



OPINION

Happy Dairy Farms

Now is the time for all beautiful dairy farms to come to the aid of their industry. Of course, the dairy farms can't do much themselves. They need their owners to submit an application for the 1991 Dairy of Distinction program that has just been announced this week.

If ever you could call a milk promotion program grass-roots, this is it. The beauty of local dairy farms is used to remind consumers where the good beverage of milk originates. And volunteers run the program to keep the cost at a very low level.

Judging takes place in the month of May and is based on the roadside appearance of buildings, grounds and surroundings. A local district team of judges visits each farm and uses a score sheet to rate each farm. In the Pennsylvania program, in addition to this team of judges, the sanitarian for the farm's cooperative or dealer-handler is asked to be part of the judging process.

Winners receive a colorful, 18x24-inch Dairy of Distinction sign to be placed at the entrance to the farmstead. In addition, as in past years, an 11x14-inch color portrait of the farm will be given by Lancaster Farming to each winning farm in the Pennsylvania program.

Your dairy farm wants to help promote milk. Give it a chance. Send in your application today. Let your beautiful dairy farm show itself off to the milk drinkers of America in this year's Dairy of Distinction program. Your dairy farm will be glad you did.



Saturday, February 9

Cumberland Co. annual meeting, Huntsdale Fire Hall, Huntsdale, 10:45 a.m.
 Chester Co. Beekeepers Association Bee Short Course, East Bradford Township Building, West Chester, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 10

Monday, February 11

Lancaster Co. Sheep and Wool Growers annual meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.
 Poultry Management and Health Seminar, Kreider Dairy Farms Restaurant, Manheim, noon.
 PNA Nursery and Landscape Conference, Hershey Convention Center, thru Feb. 14.
 McKean Co. Dairy Nutrition School II, Port Allegany, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
 New York State Vegetable Conference, Syracuse Sheraton Inn and Convention Center, Liverpool, N.Y., thru Feb. 13.
 Wayne Co. Farm and Financial Workshop, Extension Office, Honesdale, 8 p.m.
 Swine production meeting, SUN Area Vo-Tech, New Berlin, 7 p.m.
 Atlantic Breeders Co-Op, District II, Delaware State, Felton Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m.
 Union Co. Corn Clinic, Montour-DeLong Fair Building, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
 Lancaster Co. dairy herd manage-

ment meeting, Carl L. Martin Farm, Ephrata, 12:30 p.m.
 Lancaster Co. dairy barn meeting, John Z. Weaver Farm, Stevens, 1 p.m.
 Lancaster Co. dairy barn meeting, S. Clair Wadel Farm, Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 12

PNA Nursery and Landscape Conference, Hershey Convention Center, thru Feb. 14.
 New York State Vegetable Conference, Syracuse Sheraton Inn and Convention Center, Liverpool, N.Y., thru Feb. 13.
 Lancaster Co. Crops and Soils Day, Farm and Home Center, 8:30 a.m.
 Elk Co. bee management, extension office.
 York Co. labor resource management multi-county meeting, Adams Co. Extension Office.
 Adams Co. dairy farm labor resource management meeting, Extension Office.
 Lebanon Valley National Bank Agri-Seminar, Prescott Fire Hall, 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
 Penn State Nursery Conference, Hershey.
 Clarion Co. new pesticide study and exam, Clarion Co. Park, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., repeats Feb. 13.
 Pa. DHIA Southeast District meeting, Berks Co. Ag Center, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

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NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin
 Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Recognize Lime For Weed Control

You have never heard us recommend lime for weed control however, indirectly lime is important to obtain good herbicide weed control. Both research and farm experience has indicated that herbicides are not as effective in sour soil. So, for best control with chemicals, the soil test requirements must be satisfied.

Many poor weed control experiences have been reported on acid soils. A complete soil test will indicate the amount of lime needed. There are many other advantages to crop production in addition to better herbicide action.

To Evaluate Dairy Cows

It costs about \$1,200 to raise a calf to two years of age; that's cash and non-cash costs. When milk prices fall, profit margins shrink and it takes longer for cows to recover their heifer raising costs, and to make their first nickel of profit in their lifetime.

The challenge to dairymen, according to Glenn Shirk, Extension Dairy Agent, is to keep their best cows in the herd longer for several reasons. Herd profits will increase. The more lactations you keep a cow, the more calves she'll have and the fewer replacements you'll need. That means you'll have excess heifers, which gives you the opportunity to cull selectively. With fewer heifers needed, you'll need less housing and purchased feeds, and you'll have more feeds available to feed to your lactating cows where they'll earn a greater return.

To Be Aware Of Milker's Knee

Everyone knows about tennis elbow, but who has ever heard of "Milker's Knee"? Dairy producers may have this form of degenerative arthritis without being aware of it. The condition occurs from the squatting bending and lifting that dairy farmers must do when attaching milkers to cows standing at floor level.

This wearing away of cartilage in the joints is most common among dairy farmers. The first sign is usually pain in the knees. Family and friends may notice that the person is becoming

bowlegged. Other signs include frequent loss of balance; swelling, locking, stiffening, or giving out of the knees; and a grinding or snapping noise when bending.

A knee injury can develop into milker's knee but people who have never had a knee injury can be affected. Some farmers simply may have inherited this problem, especially if the family has a history of arthritis.

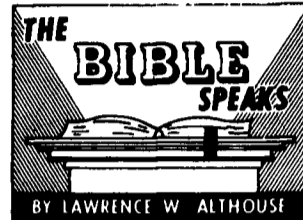
Dr. Dennis Murphy, Safety Specialist at Penn State, tells us that the most important prevention is to avoid squatting. Instead, kneel on one knee and wear knee pads. If you consult a physician at the first sign of trouble, you can probably keep the conditions from becoming worse.

To Keep Small Children Away From Machinery
 The spring cropping season will

be starting in another month. That means that a lot of farm machines will be put into operation and things will really be moving. Small children like to become a part of this action and ask to ride on machinery, or even operate some of the smaller tractors. It might take nerve to refuse them at times; however, for their own protection they should not become involved. Many serious accidents have happened because "Dad" or "Grandad" took them along.

Where there are small children all machinery operators should be especially careful of their exact locations. Farm machinery and small children do no mix. Remember, safety is no accident.

The Penn State Cooperative Extension is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educational institution.



BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE
WHO IS #1?
 FEBRUARY 10, 1991

Background Scripture: Matthew 20:17-28.

Devotional Reading: John 13:12-17

We live in a world where being "number one" is extremely important. That is how success is measured. As we climb the ladder of our vocation or avocation, we become more successful — at least as society reckons it. As Jesus reckons it, however, success may have nothing at all to do with society's measurements. As in almost everything else, the teachings of Jesus about being "number one" are radically different from what the world teaches us.

Once again, we Christians are somewhat schizoid on this score. We embrace Jesus' teachings on this matter, but we generally run our churches by the world's standards. Who is successful in the church? The clergyman who pastors the largest church or becomes bishop. The layman who wields the most influence and holds the highest positions of lay power.

I have no aspirations of ever being a bishop. Nevertheless, if tomorrow I were informed that I had just been elected bishop, I would certainly feel successful beyond my greatest expectations. The same would be true if I were offered "the largest pulpit in Methodism." That would be success, wouldn't it?

LORDING IT OVER

That standard of success has been with us a long time. It was this standard that led the mother of James and John of Zebedee to ask Jesus, "Command that these two sons of mine may sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom" (Matthew 20:21). What mother wouldn't want that

for her sons? Jesus recognized this human desire: "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them." Having the power to "Lord it over" someone else has always been the world's measure of success.

Until Jesus came, saying: "It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whosoever would be first among you must be your slaves; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve..." (20:26-28). Once again, Jesus recognizes the human desire to be great or first. He does not criticize James, John and their mother for wanting to be first in the kingdom of heaven next to Jesus. What he does do, however, is to give them a radically different way of being the greatest: by being a servant to others.

Once again, Jesus is looking to the long run, instead of the short run. In the short run, "lording it over" others seems to be the way to success. But, in the long run, that doesn't work or count for real success. What works in the long run is the willingness to serve, rather than to be served. Only in serving others can we truly be "number one."

WILLING TO SERVE

Writing on this is a very uncomfortable experience for me, for I know how likely I am to judge success, not by the standards of Jesus, but by those of the secular world. I believe with all my mind that a Christian must be willing to serve others as Christ did, but I don't very often live by those beliefs. If someone came to me today, not to tell me that I had been elected bishop, but to inform me that God had chosen for me the servant's role in a specific situation, could I feel that same degree of satisfaction? Could I view this as a superior means to becoming "number one."

Could you?

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