

Dauphin County DHIA Holds Annual Meeting

BY MARY LAEGER-HAGEMEISTER
 Dauphin Co. Correspondent
 DAUPHIN (Dauphin Co.) — The importance of dairy production is felt by both the farmer and consumer. On November 10, 70 people gathered in Dauphin for the annual Dauphin County Dairy Herd Improvement Association meeting. In addition to the business at hand, the association also paid special recognition to those dairy herds in the county that have displayed outstanding productivity in the past year.

Many awards were granted the top 10 herds in fat production. Those receiving awards were Restful Acres in Hershey with 793 pounds, Alwine Farms in Middletown with 761 pounds, My Favorite Holsteins in Elizabethville with 757 pounds, Crissinger Dairy Farm in Gratz with 756, Catalpa

Farms in Middletown with 749 pounds, Toby T Farms in Halifax with 745 pounds, Irvin Martin in Hershey with 727 pounds, J. Melvin Brandt in Hershey with 704 pounds, John Hertzler in Eli-

zabethtown with 660 pounds, and Lytle Farms in Middletown with 651 pounds.

In addition, three herds completed the test year with average somatic cell counts below 200,000

on a regular test. These farms were Catalpa Farms with a count of 116,000, Alwine Farms with a count of 171,000, and Paul E. Clugston with a count of 176,000.

On the association's board of directors are Tom Tobias, Ray Kennedy, Dale Brandt, Leon Crissinger, Dennis Miller, Robert Oellig, Ron Kopp, Ty Long, David Feldt, and Dale Faust.

July Premium Established; Payment Contingent Upon Collection

BATAVIA, N.Y.— The Board of Directors of the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency, at a meeting in Albany Nov. 10, 1989, established the following premiums to be distributed to its dairy farmer members for July 1989:

New England 25¢ per cwt.
 Non-New England 21¢ per cwt.
 Order 36 16¢ per cwt.

Payment of the premiums is contingent upon handlers paying their outstanding debts to

RCMA for July and August. The Board is committed to collecting all outstanding obligations so it can continue to meet the organization's goals to its members. RCMA has received assistance from the New York Department of Agriculture in its efforts to collect money.

"We are confident that we will collect all money due RCMA," said Carmen L. Ross, executive director and general manager. "Already several handlers have

settled their debts for July based upon RCMA's actions. We have every reason to believe the other handlers will fall in line and make payments of their outstanding obligations. We will continue our efforts to collect money owed to the organization."

Obviously, all payments to members are contingent upon collection of money from handlers.

The Board also set an over-order price for December Class I

(fluid) milk of 50 cents in New England and 65 cents in Western New York. The organization is continuing to operate pools in these areas because there is a higher percentage of membership among dairy farmers.

RCMA is a bargaining organization that sets an over-order price higher than the Class I milk set by the government. It collects that price and distributes it in the form of premiums to its members.

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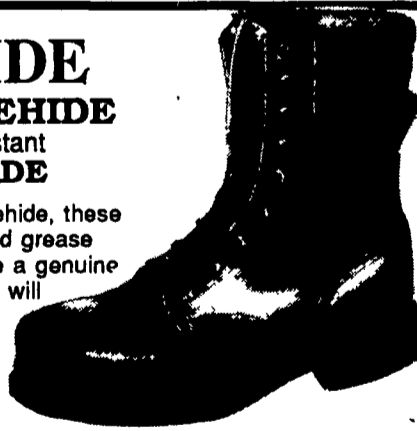
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