Lancaster, Lebanon Dairy Days Announced

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)— Several dairy programs have been scheduled by extension agents working in Lancaster and Lebanon counties.

There are two Lancaster County dairy days, to be held Feb. 26 and March 5 at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

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On Feb. 27 a dairy day program is to be held in Lebanon County at the Prescott Fire Hall.

The Lebanon program and the first Lancaster program are nearly identical. The theme is "Putting the Pieces Together for Production Efficiency in the 90s."

The program is designed to help

dairymen cope with low milk prices and to strengthen their competitive position for the 90s. In addition to production efficiency, speakers will also address concerns related to animal welfare, lung health of farm workers, managing farm finances in times of cyclic milk prices, and look at

trends in milk production and milk marketing.

Feb. 26 and 27 Program On Feb. 26 and 27 Dr. Paul Chandler will discuss "Feeding and Managing Dairy Herds in Times of Low Milk Prices." Dr. Chandler is a dairy consultant, whose business is based in Dresden, Tenn.

Dr. Bruce Beachnau, technical services veterinarian for the Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Mich., will focus on "Dairy Reproduction and Udder Health," and on recent findings in these two areas of herd management.

Many dairymen are concerned about the productivity and longevity of their first calf heifers. Dr. Chandler and Dr. Beachnau will join Dr. Carl Brown and Jeff Zechman in a panel discussion on "Managing First Calf Heifers." Dr. Brown is a nutritionist with F.M. Brown's Sons Inc., in Birdsboro. Jeff Zechman is a dairy consultant for Gehman's Feeds, Denver.

Those in attendance will also have the opportunity to meet Dr. Stanley Curtis, head of Penn State's Dairy and Animal Science Department. Dr. Curtis is well known for his expertise in animal welfare, a topic of interest to farmers and to the public. He will address the topic of animal welfare as it relates to good animal husbandry.

Closely related to animal welfare and herd profits is cow comfort. This topic will be discussed on Feb. 26 by Dan McFarland, multi-county extension agent with agricultural engineering responsibilities in southcentral Pennsylvania.

The Lebanon County program on Feb. 27 also includes presentations on "Dairy Outlook" by Larry Yager, and on "Farm Nutrient Management" by Leon Ressler.

Yager is a multi-county extension marketing agent in Adams County and Leon Ressler is a multi-county nutrient management agent in Lancaster County.

Day Two:

Forage quality and efficiency of nutrient utilization by dairy cattle are important to herd profits. On the second day of the Lancaster County dairy day presentation, on March 5, Dr. Limin Kung, University of Delaware, is to inform dairymen about the use of silage inoculants, additives and preservatives. He will also update dairymen about feeding probiotics, a practice that can help improve the absorption and utilization of feed nutrients by dairy cattle.

Two dairy producers, David Dum and Robert Wenger, along with a Hamilton Bank representative, and Extension Agent Glenn Shirk, will share some thoughts about how to cope with lower milk prices.

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