Mississippi for district 2; Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois for district 3; and the remainder of the states will be in district 4.

In addition, presently there are two directors to each district. The proposed change is for three directors for each district and the two-year term would be changed to three years which would be staggered.

Also, for those breeders who breed a cow, the calf would carry the same prefix as the dam. If members decide to advance these proposals they will appear on the November ballot.

Good news in the production department for Ayrshire breeders: 1988 was a year for record setting highs. Those individual cows

reaching 20,000 pounds milk production in 305 days on twice-a-day milking reached 147 this year. That figure is up by 32 over the previous year's numbers.

Six cows exceeded 25,000 pounds milk production: Ardrossan Classic Pearlina, 11-01, 28,580M, 4.1%F, 1,185F. Ardrossan Farms, Villanova, PA.

Good-Oak Hi K's Rosie, 11-03, 26,450M, 4.1%F, 1,083F. Weston Trombly, So. Royalton, VT.

Ardrossan Lees Twin Rose, 8-0, 26,440M, 4.4%F, 1,151F. Ardrossan Farms, Villanova, PA.

Hemlock-Hollow Lib's Whiskers, 6-10, 26,350M, 4.1%F, 1,079F. Weston Trombly, So. Royalton, VT.

Covey-Farms, G.B.R. Reba, 6-02, 25,960M, 4.0%F, 1,038F. Covey Farms, Locus Grove, OK.

Palmyra Welcome's A. Ginger, 8-01, 25,120M, 3.7%F, 933F. Ralph W. Shank Jr., Hagerstown, MD.

Ardrossan Farms of Villanova, Pa., received the Constructive Breeder Award for 1988 with the highest record herd of 20,547M, M.E. 2X 4%. Also, Jack Miller of Bradner, Ohio, received the Constructive Breeder Award for 1988 with the second-highest record

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herd at 18,733M, M.E. 2X 4%. Ardrossan Farms also received the 1988 Maurice Benson Protein Awards in the two-year-old and four-year-old classes.

Ardrossan Farms received three 225,000 pound lifetime achievement certificates for:

Ardrossan Classic Perlina, 247,941M, 4.1%, 10,140F.

Ardrossan Classic Betty, 246,885M, 3.8%, 9,337F.

Ardrossan Sultan's Rosetta Lee, 234,599M, 4.0%, 9,349F.

Volunteers Needed

The Lancaster County 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program is seeking volunteers to lead horses and support handicapped riders during its sessions this spring. Volunteers are needed Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Friday afternoons beginning April 3. For more information or to volunteer your time contact Candy Saam after 5 p.m. at 786-1972.

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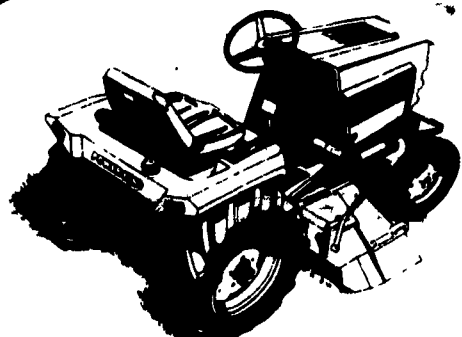
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