

# Hershey Renews Sweet Partnership

READING (Berks Co.) — For the second consecutive year, Hershey Foods Corporation has awarded a \$25,000 grant to the Pennsylvania State Envirothon Program to help make quality environmental education programs available to high school students throughout the Commonwealth.

The Envirothon Program is designed to cultivate a desire to learn more about our natural environment through competitive events. The challenge of competition is what excites and motivates students to learn more about the many problems facing our environment today. The educational activities of the Envirothon Program help to teach youth how they

can become environmentally responsible citizens.

"Hershey Foods believes that everyone can help preserve a healthy environment," said Michael Berney, Corporate Contributions Manager, Hershey Foods Corporation. "Education is the key. Through the Envirothon, students actively learn about the environment and how their actions affect it. Hershey Foods Corporation is proud to continue our sponsorship of the Pennsylvania State Envirothon Program. It's a wonderful program!"

The Envirothon experience begins at the local level. Five member teams rotate through five testing stations that involve questions related to aquatics, forestry,

soils, wildlife and a current issue. A new current issue topic is chosen annually. This year's current issue topic is Pesticides. The team with the highest overall score in the five subject areas wins the local competition and represents its county at the state competition.

Cooperating agencies include the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, the Department of Environmental Resources' Bureau of Forestry, the USDA Soil Conservation Service, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania State University's Office of Pesticide Education. These agencies develop educational materials and tests and provide technical assistance

during the events.

The Berks County Conservation District will again sponsor the local Envirothon competition. It will be at Nolde State Environmental Education Center on Thursday, May 6. In 1992 there were 18 teams who participated in the Berks County event. The winning team was from Twin Valley High School and Kutztown was the runner-up.

"We believe that this year's competition will be more exciting and challenging than ever!" said Dr. Paul Hess, retired Director of

Environmental Affairs, Hershey Foods Corporation and consultant to the Envirothon Program.

This year's State Envirothon competition is scheduled for June 19th at Pine Grove Furnace State Park. The winning team will represent Pennsylvania at the National Envirothon, held July 31st through August 4th at Niagara University in New York.

For more information about the Pennsylvania Envirothon Program, contact the Envirothon office at 225 Pine Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101, or phone 717-238-4998.

## Tewksbury Talks To NAA

MESHOPPEN (Lackawanna Co.) — Arden Tewksbury, manager of the Progressive Agriculture organization (Pro Ag) was a guest speaker at a meeting of the Northeast Agriculture Associates (N.A.A.) held Nov. 14 at the Hotel Hershey, Hershey.

N.A.A. is an association made up of interested agriculture leaders from 13 Northeastern states.

One of the main purposes of N.A.A. will be to aid the new Clinton administration in developing and enacting favorable agriculture policy.

Tewksbury told the group that a new look had to be taken at the method of determining farm prices for agriculture commodities.

Referring specifically to dairy, Tewksbury said, "The new cost-of-production figures released by the U.S.D.A. clearly illustrate what is happening to the Northeast dairy farmers." U.S.D.A. pegs the dairy farmers cost of production in the Northeast for 1990 at \$16.46 per hundredweight (cwt).

The most recent price paid to

area dairy farmers (Federal Order 2) for October's milk was \$13.24 per cwt. The Pro Ag leader estimates the average price for 1992 to be around \$12.80 per cwt.

Tewksbury told the group, "The real sad part of these figures is that in 1981, eleven years ago, the average price paid to area dairy farmers was \$13.39 per cwt."

Pro Ag was formed nearly two years ago in an attempt to create more of an awareness of the plight being experienced by agriculture and to work on favorable methods to correct the inequities facing agriculture producers.

Tewksbury said, "Pro Ag has made some good contacts with farmers and agriculture leaders in other states, but our meeting with the N.A.A. opens up a complete new area of cooperation between Pro Ag and the leaders of N.A.A."

Both Tewksbury and William Burke, chairman of N.A.A. pledged continued cooperation between the two groups in an attempt to reverse the downward skid that many agriculture producers are on.

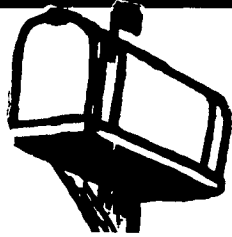
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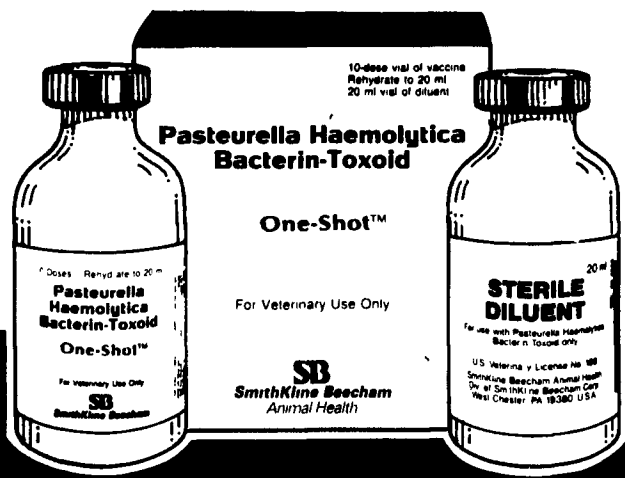
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