

National Milk Veterinarians

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tag estimated at \$1.6 million from the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board, he said.

Among the program's "check-list" of preventative measures, Adams said, is greater use of on-farm screening tests to detect residues in the milk of treated cows. In fact, the organizations will recommend that farmers always test before shipping any milk from treated cows to market, he added.

Many farmers already use screening tests, such as the Delvo-P test. However, Adams said, some currently used tests are not particularly sensitive to certain classes of drugs, such as the sulfas. Part of the educational campaign accompanying the NMPF-AVMA program will focus on which test should be used with which drug.

The education effort also will re-emphasize the need for a proper relationship between farmers and veterinarians who prescribe the use of a drug "extra label." Under established FDA policy, drugs not approved for use in lactating cows may indeed be used if prescribed by a veterinarian under certain conditions. Much of the recent concern about drug residues has focused on this sort of drugs.

Sulfamethazine, for instance, which has been shown to cause cancer in laboratory studies with rats and mice, has been the major concern of press reports in the *Wall Street Journal* and elsewhere. But officials at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer-based group that has lobbied for changes in drug regulations and industry practices, also are concerned about other drugs in the sulfonamide family. "There's been so much focus on sulfamethazine because we know it causes cancer, but the other sulfa drugs are under a cloud

of doubt," said Center staffer Lisa Lefferts. "Just because they haven't been tested doesn't mean they are safe."

Other extra-label drugs that have turned up in recent residue surveys include gentamicin, erythromycin and oxytetracycline.

Negative publicity about this issue peaked in January following the publication of a *Wall Street Journal* article detailing the results of two separate surveys of residues in the retail milk supply. Testing done at New Jersey's Rutgers University turned up traces (the levels ranged from a few to several hundred parts per billion) of various drugs in roughly 35 percent of these samples, but the results were quickly questioned by FDA officials. The agency subsequently conducted its own survey and initially announced that it had found "no residues" in its samples. However, FDA officials recently announced that further test work done on some of the samples suspected of contamination in their original survey had confirmed the presence of residues.

Conflicting interpretations of test results have kept the issue in the news. Moreover, it is not likely

to go away soon. Officials at the Center for Science in the Public Interest said they intend to continue pressing their concerns. FDA officials said they probably will soon propose banning the use of sulfamethazine in all food-producing animals.

Whatever the scientific findings, the greatest danger to the dairy industry is in the fickle court of public opinion, according to various industry spokesmen.

Lisa Keller, who fulfills that role for National Milk, said the issue has unfortunate semantic implications. "Anytime you put the words drugs and milk together in the same story, you have negative connotations," she said.

Her solution is to try to frame the debate in terms of "milk safety," she said. The quality assurance program follows the same principle.

"It's very, very important that we take measures to eliminate illegal residues," Adams said in reference to levels that exceed the limits set by FDA. However, he added, merely reducing residues below a certain level may not satisfy consumers.

"We are faced with the reality that the public may not accept any level of residues," he said.

Frederick Livestock Auction

Frederick, Md.

Monday, May 7, 1990

Report Supplied by Auction

SLAUGHTER COWS: UTILITY 52.00-56.00; HIGH DRESSING UP TO 57.50; CANNERS 50.00-54.00; SHELLY 50.00 DOWN.

BULLS: YG#1 1650 LBS. UP TO 65.25; YG#2 59.00-61.00.

FED STEERS: LOW CHOICE 950-1175 LBS. 73.00-74.50.

FED HEIFERS: CHOICE 880-1060 LBS. 70.00-71.75; SELECT UP TO 63.00.

VEAL CALVES: CHOICE 250 LBS. UP TO 108.00; GOOD 200 LBS. UP TO 98.00; STANDARD 75.00-85.00; CULLS 85-115 LBS. 80.00-90.00; 50-80 LBS. 75.00-85.00; WEAK AND OUGH 70.00 DOWN.

FARM CALVES: HOLSTEIN BULLS #1 90-120 LBS. 170.00-195.00; #2 85-110 LBS. 120.00-160.00.

HOLSTEIN HEIFERS: 90-110 LBS. UP TO 195.00; BEEF X BULLS UP TO 183.00; HEIFERS TO 145.00.

BUTCHER HOGS: #1 AND 3 215-260 LBS. 58.00-59.00; 260-280 LBS. 56.00-57.00; 190-210 LBS. 54.00-56.50.

SOWS: 300-500 LBS. 51.00-54.00; 500-700 LBS. 54.00-56.00.

BOARS: 300-400 LBS. 45.00-47.25; 600 LBS. UP TO 50.00.

STOCK CATTLE: STEERS 500-850 LBS. 62.00-77.00.

BULLS: 400 LBS. UP TO 97.00; 600 LBS. UP TO 75.00; 750 LBS. UP TO 65.00.

DAIRY REPLACEMENTS: SPRINGERS 800.00-900.00; FRESH UP TO 500.00.

LAMBS: 65 LBS. UP TO 65.00; CHOICE 90-120 LBS. 56.00-59.00.

SHEEP: UP TO 23.00.

PIGS AND SHOATS, BY THE HEAD, 35 LBS. UP TO 37.00; 45 LBS. UP TO 49.00; BY THE POUND, 1 LOT 81 LBS. AT 64.50.

Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa.

Thursday, May 10, 1990

Report Supplied by PDA

CATTLE 193. COMPARED WITH LAST THURSDAY'S MARKET, SL. COWS 2.50-5.00 HIGHER. SEL. 65.00-71.75. STANDARD 59.50-62.50. CUTTER & BON. UT. 56.00-62.50. CANNER & LOW CUTTER 53.50-56.00. SHELLS DOWN TO 51.75. YIELD GRADE NO. 1 1000-1895 LBS. SL. BULLS 62.75-68.25.

CALVES: 309. CHOICE 96.00, STAND. & GD. 70-95 LBS. 78.00-87.00. 60-85 LBS. 70.00-82.00 NO. 1 HOLSTEIN BULLS 85-130 LBS. 165.00-190.00, NO. 2 85-130 LBS. 120.00-165.00. NO. 1 HOL. HEIFERS 50-100 LBS. 160.00-225.00.

HOGS: 25 LOT US NO. 1-3 189 LBS. 53.75, 53.75. US NO. 1-3 500-550 LBS. 54.25-56.50, BOARS 49.75.

FEEDER PIGS: 0
SHEEP 7. COUPLE CHOICE 65 LBS. NEW CROP 77.00. SLAUGHTER SHEEP 16.00-36.00.

Pennsylvania Livestock Auction

Waynesburg, Pa.

Thursday, May 10, 1990

Report Supplied by PDA

CATTLE 225. SL. COWS STEADY TO STRONG. BREAKING UT. & COMMERCIAL SL. COWS 52.00-55.25, CUTTER & BON. UT. 49.50-54.00, CANNER & LO CUTTER 40.00-49.00, SHELLS DOWN TO 34.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS MED. & LGE.-1 300-500 LBS. 85.00-106.00, 725 @ 72.50, HEIFERS MED. & LGE.-1 250-400 LBS. 80.00-98.00, 350-600 LBS. 80.00-94.00.

CALVES 44. CHOICE 120.00-131.00. NO. 1, HOLSTEIN BULLS 90-120 LBS. 140.00-162.00, 90-120 LBS. 110.00-130.00. BEEF CROSS 80-115 LBS. BULLS & HEIFERS 90.00-140.00.

HOGS 64. 1 LOT US NO. 1-2 255 LBS. 60.00, 2-3 260-275 LBS. 56.00-56.25. US NO. 1-3 350-400 LBS. 50.00-52.00, 2-3 350-450 LBS. 47.00-49.00.

FEEDER PIGS 38. US NO. 1-3 30-40 LBS. FEEDER PIGS 32.00-38.00, 1-3 70-80 LBS. 44.00-47.00.

SHEEP 125. SPRING SL. LAMBS ABOUT STEADY. H. CHOICE & PRIME 75-80 LBS. 71.00-74.00. CHOICE 40-55 LBS. 66.00-70.00. LOT & LOW GOOD/CHOICE 53 LBS. 60.00.

N.E. Weekly Shell Egg Report

Tuesday, May 81

Report Supplied by USDA

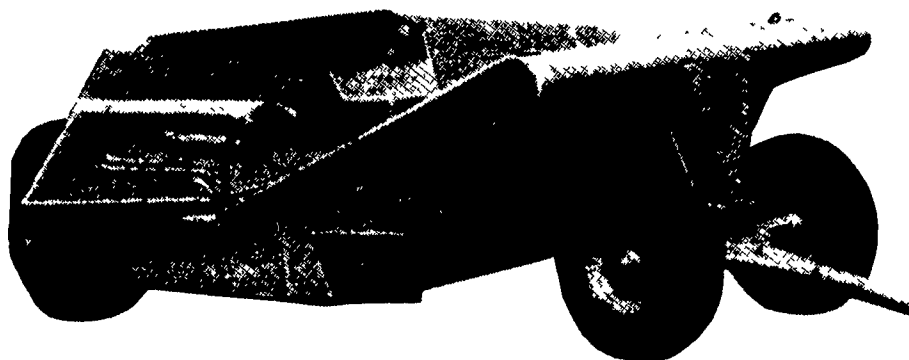
PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE "A" BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS
DELIVERED TO RETAIL STORES:

	EX. LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
N. HAMP.	.90-.94	.83-.87	.80-.84	.44-.48
MOSTLY	.92-.93	.85-.86	.82-.83	.46-.47
RHODE ISLAND	.93-.97	.89-.93	.86-.90	.49-.53
MOSTLY	.93	.89	.86	.49
VERMONT	.87-1.12	.90-.99	.85-.95	
MOSTLY	.97	.90	.87	
MAINE	.97-1.02	.90-.95	.87-.92	.51-.56



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