BST Sales Strong

(Continued from Page A1) must be installed in order to prove that the labeling is not false.

In other words, the proof of not using Posilac would have to be made completely public and be completely verifiable.

Those who would even post a sign in a store window, without adequate proof to support the claim, could also be liable for civil damages, according to Monsanto spokesman

Opposition to Posilac was reported last week in an Associated Press story. However, the significance of the opposition was not reported.

According to the news story, there were a few opponents of BST from the Midwest, New England states, and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream.

According to our records, they are basically the same opponents who have vocalized protest over the use of BST for several years; out of a fear of biotechnology, or a belief that artificial BST will cause economic injury to dairy farm families by lowering the price paid for milk.

According to Gard, his analysis of the opposition to BST is that these are the same people who have been protesting the product from almost the beginning.

"Primarily those are the only ones that we've seen. In fact, I've seen a dramatic decline (in protest) over the weekend and it looks like they are moving on to other areas," he said.

The next target for the nonprofit opposition groups may be irradiation of foods, he said.

But as far as Posilac, Gard said Wednesday morning in a telephone interview that business is well.

"Sales are pretty good. The phones are steady," he said. "I talked to customer service this morning. We were pleasantly surprised how strong sales were on Friday. It was a constant flow.

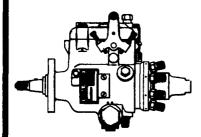
"Those who called in were very positive and ready to go and we had very few folks call in and state that they were not in favor of this product," Gard said.

Sales in southeastern Pennsylvania were also good, Gard said, adding that, as of Tuesday, he had 100 herds signed up for the product.

"Most of these producers are producers who have ordered enough doses that they have a significant number of cows on," Gard said.

(Turn to Page A35)

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