

How will reorganization solve the problem? By merging all local associations into a single direct member organization, all service rates will be set by the state board using the policy of rates being set based on the cost to provide them plus a small margin. The state association will treat all service programs that way, not just a few that it might favor. This practice will assure that equity exists between member service programs across the entire state.

Does this mean that the cost of records

services will go up for you? In some locations where there are unfair rates now, perhaps. Otherwise, there may be no need to change the rates just because of reorganization. Since each county association is different from all the rest, we won't really be able to answer the question until your own county's situation is looked at. And that schedule is up to your local board.

Next time we'll look at problem #2, waiting lists for services.

Farm Demonstrations Of Paper Bedding

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The use of recycled newspaper as bedding material for cattle will be demonstrated at four different farms. Local farmers will share their experiences of using paper bedding. Learn what works and what doesn't, what equipment is available and needed, ways of handling paper, what other communities are doing and what is being planned locally.

The general agenda for each farm meeting is:

- Display Paper-Chopping Equipment
- Recycling Newspaper as Bedding -

Glenn Shirk, Extension Dairy Agent, Lancaster County
Timothy Breneisen, Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority

- Research Results and Other Experiences With Paper Bedding

Daniel McFarland, Multi-County Extension Agricultural Engineer

- Farmer Experiences With Paper Bedding
- Demonstration of Equipment - for tie stalls, free stalls and box stalls.

Times and locations of the meetings are listed below. See back for directions.

DECEMBER 6 (Wednesday): 10:00 a.m. - Titus Stoner, Landisville. The Stoners have used a bedding chopper for about a year to blow paper into tie stalls and box stalls. 1:00 p.m. - John L. Landis, Lancaster. John has never used paper bedding, but he is making his facilities available for demonstrating equipment in a free stall facility. Note: The morning program will not be repeated at Landis'.

DECEMBER 13 (Wednesday): 10:00 a.m. - Weaver

Homestead, New Holland. Don and Nelson Weaver have chopped paper in a hammermill for several months for use in their tie stalls and box stalls. 7:00 p.m. Robert Wagner, Quarryville. Bob has used a bedding chopper for several months to blow paper and straw into his free-stalls.

These meetings are being conducted by Cooperative Extension, Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority and equipment dealers.

Farm Demonstrations of Paper Bedding Directions to Farms

Titus Stoner, 3207 Bowman Road, Landisville (telephone 717-898-8370). From Route 283, get off at Route 722 (East Petersburg exit) and go south until you dead end at the Harrisburg Pike. Turn right and take the second road left (Bowman Road). Cross Nissley Road and proceed to the first farm on the right.

John L. Landis, 1801 Colebrook Road, Lancaster (telephone 717-898-7689). From Route 283, get off at Route 722 (East Petersburg exit) and go north. Turn right at the first crossroads (Colebrook Road) and proceed to the first farm on the left.

Weaver Homestead, 245 White Oak Road, New Holland (telephone 717-354-4398). From Route 322, opposite Penn Jersey Products, turn north between the two car dealerships onto White Oak Road. Take the next road left (still White Oak Road) and proceed to the first farm on the right.

Robert Wagner, 373 Scotts Road, Quarryville (telephone 717-529-2831). From Route 222, go south about 4 miles to Oak Hill and turn north on Lloyd Road (to King Pen Road). Very shortly, take the left fork onto King Pen Road. Proceed about 1 mile and turn left onto Scott Road. Wagner's is the first farm.

Average Farm Feed Costs For Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's this week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania. Remem-

ber these are averages so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

- Corn, No. 2y - 2.71
- Wheat, No. 2 - 3.89
- Barley, No. 3 - 2.03
- Oats, No. 2 - 1.68
- Soybeans, No. 1 - 5.40
- Old Ear Corn, - 78.17
- New Ear Corn, - 63.21
- Alfalfa Hay - 116.25
- Mixed Hay - 107.40
- Timothy Hay - 117.50



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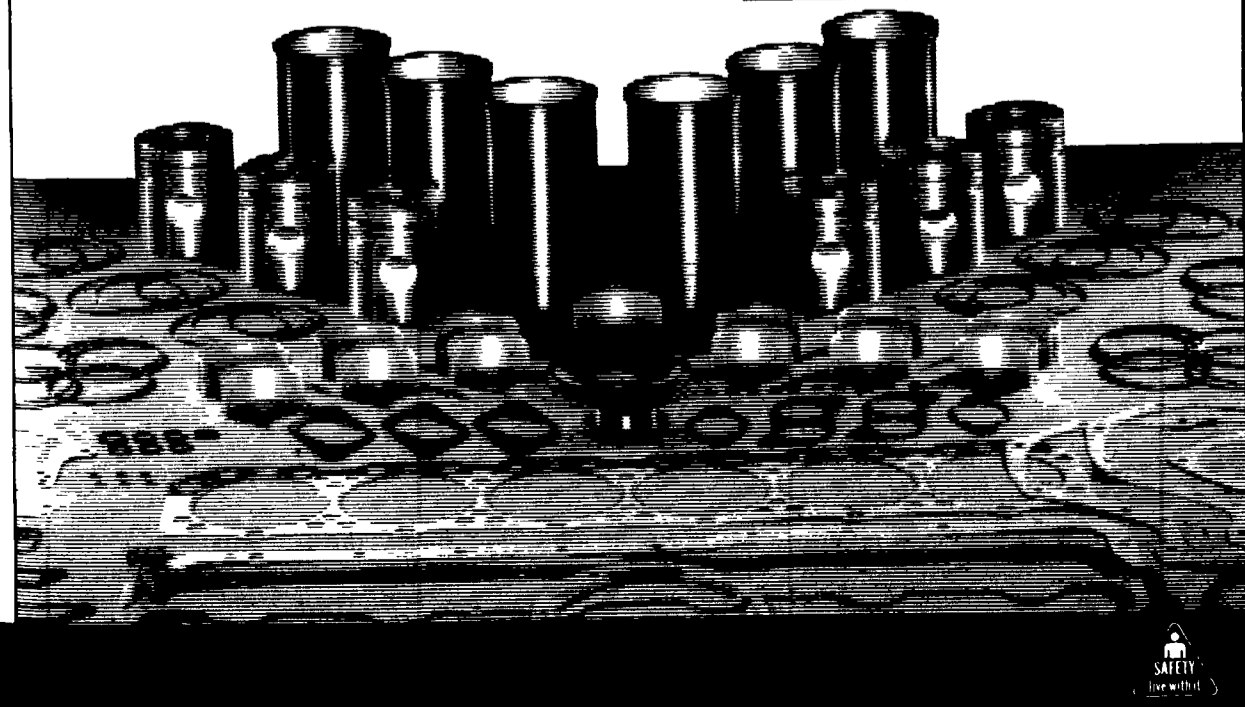
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4430, 4630	RG17892	\$1,199.00

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How To Use Protein

(Continued from Page A20)

head/day of oilseeds (cottonseed or whole soybeans) can expect a slight depression in milk protein percentage.

If you find your herd's milk protein percentage to be abnormally high (0.5 or more points above breed average) then you have either pursued an extremely aggressive breeding and selection program for protein, or you may be feeding excessive levels of protein or energy.

Also, check the physical form of your silage. Higher protein tests result from very finely chopped silage, but at the expense of milkfat test and overall efficiency of digestion. A high protein percentage can also be an indication of high subclinical mastitis infection in the herd.

2. Graph cows over the lactation- During the lactation, protein levels rise and fall similar to fat levels. Of course, levels are highest in the colostrum (which is why you should use 20-24 percent milk source protein milk replacers, if feeding calves with milk replacers, and then bottom out at 30-40 days after calving.

Protein levels gradually increase between 100 and 250 days as milk production drops. Use protein levels just as you use milk levels month to month to determine adjustments needed or cows to check for chronic type illness.

3. Compare herd protein yield over the calendar year-- Usually protein levels fall through the summer months, bottoming out in the period of late July to early September. Hot weather stress and decreased dry matter intake lead to this reduction. However, for Holsteins, your goal should be to keep the protein percentage at 3.0 or above all summer.

Protein levels peak in the winter months during January and February. Protein tests below breed averages during these months indicate probable herd nutritional concerns.

4. Compare your herd by age groups-- Average the protein tests from several cows in each of the following age groups: 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years and aged cows. There should be no difference in protein percentage levels among age groups. Be sure the cows you choose within an age group are not all in the same stage of lactation. Low protein tests in 1st or 2nd calf heifers may indicate a ration not dense enough to meet both growth and production needs, or may indicate that the heifers were not growing enough when they calved.

For more information on protein levels in milk, call your county extension office and ask for the fact sheet, DSE-87-35 entitled, "Factors Influencing Milk Protein Test" and the fact sheet, DSE-87-18, entitled "Feeds and Feed Nutrients for Dairy Cattle."

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