

National Milk, Others

(Continued from Page A1)

bill left intact the existing policy of using adjustments in the support price to try to balance milk supplies with demand.

The bill proposed inventory management as a tool to curb milk

production should excesses raise the cost of the government's support program to unacceptable levels. However, if no plan is implemented, USDA is still left with the option of assessing dairy farmers for program costs when

the size of a yearly surplus is projected to exceed 7 billion pounds (on a total solids basis). These assessments would be in addition to those currently being levied to meet budget reduction targets.

Projections for the current year predict a surplus of 6.4 billion pounds, but dairy leaders fear these further assessments could be triggered in 1992.

Dan Lauwers, a lobbyist for the National Milk Producers Federation, said, "The federation and its member cooperatives are committed to seeing some legislation passed this year."

The federation, which represents most of the nation's dairy cooperatives, is one of the organizations that submitted a proposal to USDA. The proposal outlines two possible approaches to supply management: mandatory assessments coupled with incentive payments for reduced production or two-tier pricing tied to a base-excess system.

The federation also proposes the creation of a board of dairy farmers to oversee the administration of such programs on the grounds, Lauwers said, that "if

we're going to bear more and more of the burden of the stabilization program, then we want more and more of a say in how it is run."

Lauwers said the proposal is intended not only as a supply management tool, but as a means of boosting dairy farm income. Toward that end, it includes recommendations for increasing the minimum solids-not-fat standards in fluid milk, maintaining and expanding various nutrition programs that use surplus commodities and strengthening federal assistance for dairy exports. In terms of supply management, the proposal is deliberately somewhat vague, Lauwers said, so that people don't argue over the details.

According to Jim Fraher, an economist for the Pennsylvania-based Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, lack of agreement on the fine print has long dogged the industry.

"The industry has never been united on an alternative to current policy," Fraher said. "This has been one of the main reasons why such a program has not gone into place."

Fraher said a program that

would stabilize the recent volatility in the milk market would help calm the concerns of farmers who've seen record high prices plunge to 10-year lows in less than a year.

However, even without a supply management program, the local economist sees some reason for optimism.

"I think the dairy industry here in the Northeast... is going to remain competitive. The market is going to come back, but it is not going to come back in 1991. I think 1991 is going to be a painful year. There's a good chance (the slump) could linger into mid-1992." But, after that, Fraher added, "we could well be looking at some modest price increases."

USDA's Mengel said the 48 proposals represent "nothing really new" in the way of policy options, although a couple expose the concept of a Class IV price that was discussed for the first time during last year's farm bill debate. In addition to those submitted, the USDA task force must study a target price-deficiency payment option and the Class IV pricing option, he said.

Farm Program Sign-Up Under Way

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — "We began accepting applications for the 1991 farm programs on March 4th," Donald Unangst, State Executive Director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, said. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced sign-up and other acreage reduction program provisions for wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, rice and cotton.

The farm programs call for a 15 percent reduction in wheat acres and 7.5 percent in corn, sorghum, and barley acres.

For meeting these acreage reduction requirements, Unangst said farmers will be eligible for price support loans, deficiency payments and other benefits on their 1991 program crops.

"Wheat and feed grain program participants may request 40 percent of the estimated deficiency payments at sign-up," Unangst said. Estimated payment rates are \$1.47 per bushel for wheat, \$1.40 for wheat in optional winter wheat provision, \$.58 for corn, \$.56 for sorghum, \$.47 for barley, and \$.15 for oats.

Under the 1991 programs, farmers will have planting flexibility on up to 25 percent of the crop acreage base. "That 25 percent is called 'flex' acreage," Unangst said farmers may plant on these acres, any program crop, any oilseed, industrial, or experimental crop designated by USDA, or any other crop except fruits and vegetables. Unangst said a list of prohibited crops will be available in ASCS County

Offices across the state.

The ASCS official said the amount of regular deficiency payments that a person is entitled to under one or more programs for wheat and feed grains may not exceed \$50,000, the same as for the 1990 crops.

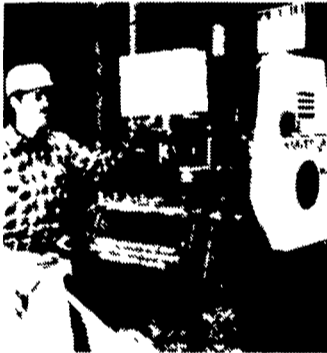
Further information and enrollment in programs may be obtained through April 26, 1991 at any one of 60 local ASCS offices.

FASTER FEEDING

... with the strength and power of Goliath® II, the new forage unloader from Harvestore Systems

Here's a rugged machine that keeps working even in tough feeds

Goliath II has bigger cutter arm sprockets for smoother chain action longer wear. The chain features bigger, more aggressive cutter hooks and stainless steel bushings that last. Thanks to these improvements 30 percent more torque can be applied to Goliath II's cutter arm powering it through hard spots and tough forage such as grass haylage to keep feeding chores on schedule.



Want faster feeding from your Harvestore forage structure? That's a job for Goliath II, the new giant of the feedroom. Call your authorized, independent Harvestore system dealer to find out more.

Remember: ORDER your new unloader today to beat our 3/15/91 deadline! Details were mailed to you! For more information call our office.

HARVESTORE SYSTEMS
ENDLESS MOUNTAINS HARVESTORE® SYSTEMS, INC.

"Your local, independent, authorized Harvestore Systems Dealer"

BRANCH OFFICE:
 Rt. 15 South (Dow Building)
 P.O. Box 612
 Lewisburg, PA 17837
 (717) 523-6600

MAIN OFFICE:
 Route 6, PO Box G
 (Across From Sinbad's Restaurant)
 Wysox, PA 18854
 (717) 265-2200

"Endless Mountains Harvestore is the only authorized independent dealer for A.O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc. in the following counties in the state of Pennsylvania: Bradford, Clinton, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne and Wyoming."



Harvestore is a registered trademark of A.O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc.

POULTRY BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

TRI-COUNTY

CONFINEMENT SYSTEMS INC.

608 E. Evergreen Rd., Lebanon, PA 17042

Ph: 717-274-3488

DISTRIBUTORS OF



Feeding Equipment & Feed Bins



VENTILATION

The Air Systems Specialist



Agricultural Computer Controls



Unverferth cross auger fills your planter fast!

Unverferth's new hydraulic cross auger fills all your planter boxes from a single position. You enjoy a lot more convenience while using a lot less time.

The cross auger is driven by a reliable hydraulic motor with a readily accessible control valve and handle. With an auger featuring rigid, interlocking nylon flighting segments on a stainless steel shaft and a rugged 6" ABS cross tube, the unit is virtually impervious to wear and corrosion.

All Unverferth cross augers include safety grates to prevent contact with the auger, hopper lid hold-down straps, and all necessary mounting hardware.

Ask your dealer for details today. Or contact us.



1-800-322-6301

Unverferth Manufacturing Co., Inc.
 P.O. Box 357, Kalida, OH 45853
 1-800-322-6301 in the U.S. • 419-532-3121
 FAX 419-532-2468 • Telex 265026

PIGS

STATE GRADED SALE
 Pseudorables Free

FRI., MAR. 15

1:30 P.M.

WESTMINSTER

LIVESTOCK AUCTION
 Westminster, MD

Sales every
 1st & 3rd Friday
 Phone (301) 848-9820
 or (301) 857-1179