



Lancaster Farming

VOL. 34 No. 46

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, September 23, 1989

50¢ Per Copy

\$12.50 Per Year



For taking measures to protect agriculture's most valuable resource—children, Fred and Nancy Garber won the "Safe Farms for Safe Kids" contest sponsored by a nationwide farm magazine and a national safety group. Marilyn Adams, (center) national chairperson for Farm Safety for "Just Kids," flew from Iowa to make the presentation to the Garbers pictured with their children Ryan, 7; Jeff, 3; and Crystal, 2.

Garber Family Commended For Farm Safety Measures

BY LOU ANN GOOD

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

—The Fred Garber family of Lancaster made national news this week for protecting agriculture's most precious resource—children.

While state and local politicians, agricultural officials and the news media assembled for the award ceremony, Garber stressed, "I don't want the meeting to focus on Spring Lawn Farm or the Garbers, I want the focus on safety."

The incentive for making the Garber's farm a safer place for kids actually began three years ago. At that time there were nine children under the age of five who lived on the farm's properties. Garber, alarmed by the many fatalities and injuries to farm kids, resolved, "God forbid that should happen to our children."

Garber and his wife Nancy, who have three children between the ages two to seven, took a closer look at the danger spots on their farm. They locked seeds, herbicides, insecticides, pesticides and other poisons in a building that is

off limits to children. The Garbers installed a tank and drainage basin to prevent run off when filling the chemical spreader. They installed a "Slow—Children at Play" sign and painted the word slow in yellow letters along their drive advising drivers to slow down.

Nancy, who noticed that the children often rode their bikes on a barn hill, was concerned that farm traffic could not see the children. A yellow line was painted across the bottom of the hill to warn children that the area is off limits.

Garber, who acquired numerous injuries from farm accidents during his childhood, had read that 50 percent of children's farm fatalities happen from children falling under a tractor. He recalled that he almost lost his son Jeff while trying to pull a truck from the field. Garber's foot had slipped on the clutch and Jeff fell off in front of the tractor. Fortunately, Garber was going backward, but he said, "Except by the grace of God, we would be another statistic."

(Turn to Page A30)

RCMA's Discontinuation Should Have Little Effect On Milk Prices

BY KARL BERGER
Special Correspondent

FREDERICK, MD—Area dairymen, whose milk checks have begun to reflect the recent dramatic increases in the bellwether Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price, probably won't even notice the suspension of over-order premiums by the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency (RCMA) in much of New York and Pennsylvania.

With prices on the rise and a tight milk market prompting voluntary premiums, the RCMA decision, announced September 11, should have little to no impact on farm milk prices in the Northeast,

according to industry leaders.

"The fact that RCMA itself is not going to operate for the next several months doesn't mean that the premiums are going to disappear," said Robert Dever, assistant general manager of Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, which is headquartered in Southampton, Pa.

Dever said two major factors—the continuation of the \$1.05 differential by the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board and the region's competitive milk market—make it likely that area dairymen will continue to receive higher prices than the minimums set by the federal order system.

PMMB's \$1.05 a hundred-

weight premium, which is added onto the minimum farm prices it requires Class I handlers to pay, recently was extended through May 1990. It was instituted originally in September 1988 in response to unfavorable conditions resulting from that year's drought.

Although PMMB's jurisdiction is limited to in-state handlers, the \$1.05 has become a kind of standard throughout the Northeast. For instance, the Middle Atlantic Cooperative Milk Marketing Agency (MACMMA), RCMA's counterpart in Federal Order 4, has set the same \$1.05 over-order premium through May and this boosts prices for dairymen in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and New Jersey, as well as southeastern Pennsylvania. MACMMA's price will not be affected by the RCMA

action, Dever said.

The discontinuation does affect dairymen in New York and northern Pennsylvania who ship to independent handlers and those regulated by Federal Order 2. However, most, if not all, of this area's fluid dealers should continue to pay premiums because of the tight market for milk. Even handlers buying Class II milk for cheese production are paying premiums, observers say.

RCMA's difficulties stem in part from this highly competitive market, according to Gregg McAllister, an RCMA spokesman. In recent months, the bargaining agency has met "overwhelming

resistance" to its over-order charges from Class I dealers who considered themselves to be at a disadvantage in competing for milk with Class II handlers who didn't pay the RCMA premium, McAllister said. In particular, Class II handlers in the Order 2 milkshed could pay non-RCMA premiums directly to their producers while Class I handlers paid their premiums into a pool that was distributed evenly across the entire RCMA membership in the region. This situation was exacerbated by certain provisions of Order 2 that allow cheese plants unusual latitude in competing for milk,

(Turn to Page A31)

Wolff, Kroger To Kick-Off Cooperative Month

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — The Honorable Boyd Wolff, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, will preside at the sixth annual Cooperative Month kick-off breakfast, set for September 26 at the Harrisburg Sheraton-West at 8:00 a.m. The Secretary will present a "Cooperative Month Proclamation" by Governor Casey and will give an update on the "Challenges facing Pennsylvania Agriculture".

The breakfast, a traditional component of the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Cooperatives (PAFC) annual meeting, provides legislators and the public with an opportunity to recognize the scope of agricultural cooperatives in the Commonwealth.

In addition, Dr. Manfred Kro-

ger, professor of Food Science at The Pennsylvania State University, will address the group on the annual meeting topic of food safety. Dr. Kroger, a recognized figure in the area of food safety, advises numerous associations including the American Council on Science and Health and is a consultant to the International Food Information Council in Washington. A very popular professor at Penn State, he was awarded Penn State's Lindback Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1983.

Although best-known in the agricultural sector, the cooperative business form is applicable to any economic endeavor. Non-agricultural cooperatives include the Associated Press, the FTD

(Turn to Page A26)

Special Deadlines September 25-29

Due to a fair in Ephrata, where *Lancaster Farming* is published, we will have the following early deadlines:

Mailbox Market- Monday, Sept. 25 at noon.

Public Sales- Monday, Sept. 25 at noon.

General News- Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 5 p.m.

Classified Section B- Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 5 p.m.

All Other Classifieds- Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 9 a.m.

Late-Breaking News- Wednesday, Sept. 27 at noon.

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.)—Dr. John E. Baylor, Director of Market Development for Beachley-Hardy Seed Company, is the recipient of the Career Service Award from the Northeastern Branch of the American Society of Agronomy. In addition to the special honor, Dr. Baylor was also installed as president of the organization, at their annual meeting recently at the University of Vermont.

Dr. Baylor, Professor Emeritus of Agronomy Extension, Pennsylvania State University, has made extensive contributions to the seed industry, both here and abroad. He assisted in the development of the Penn State University Forage Testing Service, and provided early leadership in the evolution of Pen-

(Turn to Page A26)



Dr. John E. Baylor