

USDA Announces Refunds

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STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Every time milk producers look over their milk check stub, they are reminded of their contribution to reducing the U.S. government's budget deficit.

The reminder, usually referred to as the CCC assessment, is 16.35 cents per cwt for milk sold between May 1 and Dec. 31 this year.

Milk producers should remember that this assessment is refundable to those producers who market less milk this calendar year than last year, provided they apply for a refund with their local ASCS office.

USDA recently announced that 38,595 producers submitted eligible applications for refunds of the assessments collected in 1992. This was down nearly 9,000 from those qualifying for a refund last year (see Table 1).

Among states in the northeast, only Pennsylvania had more producers qualifying this year than last, and was one of the few states nationally to do so.

In 1991, the assessment was only 5 cents per cwt, but the 1992 assessment averaged 12.85 cents (11.25 the first four months, and 13.65 the rest of the year). Therefore, the average refund per farm increased from \$485 last year to \$1,315 this year (Table 2).

California, with its larger average herd size, had the highest average refund.

In the northeast states, average refunds ranged across states from a low of \$976 in Ohio to over \$1,400 in the New England states other than Vermont.

On average around the country, producers qualifying for refunds marketed 8.4 percent less milk in 1992 than 1991. This compares to an average reduction of 9.1 percent in 1991 versus 1990 marketings (Table 3).

In both years, producers in Texas and Florida made the greatest average reductions, while California producers made the smallest reductions.

Milk producers should remember that this year's assessment is refundable to producers who market less milk in 1993 than in 1992. This assessment will average 14.65 cents per cwt this year.

Table 1: Number of refund applications from eligible producers received by USDA

	Number of Producers	
	1991	1992
New York	3,021	2,599
Pennsylvania	2,497	2,952
Ohio	1,638	1,519
Vermont	666	517
Other New England States	542	492
Wisconsin	11,817	9,713
Minnesota	6,809	4,878
California	731	798
Texas	1,037	789
Florida	134	78
U.S. Total	47,805	38,595

Penn State Crop Expo Set For Bradford And Lycoming Counties

The 1993 Penn State Crop Expo will be held on July 7 at the Tom Champluvier Farm, Laceyville, PA, Bradford County, from 9:00 A.M. to Dusk.

This year's crop expo will include comparisons of Alfalfa, Corn, Sorghum, Sudangrass, Cool and Warm Season Grasses. Also included will be presentations and demonstrations on weed control in corn, multiflora rose control, intensive silage production, pasture renovation and fertility, and the nitrogen quick test.

There will also be equipment demonstrations with round balers, round bale wrappers and systems,

silage baggers, pasture watering systems, fencing systems and more.

Specialists from Penn State Collage of Agricultural Sciences will answer questions and agribusinesses will exhibit products and services.

Admission is free, food can be purchased on the site. The 1993 Penn State Crop Expo is supported by the Pennsylvania Grasslands and Forage Council.

For further information contact the Bradford County Cooperative Extension Office at 265-2896.

Liquid Fuel Tax Refunds

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — State Agriculture Secretary Boyd E. Wolff is urging farmers to take advantage of refunds on liquid fuel taxes offered by the state's Treasury Department. Far-

mer's Liquid Fuels Claim Forms will be mailed to all registered claimants on June 18.

"This is a great opportunity for farmers to reduce their taxes," Wolff said. "It will help to cut the cost of farm operation."

Any person who uses liquid fuels in the actual production of agricultural products is eligible for the refund. Filing is done on a fiscal-year basis, which in this case is the period between July 1, 1992 and June 30, 1993. The claim forms must be received by the Treasury Department no later than September 30, 1993.

In order for the claim to be properly processed, it must be accompanied by either actual paid receipts, copies of paid receipts, or a dealer's statement showing the number of gallons purchased and verification that the state tax has been paid.

Question concerning the registration of claimants and assistance in filing of claims should be addressed to Lynne Vergot in the Treasury Department's Board of Finance and Revenue at (717) 787-6534.

Table 2: Average dollar amount of refund per producer paid by USDA

	Average Refund (\$/farm)	
	1991	1992
New York	474	1,284
Pennsylvania	350	1,002
Ohio	353	976
Vermont	451	1,222
Other New England States	500	1,412
Wisconsin	344	883
Minnesota	308	764
California	4,220	11,903
Texas	1,094	2,671
Florida	4,313	6,832
U.S. Total	485	1,315

Table 3: Average percent by which eligible producers reduced milk production

	Average Percent Reduction	
	1991	1992
New York	-8.4	-7.9
Pennsylvania	-7.9	-7.7
Ohio	-9.1	-9.3
Vermont	-8.2	-7.2
Wisconsin	-8.0	-7.6
Minnesota	-8.9	-8.7
California	-6.3	-5.9
Texas	-12.6	-11.1
Florida	-9.6	-12.5
U.S. Total	-9.1	-8.4



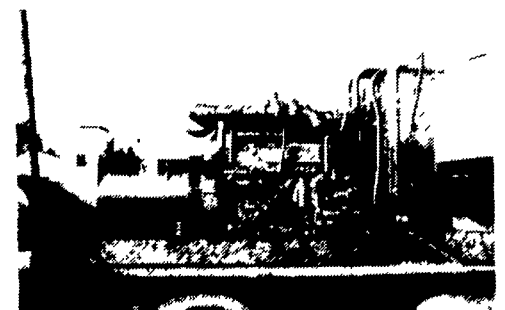
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