

Weaver Brothers

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old. And while the heifers are bred with genetics to milk well, they are not culled because of production after only one lactation.

"We have decided to be satisfied with a two-year-old that only milks 18,000 lbs.," Landis said. "We had some experience where some two-year-olds wanted to milk but could not take in enough feed to also grow at the same time. Then they didn't do any better the second lactation. So for a young cow, our greatest concern is the type on the legs, feet and udders. We don't cull first calf heifers as long as they are functionally sound."

The Weavers have started to breed the red factor into their herd. "A lot of foreign countries are big on red," Herb said. "The same black and white cow will be worth 40 percent more if she is red and white. We don't want to sacrifice

genetics, but if we can get the same genetics, we will breed for the red factor. We have several cows that should have red calves.

"It puts a little color in your barn and in addition, it's just interesting how it works when you have a black and white bull and a black and white cow and you get a red and white calf."

The Weaver brothers say the suddenly lower milk prices have put the "scare" into dairying right now. But they still want to be in the business ten years from now. And with their good sense about debt, their good herd management, the great genetic background in their herd, their good attitudes about life, and their strong family support, Landis and Herb Weaver have all the ingredients for a great future in the Registered Holstein business.

Dairylea Commends Decision To Lift Interstate Barriers

SYRACUSE, NY — As the result of a complaint filed against the state of Connecticut by Dairylea Cooperative Inc. more than two years ago, Connecticut announced it is amending its milk laws to remove barriers to the sale of New York-produced milk in that state.

"We are extremely pleased by the outcome of this matter," said Clyde E. Rutherford, president of Dairylea. "The New York State Attorney General's Office and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets have worked diligently on behalf of New York dairy farmers to ease restrictions on the flow of milk into Connecticut."

In filing the 1988 complaint with the Department of Agriculture and Markets, Dairylea charged that both Connecticut and Massachusetts had in place unfair regulatory practices that hindered the marketing of milk produced in New York. The complaint centered around regulations that prohibit New York dairy farmers from selling milk in either of the two states unless their farms pass inspections by Connecticut or Massachusetts officials, even though the farms are fully inspected by New York officials.

New York and 46 other states do not impose similar restrictions on the sale of milk because they honor inspections performed by

officials in the farmer's own state.

"Complying with these regulations was not only burdensome to our members, but also represented a significant cost to Dairylea in terms of field personnel time and test expenses," explained Rutherford.

Over the past few years, Dairylea's delegate body has passed resolutions at its annual meeting pertaining to milk marketing reciprocity and encouraging the cooperative to pursue actions against those states that do not practice reciprocity.

"Our members voiced their concern over these additional inspections and expenses, and we began exploring channels for alleviating the problem. Dairylea believes that a cooperative has the responsibility to be a strong and effective voice for its members," Rutherford commented.

While the matter has been resolved with Connecticut, Rutherford said that Dairylea is hopeful that a similar agreement can be reached with Massachusetts.

Dairylea, a Syracuse-based dairy cooperative with 2,300 farmer members throughout the Northeast, participates in a milk marketing network stretching from Maine to Maryland to Ohio.



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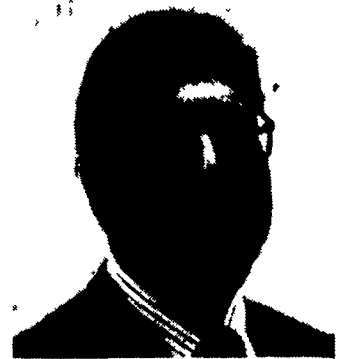
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