

A History And Perspective Of The Pennsylvania DHIA Program

(Continued from Page B24)

Much resentment by counties on these assessments -- we don't use! Why pay?

October 1970

Dean Amick hired as new laboratory manager. Discussed mandatory testing of all samples.

April 1971

128,280 samples tested.

So many samples leaking and fouling the postal mails that DHLA contracted with UPS to deliver samples. This move lowered cost. There was also less churning of samples and less spoilage.

July 1971

All samples being sent in and tested in new Central Milk Testing Lab.

January 1972

New machine purchased with ability to test for Protein.

Retirement program again opened for discussion.

April 1972

Lab tested its 1,000,000th sample on February 4. 219,960 samples tested; 15 people employed in lab.

Cost for protein test is 5¢/cow. July 1972 --Protein tester installed and working.

Research project started with 8,000 cows being tested for protein.

January 1973

Altoona firm had key punched records during holidays.

Reported that life insurance and retirement might cost 3¢/cow.

March 1973

10,421 samples being tested for Protein. 35 states now in NDHIA.

Discussion to establish a Milk Meter Service Center with each meter to be checked once a year. Old milk house in Brown Swiss barn to be outfitted and used as Meter Lab; ready by February 1, 1974.

Tentative approval of a retirement and life insurance plan.

January 1974

Voted to initiate the retirement plan effective July 1, 1974.

April 1974

Carl Hollinger death April 20. Dick Campbell new attorney replacing Dave Putney. Meter Lab now in use; 200 Milk-O-Meters and 170 Tru-Test Meters in use.

October 1974

Owen Etter hired to fill Hollinger position.

January 1975

Central Test Lab building cost plus interest to date is \$211,700 of which \$144,000 has been paid.

Dues to NDHIA now at \$2700 per year.

July 1975

Ruth Hollinger resigns as Assistant Treasurer, Linda Kern is hired.

First discussed Somatic Cell testing and purchase of a SCC machine; \$35,000 with a 5 year life expectancy.

On national scene, Dick Sechrist was hired as Executive Secretary of NDHIA.

Protein testing to be offered October 1 at a cost; has been free since 1972.

January 1976

PSU will purchase SCC machine from research monies and DHIA may use it.

Executive Committee met to discuss feasibility of hiring a General Manager for PA DHIA. Some reasoning: a) Decisions need to be made that Extension or University should not make. b) Extension cannot be expected to operate the day-to-day program at county level. c) Program might be stronger with less dependence on Extension. d) Cost will be higher and there will be a loss of local (county) control. e) Might be more practical to hire an Executive Secretary. f) Regardless, must never lose the close relationship we have with Extension & PSU.

April 1976

AM-PM testing approved by NDHIA if we have a way to verify the time of the previous milking.

Start field trial of Somatic Cell Testing at a cost of 12¢/sample.

July 1976

Dick Sechrist invited to state meeting to discuss Executive Secretary or General Manager position. Says State Board is responsible for setting objectives and policy. Extension is responsible for encouraging testing, helping dairymen understand and use records, and advising and consulting with State Association.

Effective January 1977 charge for fat test will be 12¢/sample.

Gilmore still sending out notices of directors meetings.

\$8,487 loss in past six months; may have to adjust fees. a) actual record processing costs 10.2¢/cow; income 10.56¢/cow. b) actual sample testing costs 10.4¢/cow; income 10¢/cow.

Board voted a 2¢/cow increase effective January 1977.

200 herds signed up for SCC field trial; lab testing 1000 samples per day.

October 1976

Gilmore presented a report detailing a method of getting treasury out of the debt.

Board not ready to make decision on a General Manager. Gilmore will pursue possibility of an added University based employee responsible to the Board.

Report for PSU (Beatie, King, Baumgardt, Thoele, & Gilmore): a) PSU personnel will continue to have assignment in DHIA. b) Recommend continuation of use of facilities on campus. c) Employ an individual to implement approved programs and carry out business function to be paid for by DHIA and be responsible to Gilmore.

Gilmore was asked if he had any recommendation to Board for added personnel and cost of reorganization. He said he felt it was responsibility of Executive Committee to make such recommendations.

Moved to raise State Association fees by 3¢/cow -- to a total of 13¢/cow -- effective January 1977.

Mileage for Directors increased to 15¢/mile.

January 1977

Consultant hired for retirement program.

NDHIA dues now costing \$5211/yr.

July 1977

Research on SCC completed; potential of 20,000 cows per month, cost of 12¢/cow; ready for dairymen January 1978.

A second SCC machine will be needed at \$47,500.

October 1977

Executive Committee reports that Ray Pruss was hired as an Administrative Assistant.

January 1978

Can accept 1137 herds on new SCC testing program (20% quota of herds on DHIA Test in each county) only three counties have not filled their quota.

July 1978

Strike by tech service people hits the testing lab. All Dairy Extension Specialists called to assist in testing samples and recording results, including picking up samples from UPS in Lewistown and stuffing and delivering reports to the Post Office.

Memorandum of Understanding between NDHIA and PA DHIA signed.

October 1978

State Association is liable for actions of local boards. 365 day records approved on option basis. Cost of records to be paid for by those requesting such service. Cost is 20¢/cow and all cows in herd must enroll.

January 1979

Gilmore says it may be possible to automatically report data from testing machines to the computer and reduce labor of two people.

24% turnover of Supervisors in 1978.

April 1979

Discussed conversion of S. W. District into a District Management System, managed by one employee.

July 1979



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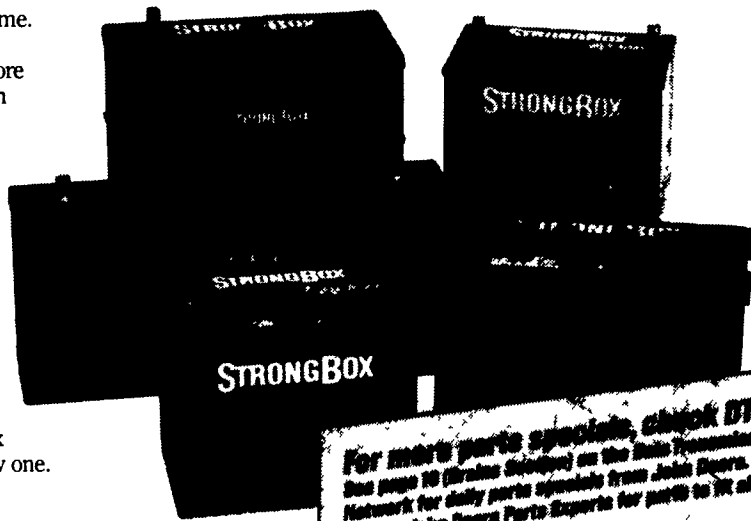
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(Turn to Page B26)