

Penny Farmery Wins Indiana County Dairy Princess Title



Left to right: Outgoing Dairy Princess Bonnie Kirkland; Penny Farmery (seated); and 1989-90 Alternate Princess Joyce Coleman.

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Indiana Co. Correspondent
INDIANA (Indiana Co.) — Indiana County's 15th Dairy Princess brings an appropriate name to the position: Penny Farmery.

Penny is a 17-year-old senior at Marion Center Area High School, and is the daughter of Dewight and Shirley Farmery of Marion Center.

She was crowned Saturday, June 17, in a pageant in Serowls Hall on the Indiana University of Pennsylvania campus in Indiana.

The alternate Dairy Princess for 1989-90 is Joyce Coleman, a 17-year-old senior in the coming school year at Apollo-Ridge High school. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Coleman of Saltsburg RD 1.

Penny was crowned by outgoing Indiana County Dairy Princess and classmate Bonnie Kirkland, a 1989 graduate of Marion Center Area High.

As the county's new Dairy Princess, Penny will act as a spokesperson for the county's 220 dairy farmers, the largest agricultural industry in Indiana County.

The pageant coincided with a

proclamation by the Indiana County commissioners earlier this month, naming June as Dairy Month in the county. In their proclamation the commissioners noted the dairy industry generates \$15 million of income for Indiana County.

Penny and Joyce were the only two contestants in this year's pageant. Two other entrants withdrew from the competition shortly before Saturday's program.

The two young women were judged on poise, appearance and knowledge of the dairy industry and health benefits of drinking milk.

In a short skit required of the contestants, Penny appeared on stage in the costume of a large can of cola, lamenting the fact so many people are dropping soft drinks and picking up a new favorite beverage: milk.

In her skit, Joyce played the role of an investigative reporter who had just uncovered the nutritious benefits of milk.

The contestants also had to give an impromptu response to a question they randomly selected.

Penny is enrolled in the academic curriculum at Marion

Center High. Her school activities include senior high marching, football, concert and pep band, Varsity Club, Latin Club and Chess Club.

She is also a member of the varsity swim team, and serves as a track team statistician, an announcer for home winter sports events, and treasurer of Student Council.

As secretary of the Northern Dairy 4-H Club, Penny is actively showing Holsteins at the county and regional 4-H events. She is also involved in the Teens of Today and Marion Center Handy Helpers 4-H clubs.

Her future plans include attending a four-year college and majoring in history and government.

In her final appearance as Dairy Princess, Bonnie Kirkland told the approximately 120 guests at the pageant that her one-year reign had been very busy and exciting, and had passed very quickly. During the year, she said, she had participated in 37 school dairy promotions, 24 special events such as fairs and parades, and traveled nearly 3,600 miles promoting the county's dairy industry.

Geraniums Get The Bugs Out

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Its flowers are brilliantly colored, its leaves are dark and velvety—it is the pride of many home gardeners. But to spider mites and small insects such as aphids, the common garden geranium may be deadly.

A forest of microscopic hairs topped by sticky droplets covers the geranium, creating a hostile environment for small insects. As these insects try to walk around and feed on the geranium leaves and flowers, they become entangled in the dense hairs. In the struggle to free themselves, they are coated and glued in place by the sticky droplets.

In Penn State's College of Agriculture, Dr. Ralph Mumma, a biochemist, and Dr. Richard Craig, a plant breeder, are trying to determine how geraniums produce this "sticky trap" mechanism

and why some varieties of geraniums have more effective traps than others.

Examination of insect-resistant and susceptible varieties reveals that both produce numerous hairs—or trichomes—topped by clear or orange-colored droplets. However, the two varieties differ in the physical nature of these droplets. Hairs on resistant plants produce glistening, sticky balls, while those on susceptible plants sport hardened, crumbling masses.

Researchers placed aphids on leaves of both varieties to observe their behavior. Aphids on resistant leaves spent over a third of the time struggling or immobilized, their legs stuck together or stuck to the sticky droplets. Hindered by the droplets, these aphids showed low reproductive and high mortality rates.

Aphids on susceptible plants, however, were anything but immobile. Unhindered, they wandered about the leaf surface, probing, resting, reproducing and feeding. In fact, these aphids spent twice as much time feeding as their counterparts on resistant leaves.

To determine why the droplets differed between the resistant and susceptible varieties, Mumma analyzed the chemical composition of both forms. He found that both consisted of anacardic acids, which are in the same family as chemicals found in poison ivy. They differed, however, by a solitary chemical double bond. This difference was great enough to make one droplet "unsaturated," or sticky and flowable, and the other droplet "saturated," or congealed.

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