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Family And Farming Synonymous At Maple Lawn

LOIS SZYMANSKI **Maryland Correspondent**

FULTON, Md. - "Farming is a nice way of life," says Charles lager of Maple Lawn Farm in Fulton, Maryland. "It is a nice way to raise your children, with all of us working together, each with our own job. There is always something different to do."

For Charles and Judy lager of Maple Lawn Farm and their three sons, Michael, 27, Matt, 22 and Mark, 17 there is plenty to do on a farm that boasts 350 registered Holsteins and a Red and White heifer. In addition to the cattle they crop-farm 1,200 acres and raise 12,000 to 15,000 turkeys at a time, starting with one-day-old poults and raising them for six months before they slaughter right on the farm. With lager's brother Gene and his family they continue to work a family farm that has been farmed by five generations of lagers and has been in the family since 1852.

Currently, Charles Iager serves

as president of the 700-member Maryland Holstein Association. Over the years the family has served the farming community in many ways. Charles was on the Board of the Howard County Fair for 23 years and he and wife, Judy have each been leaders of their own 4-H clubs. They are members of the Farm Bureau, the Dairy Shrine and the county, state and national levels of the Holstein Association. Each of them belongs to the University of Maryland Alumnae Association where Charles graduated with a major in dairy production and Judy with a degree in business education.

Charles says it is pretty much a 24-hour operation on the farm which produces about four million pounds of milk per year. The day begins at 2 a.m. with milking at 3 a.m. and 3 p.m. They milk 175 cows at a time in a totally updated double-nine herringbone milking parlor with automatic Take-off (milkers) on one side. They use 19 Germania milkers.

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Charles lager, president of the Maryland Holstein Association, has a hobby of dairy collectibles. Here he shows a few of his huge collection of old milk bottles.

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First Forum Focuses On Future Of Dairy Industry

EVERETT NEWSWANGER Managing Editor

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — In a meeting of some of the most powerful people in the commonwealth's huge dairy

industry into a more unified voice on issues that affect the survival of dairying in the Northeast. Leaders in production, education, lending, communications, agri-business, and processing attended the First industry, agreement was reached on several key issues to move the Pennsylvania Dairy Industry 1. Wide-range industry support 1. Wide-range industry support was given to educate dairy farmers

at the new Penn State Scanticon Conference Center Hotel.

From the presentations, discussions, and action planning sessions, four major agreements evolved:

on the need for better management skills on their farms. In addition, Penn State's Dairy MAP course was supported as the vehicle of choice to accomplish this goal. Robert Reich agreed to pull this segment of agreement together with the help of many others at the

2. The group of more than 100 attendees agreed to hold an annual or bi-annual educational forum.

3. The group agreed that the Pennsylvania Dairy Industry Future Committee should continue to function as the facilitator of

4. Agreement was reached that a group of producers form a professional dairy farm manager's organization in Pennsylvania. This effort is to be headed by Cliff Hawbaker.

The dairy future committe was formed about two years ago to

address the concern from industry leaders that the dairy industry in Pennsylvania was threatened by economic, environmental and political pressures that could reduce profits to dairy farmers beyond the ability to survive longterm. After several meetings that included a meeting to receive input from an expanded group of dairy leaders, there was a consensus that strong collaboration across all sectors of the state's dairy industry is nceded now as never before.

Wednesday's meeting focused on two issues deemed most critical at this time: 1, enhancing the management skills of Pennsylvania's milk producers and 2, further developing Pennsylvania's dairy products manufacturing capability.

Co-chairs Dean Lamartine Hood and State Ag Secretary Boyd

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Options Available For Manure Systems

ROBERT E. GRAVES Professor, Ag Engineering UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — A dairy manure handling system is a cost item that must meet many requirements.

The ultimate goal of a manure handling system should be to improve management, provide positive environmental protection, and allow maximum utilization of manure nutrients.

The best manure handling sys-

tems are usually developed as part of an overall plan for new construction, renovation or expansion.

A well-planned system will be compatible with the type of housing and will include manure and wastewater from outside animal areas, the milking center, youngstock facilities, and silage effluent.

It should also be compatible with anticipated changes in housing and management over the next 8-10 years.

An integral part of an effective manure handling system is having adequate cropland available to utilize the manure nutrients or an alternative outlet for extra nutrients. Dairy expansions that include large increases in purchased feed and no increase in cropland often result in over application of manure nutrients.

Manure handling systems,

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This Special Issue Pays Tribute To The Dairy Industry