

## On The Record

Dick Barth

PA DHIA General Mgr.



# FOCUS

Pennsylvania

Dairy Herd

Improvement Association

## Complaints If We Do, If We Don't

**DICK BARTH**  
General Manager  
PA DHIA

We get about 400 telephone calls a month at the service center about all kinds of things.

And while we make mistakes, probably too often, I think the DHIA staff goes out of its way to help members with their problems.

When we do make mistakes, you can bet we will hear about that from someone, usually an angry member.

Now and then I hear about a mistake directly from a member who calls and insists on talking to the general manager (why they insist on that is a mystery because everyone knows the general manager doesn't know anything!).

A couple of weeks ago I got a call from a member who wanted to relate his displeasure about the board's decision to rank herds on the basis of protein, not fat production.

Even though the conversation was very cordial, I was baffled by his complaint. The evidence of the American public's rejection of

animal fat in their diet is overwhelming. Even the USDA has stopped ranking AI bulls on fat and has switched to protein dollars.

If anything, I thought DHIA's change to protein ranking was behind the times.

I know the argument: no one in Pennsylvania (or practically no

one) is being paid on protein production, so why rank cows on it?

There is a simple answer to that, and the handwriting is on the wall for those who will read it; it takes generations of cows to achieve genetic change and if you don't get a start on breeding for protein now, you'll just be that much

farther behind when the inevitable happens.

Since the cow year ended on Sept. 30, and year-end reports are out, I suspect we'll get more complaints in the near future because someone's cow came in third, or second in the county instead of first, which would not have happened if we continued to rank

cows on fat, like we always used to.

Just one request, please. Before you call, will you consider the mountain of butterfat that the U.S. government is storing in the CCC and what we should do to stop the mountain from getting any bigger?

## How Does Your Herd Compare?

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — This data is pulled from Pennsylvania DHIA's mainframe computer each week. It is a one-week summary representing approximately one-fourth of the herds on test, as they are tested monthly.

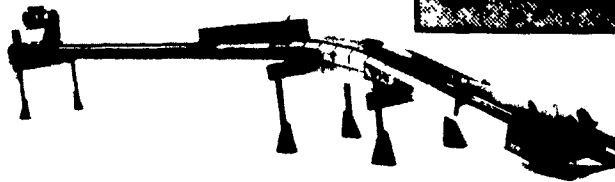
These data are valuable from a business management standpoint and can be used for comparing your operations to the averages from almost 1,400 herds across the state.

DHIA Averages for all herds processed between 10/15/90 and 10/22/90

Number of Herds Processed	1,405
Number of Cows Processed	80,895
Number of Cows Per Herd	57.5
Milk Per Cow (Lbs)	16,970
%-Fat	3.65
Fat Per Cow (Lbs)	620
%-Protein	3.17
Protein Per Cow (Lbs)	539
Average Days in Milk Per Cow	315
*Value for CWT Milk(\$)	14.79
*Value for CWT Grain(\$)	8.09
*Value for CWT Hay(\$)	4.36
*Value for CWT Silage(\$)	1.52
*Value for Pasture Per Day(\$)	.30
*Value for Milk Per Cow Per Year(\$)	2,511
*Feed Consumed Per Cow Per Year(Lbs)	
A: Grain	6,880
B: Hay	2,572
C: Silage	14,674
D: Day Pasture	67
*Feed Cost Per Cow Per Year(\$)	
A: Grain	556
B: Hay	112
C: Silage	223
D: Pasture	20
*Total Feed Cost Per Cow Per Year(\$)	913
*Income Over Feed Costs Per Year(\$)	1,597
*Grain to Milk Ratio	1:2.4
*Feed Cost Per CWT Milk(\$)	5.38
Avg Level For 1,159 SCC Herds	349,963

\*Member generated figures

## 4.9% FINANCING NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 30th ON 8912 & 8916 CONVEYORS AND FEEDERS



### High-Volume Belt Conveying

- 16-inch belt on concave open-pan sections convey up to 62 cu. ft. (or up to 2,000 pounds) of feed per minute
- 12-inch belt: 45 cu. ft. or 1,500 pounds per minute.
- Smooth belt for horizontal conveying.
- Textured belt for inclines up to 30 degrees.
- Lengths from 4 to 120 ft. (8912)
- Options include covers, hoppers, spouts, diverters and belt wipers.

Ask about the full line of 8912 & 8916 Patz Conveyors.



### Patz Belt Feeders adapt to your setup

Feed one to six lots different rations with lengths to 200 feet

Patz Belt Feeders mount easily on either side of your feed bunk or in the middle. Or mount from the ceiling inside the barn.

End loading can minimize conveyor investment. You can even convey and feed with one machine.

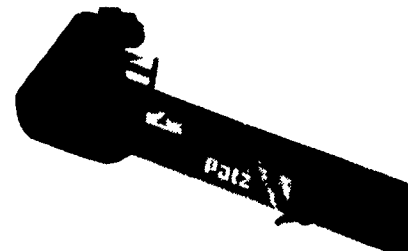
Choice of 12-inch or 16-inch belt. Ask about the full line of Patz feeders.

- Steep elevation.
- High capacity.
- Lengths: Up to 25 feet.
- All-belt drive for low maintenance.
- Galvanized steel, all bolted construction.
- Detachable steel chain with steel-braced 2½-inch rubber flites.
- Replaceable bolt-in conveyor pans.
- Options: Hopper, spouts, diverter, support brackets.



### Model 262 Conveyor

Low-cost conveyor



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**DISTRICT MANAGERS**  
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717-664-2333  
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814-696-9447