

Md. Holstein Breeders Plan 1994 Convention

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Maryland Holstein-Friesian Association has announced the itinerary for its 1994 state convention, set to be held March 11 at the Ramada Inn, in Hagerstown, Md.

Also scheduled, in conjunction with the convention is the organization's convention sale, set for Saturday, March 12, at the Western Maryland Research Center, in Sharpsburg.

The deadline for registration is Feb. 25. Those interested in attending should complete a ticket order form and send it with a check.

Also, those needing room reservations at the Ramada Inn should call (301) 733-5100 by Feb. 25. Rooms cost \$58 for up to four people. Those seeking reservations should mention that are part of Holstein Convention.

In addition to a full day's activities Friday, March 11, followed by the sale Saturday March 12, there is to be a fun auction with all proceeds going toward the Maryland State Holstein Association.

Washington County convention planners are seeking a few items to auction that would be of special interest to Maryland Holstein breeders. For more information, call Kenlin Martin at (301) 824-6215.

The first day of the convention starts at 9 a.m. with registration, followed by an introduction by Kenlin Martin, and annual busi-

ness meeting with Oren C. Bender presiding.

During the annual business meeting, a change to the bylaws is to be voted upon by membership. Proposed is a change that would give the board of directors more discretion as to what publication subscriptions are to be included in the membership dues.

Immediately following is the presentation of breed improvement awards, junior production awards, and then recognition of Progressive Breeders.

Lunch is scheduled to start at 12:30 p.m.

Starting the afternoon session at 1:45 p.m. is guest speaker Dr. Mark Varner, who is to talk about, "Trends in the Dutch Dairy Industry."

Starting at 3 p.m. time is set aside for farm visits and to visit exhibits.

A concurrent spouse's program is also scheduled.

At 10:30 a.m., Jackie Leimbach is to be a guest speaker with the theme of her talk to be, "Looking Good, Feeling Good."

After lunch, another presentation is to be given on "Color Logic."

For the youth, a tour of Mid-East Milk Laboratory is to start at 10 a.m., followed at 11:30 a.m. with production awards (see annual meeting schedule).

After lunch, a business meeting

1994 Maryland Holstein Convention

Ticket Order Form

(Deadline for tickets is Feb. 25)

Business & Ladies Luncheon

I would like _____ adult tickets at \$12 each. _____

I would like _____ children (10 & under) tickets at \$6 each. _____

(Children under 3 years, free)

Banquet

I would like _____ adult tickets at \$20 each. _____

I would like _____ children (10 & under) tickets at \$10 each. _____

(Children under 3 years, free)

Total _____

List those attending:

Business Meeting _____

Ladies Meeting _____

Junior Meeting _____

Banquet _____

MAIL TICKET ORDERS TO:
(Check must accompany order)

KEVIN MELLOTT
9911 Hippy Hop Lane
Williamsport, MD 21795
(Call 301-223-9220)

of the Junior Club is scheduled at 1:30 p.m.

At 2 p.m., guest speaker Tom Mercurio is to address the Junior members.

The evening banquet schedule

starts at 6 p.m. with a social hour, followed at 7 p.m. with the buffet dinner and junior awards program.

At 8:45 p.m. the fun auction is to be held, followed by entertain-

ment, Karaoke, which is a sing-a-long type of entertainment.

To get to the Ramada, from I70, west of Frederick, take Exit 32B (Rt.40W), and travel 2½ miles. The Inn is on the left.

Pennfield Dairy Days Features Dairy Experts

MT JOY (Lancaster Co.) — Dairymen from around the state who attended one of five Pennfield Dairy Days held recently at various locations heard expert advice on managing their dairy cattle, especially with nutrition.

Pennfield Feeds, a large area agricultural production feed manufacturer, sponsored the seminars with specific emphasis on feet and leg problems, economical feeding strategies for high producing cows, and managing herd replacements to achieve best costs and best animals.

Timothy Snyder, PhD., PAS, is manager of dairy nutrition for Pennfield Corp., and started the seminar with an overview of dairy farm management considerations, focusing on reducing costs and improving efficiencies through instituting tighter controls on replacement animals.

According to Snyder, good record keeping is essential to all good management.

He also talked about saving production costs by reducing the number of replacement animals being raised to milking age. He said that reducing age to first calving has been proven to eliminate the need to carry a significant number of replacement heifers.

According to Snyder, the total number of animals on the farm can be kept to a minimum if the amount of time to entry of a heifer into the milking string can be reduced to 22 to 24 months from the more traditional 26- to 28-month calving interval.

Snyder cautioned however, that he wasn't talking about breeding undersized, physically immature heifers, but rather, feeding them to achieve physical maturity at an earlier age.

According to Snyder, Pennfield's Elite Heifer program and Go-Calf Heifer program are two which are suited for use in achieving a shorter first calving interval.

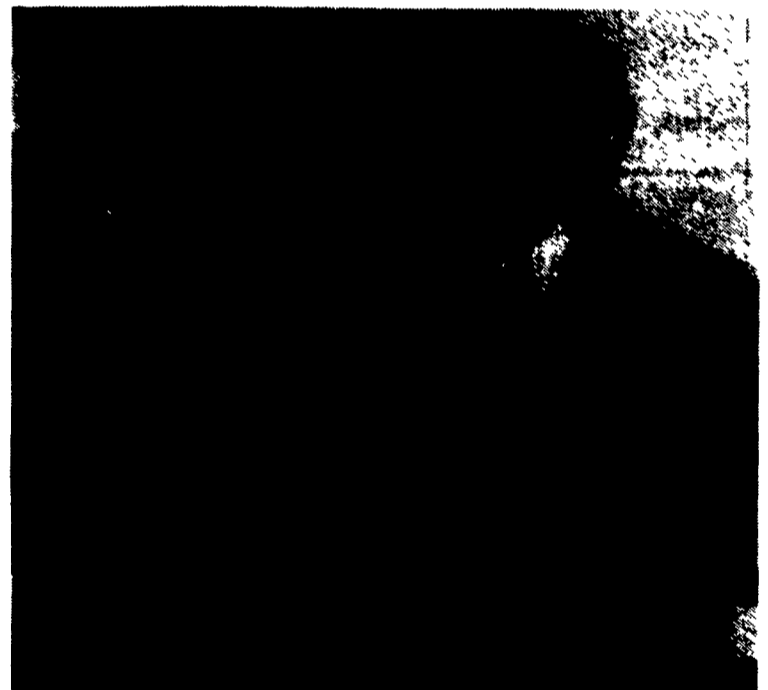
Others speaking included Normand St. Pierre, PhD, PAS, presi-

dent of Papillon Agricultural Products.

In general, the nutrition expert said that there can be a great variability in the values of feeds. He said that by using feeds which come from a bulk feeds producer with an excellent quality control program can eliminate variation five-fold.

Also speaking was Jan Shearer, DVM with the University of Florida. According to Dr. Shearer, foot problems cost the dairy industry a great deal in money and production, and that many are preventable through good practices and nutrition and that others are treatable, under the guidance of a veterinarian.

Shearer focused on laminitis, which is a condition thought to be caused by nutritional imbalances in developing cattle that can cause lactic acidosis and lead to improper development of the foot structure in the heifer.



From the left, Jan Shearer, DVM from University of Florida, and Normand St. Pierre, PhD., and president of Papillon Ag Products, discuss dairy cattle care issues at Pennfield Dairy Days.

LVNB Holds Annual Ag Seminar



At the Lebanon Valley National Bank agriculture seminar are from left, Louis Moore and Robert Yonkers, speakers from Penn State; Mike Firestone, senior vice president ag lending; and Robert Donaldson, vice president ag lending.

PRESCOTT (Lebanon Co.)—Two professors from Penn State University provided the opening look at the business of farming in the morning program at the 15th seminar on agriculture, sponsored by the Lebanon Valley National Bank Thursday. Louis Moore, professor of agriculture economics, gave his 14th annual ag outlook, and Robert Yonkers, assistant professor of agricultural economics, concentrated on the outlook for the dairy industry.

"People (farmers) who survived the 1980's are in a much stronger financial position," Moore said. "They are doing a better job of managing their farms, and the number of dropouts are not nearly as great."

"When you look at projections, natural disasters play a part, and you don't know where or when

they will occur. Even this year cannot be called normal, so you can expect anything.

Moore said statistics show that farmers who have someone working off the farm are doing better. More and more of the farmer's income is coming from the farm. And he said we can expect government involvement in farming to diminish.

Specialization and contracting will become greater for the production side of agriculture, and exports will be the lowest in 20 years.

Overall, Moore looks for the agriculture economy to improve this year with net income to increase. But not all enterprises will share in the increase. For example, over-production of beef will keep the price depressed. But

(Turn to Page A28)