

Changes Discussed At Holstein Winter Forum

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
GRANTVILLE (Dauphin Co.) — A number of issues concerning the running of the national and local Holstein Associations were discussed here Thursday at the Holiday Inn, as part of a series of nation-wide meetings called Winter Forums.

The meeting was led by John Selz, of Humbird, Wis., Holstein Association vice president, and national directors Thomas Kelly, of Tyrone, and John Howard, of Willow Street.

While a number of issues were addressed during the day-long meeting, a consensus was drawn on only a few items. Any consensus built during the meeting does not mean that the local positions are shared by other members in the state.

Including the directors, 53 people attended the forum which is held annually so directors can better understand, from delegates, how members feel about issues, before the board gathers to take action.

Of the issues discussed Thursday were the national board strategic plan, treatment of convention delegates, association finances, customer service, genetic issues, herd classification, shows, Holstein values, a program getting started by the Holstein Foundation, etc.

Of special interest and stronger consensus were two proposed changes to the association bylaws — one which would make it mandatory for every laboratory testing for undesirable genetics to report the results directly to the association and which would pro-

vide the executive secretary with powers to publish that and related information; and a proposal to expand the association's ability to investigate any animal or herd — not only the purebred herds, but also those registered on the association's Identified Female Holstein or Qualified Holstein herdbooks.

Those attending the Grantville meeting were almost unanimous in their support of granting the additional powers to the association's executive secretary. They were

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A member of Pennsylvania Holstein Association examines examples of permanent ear tags being used in pilot studies to determine whether they can be used in the association's official identification and registration process.

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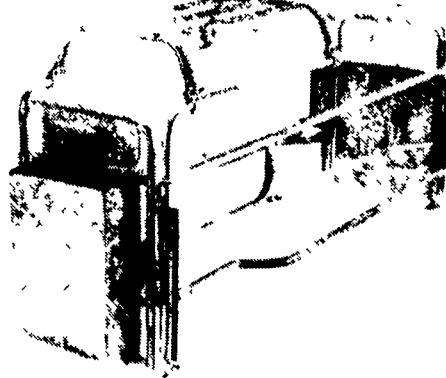
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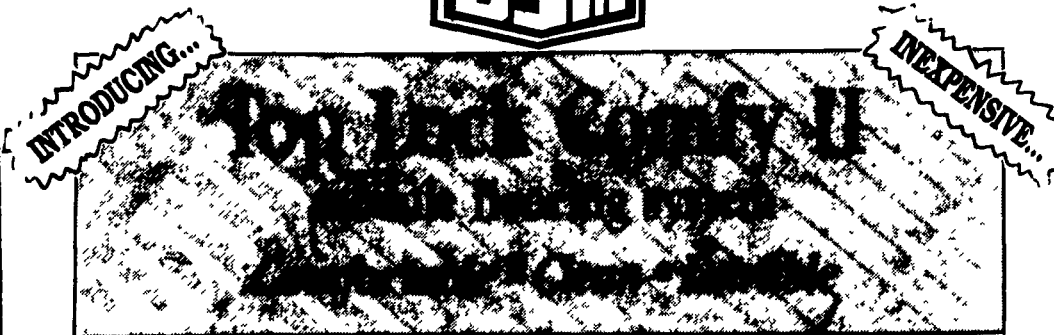
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