

Lancaster Youth To Again Receive Holstein Calf

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

QYARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — A nice-looking September calf from Mark Welk's original 4-H cow family will be presented to a youth winner at the Lancaster County Holstein Banquet held Tuesday, Nov. 21. For the past several years, a calf has been donated to an intermediate youth in the association who has the top record book score. The calf donation is a combined effort between the association and a Holstein breeder to encourage young people in the youth program.

The Astro-Jet calf this year has a deep pedigree with outstanding type, fat, and protein. The dam, Welk-Shade Ultimate Dana, weighs over a ton, is 87 points with

records over 20,000m and now milking 110 pounds per day. The next dam is VG-88 with almost 24,000m; the 3rd dam is VG-88 with 28,090m 1,151f 922p; and the 4th dam is Mark's original 4-H animal that had records over 28,000, 1,000f and 180,000m lifetime.

Starting time for the roast beef banquet is 7 p.m. at the Hoffman Building in the fair grounds. Entertainment, fun, and fellowship, along with state and local association reports will be part of the evening's program.

Tickets for adults are \$10.00; children ages 4 to 10 are \$4. Tickets may be ordered by calling Nelson Wenger (717-665-7233); Daryl Mills (717-464-7202), or Donna Coleman (717-687-6844).



Mark Welk with the calf to be presented to a youth with the top record book score at the Lancaster County Holstein banquet.

Governor Lifts Drought Restrictions On All But Three Counties

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Gov. Tom Ridge on Thursday ended drought restrictions for 29 of the 32 counties that had been placed under mandatory restrictions since mid-September.

The governor's lifting of the restrictions was done based upon the recommendation of the Governor's Drought Task Force, which met Wednesday.

According to Besty Hancock, press secretary for Lt. Gov. Mark Schweiker, who heads the task force, the recommendation was made that the governor lift restrictions in all but three counties which had been placed under state restrictions.

Hancock said the three counties that remain under drought restrictions "due to lingering ground water deficiencies" are Chester, Monroe, and Potter.

Although not part of an official statement, it is nevertheless true that recovery of groundwater levels from October rains does not ensure continued stability of those levels through the winter — normally the annual period of lowest flows other than late summer, and typically the annual period of lowest groundwater recharge.

Should the ground freeze soon, or before additional precipitation can soak into the ground to maintain or raise groundwater levels, those groundwater gains made during the past month and a half could be quickly lost.

The governor's authority is limited to the political boundaries which define the state, and does not extend over the natural watershed boundaries of the major river drainages in the state.

On the other hand, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) and the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) — two separate federal-state watershed authorities — have oversight authority over water uses within the boundaries of those rivers' watersheds.

While the governor's lifting of the restrictions is in place, the SRBC has had a basin-wide drought warning in effect since Sept. 14.

That warning carried a number of voluntary restrictions and urged people to take care to use only that water necessary.

According to Richard Cairo, spokesman for the SRBC, given the amount of rain and the fact that the governor has lifted mandatory restrictions, it is expected that the commission will lift its warning when it meets in Harrisburg on Nov. 16.

The commission is set to meet at 9 a.m., in Rm. 60 East Wing, of the state Capitol.

The SRBC is a state-federal compact (New York, Pennsylvania

and Maryland) that has oversight authority over the flows over the river, including surface and groundwaters within the basin.

The commission, comprised of the respective heads or designees of each state's environmental agency and the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, meets on a regular basis at various locations within the basin. Though the commission's headquarters is located along Front Street in Harrisburg, the commission doesn't meet in Harrisburg any more frequently than in other states.

Several agenda items for action

have been listed by the commission, including a review of whether or not to continue a basin-wide drought warning.

Though not connected with the SRBC, reports over the first three weeks of October from the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP formerly the DER) had stated that, though rain had been in excess of norms for October, groundwater levels had been still falling or were still very low.

As of Nov. 3, according to the DEP's weekly publication, Environmental Protection and Natural Resources UPDATE, "Initial data

for October shows above average rainfall in all 67 counties."

However, it also stated that, "Even with these large accumulations, flooding was not significant due in part to the long dry period. Initial rains seemed to have filled soil voids, limestone areas and abandoned mine workings and stopping cuts, reducing runoff and easing flood potential.

"Streamflows also rebounded during October as the monthly mean flows are generally at or better than the 50th percentile. This means that flows for October have been in worse condition less than half of the period of record."

MMI Announces Annual Meeting In Pittsburgh

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—Milk Marketing Inc. (MMI), a dairy cooperative with 9,000 farm families in 11 states, will hold its annual meeting in Pittsburgh, on Nov. 20 and 21.

Some 500 farmer delegates, officers, and other farm leaders are expected to attend, including Charles Brosius, Pennsylvania's secretary of agriculture.

The annual meeting is a first both for the location, with Pennsylvania being central to MMI's operating area, and for the newly combined dairy cooperative, now the largest in the region and third in the country.

The former Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative merged with MMI earlier this year, creating a \$1 billion dairy food company marketing 824 million gallons of milk annually. While Eastern Milk served farmers in seven states, the majority were located in Pennsylvania and New York. Eastern's former headquarters building in Syracuse, NY is now the site of MMI's Eastern Region office.

With a theme of "Changing the Future Together," the two-day meeting will take place in Pittsburgh's Double Tree Hotel. Farmer delegates will attend an Information Fair on Monday afternoon, Nov. 20, as well as workshops on the impact of federal farm legislation, the industry's approach to consumer marketing, and the development of value-added products.

A 5 p.m. reception will showcase products made with MMI milk, including a variety of cheeses, butter, yogurt, ice cream, baby formula, and various other food products.

The annual banquet will follow at 6:30 p.m. Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brosius is to be the guest speaker. Don Schriver, MMI's executive vice president and CEO, will give a short presentation on value-

added product opportunities.

The annual business meeting on Tuesday morning will feature:

- Reports by officers and management, including Ohio farmer Herman Brubaker, chair and president of the board.

- A panel discussion by senior staff, including Don Schriver, executive vice president and CEO; Merle Koppenhafer, chief financial officer and director of finance and administration; Rod Carlson,

director of member service and marketing; Dave Hoffman, director of manufacturing; Bill Perry, director of member and governmental affairs, and Dave Steifer, director of business development.

- A discussion of new product development.

Last September, MMI members received extra milk checks totalling \$2.2 million based on the co-op's performance during the 1994-95 fiscal year.

ADC Gears Up For Annual Meeting

SOUTHAMPTON, Pa.—Atlantic Dairy Cooperative is gearing up for its 1995 annual meeting, which will be held Nov. 16-17 at the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center in Lancaster.

The theme of the 78th annual meeting, "Preserving Tradition, Pursuing Innovation," illustrates Atlantic's traditional role in marketing milk for dairy farmers. It also reflects the cooperative's new approaches to doing business in the 1990s.

During the 1995 fiscal year, Atlantic marketed a total of 4.5 billion pounds of milk, of which 3.8 billion pounds was produced by the cooperative's members. The net margin stood at \$4.3 million, the equivalent of 11 cents per hundredweight.

The annual meeting will begin on Thursday, Nov. 16, at 9:45 a.m. with reports by Atlantic's officers

and staff. At this time, a complete financial report will be presented by Michael A. John, chief financial officer.

Rober M. Dever, chief executive officer, will present his report during the afternoon session, which begins at 1:20 p.m. Following Dever's report, James C. Barr, chief executive officer, and James P. (Tom) Camerlo, president, of the National Milk Producers Federation will present an update on dairy legislation.

The annual banquet will begin Thursday night at 6:15 p.m. in the Showroom. Robert D. Sears, vice president of member relations at Agway Inc., will serve as master of ceremonies. The guest speaker will be Dr. Charles V. Petty, a family humorist.

The meeting will resume on Friday morning, Nov. 17, at 7 a.m. with the Young Cooperators Breakfast Program. At this time, the 1995 Young Cooperator win-

ners will be recognized and the 1995 Agricultural Communicator Award will be presented. Dr. Kenneth Markley will present a motivational message.

Following the breakfast, at 9 a.m., the delegate session will begin with action on the 1995 resolutions.

A spouse program is planned in conjunction with the meeting. Participants on Thursday can choose between a trip to the Dutch Apple Dinner Theater for a showing of "It's a Wonderful Life," or a tour of Lancaster County attractions. The program on Friday will include presentations by Diane Kelly, R.D., on "Healthy Cooking with Dairy Products," and Betsy Conte on "Cure Your Closet Chaos."

For further information about the meeting and/or a registration form, please contact Jean Palumbo, Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, at (215) 322-0200.