

Gabel Elected Chairman Of Beef Council

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Bob Gabel, a Perry County dairy farmer and Beef Council Director since 1990, was elected Chairman of the 21-member board at their annual reorganization/planning meeting. Gabel had previously served as treasurer of the council, and was originally nominated to serve by Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative. Gabel replaces past chairman and cattle feeder Wayne Hoffman, of York County, whose term had expired.

Bill McCoy, a Lancaster County beef producer and current president of the Lancaster Stockyards, was elected vice chairman. In addition to his beef council involvement, McCoy also serves as a director for the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association, and recently served as the beef council secretary.

Dennis Snyder, a Potter County veal producer, was elected beef council treasurer. A Director since 1992, Snyder has previously served as the beef council's vice chairman.

Lowell Wilson, a Centre County beef producer and a faculty member of Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Sciences, was elected secretary. Wilson serves on the Beef Council as a representative of the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association.

In addition to electing officers, the board approved the council's \$1.2 million budget. Highlights of the budget's marketing program include an extensive partnership with McCormick's QuickClassic meal sauces, a beef sandwich promotion with Sheetz Convenience Stores, an extensive veal promotion in Philadelphia. More than 80 percent of the beef council's in-state marketing budget is devoted to promotional programs.

"With the current large meat supplies, staff and the Board have placed our program emphasis on promotional programs designed to move additional tonnage, versus longer-term educational programs," says Dave Ivan, PBC Executive Director. "We feel it is crucial, particularly in critical

time periods such as the summer months, that checkoff dollars are helping move product through the system."

Other marketing programs approved include extensive in-store retail demonstrations, school

foodservice programs and a consumer recipe hotline.

The Pennsylvania Beef Council is the producer-controlled organization responsible for administering the \$1 per head beef checkoff program within Pennsylvania.



Officers of the Pennsylvania Beef Council are from left, Lowell Wilson, secretary; Bill McCoy, vice chairman; Bob Gabel, president; and Dennis Snyder, treasurer.

Ephrata Farmers Meet

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)—The Ephrata Area Young Farmers monthly meeting was held on Nov. 9 here at the Earl G. Martin Farm.

George Greaser, senior research associate in agricultural economics at Penn State, gave valuable information on alternate farming. The changes in ethnic and cultural situations need to be assessed in order to meet different demands in the market place today.

Items discussed were possums, snails, turtles, aquaculture, buffalo, elk, deer, ostrich, emu, horse, peacocks, guineas and dairy. Various literature was also given for perusal for each farmer.

Dr. Greaser stated the most important selling point now is health in food.

The matching of FFA students with mentors had to be postponed, but will be activated as soon as it can be arranged.

The next meeting will be the annual Christmas celebration at the Ephrata High School Auditorium on Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Adams County Honors Lobaugh

JOANNE E. MORVAY

Adams Co. Correspondent

CENTENNIAL (Adams Co.)

— The Adams County Holstein Association honored Adam Lobaugh of near Tyrone for more than three decades of service to the county and state dairy industry.

About 75 people attended the association's annual banquet and were on hand as Lobaugh received a plaque for his many contributions.

Lobaugh, who retired in April, had been farming since 1949. He owns 80 acres near Tyrone and rented an additional 40 acres. Lobaugh milked 40 registered Holsteins until 1993. He raised 45 calves and heifers until this past spring.

His "Ad-Lo" prefix is well known in Pennsylvania dairying, said Holstein Club president Kevin Holtzinger.

Lobaugh, 73, remains "one of the movers and shakers of our county," Holtzinger said. "He always showed up when there was work to be done and stayed until it was finished."

Lobaugh has served on the board of directors for the Adams County Extension Service, the Farmers Home Administration, the county's Dairy Herd Improvement Association, and the Adams County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, now known as the county Farm Service Agency.

He is a past president of the Adams County Young Farmers and the Adams County Holstein Association.

Holtzinger said Lobaugh was "noted for his ability to raise funds for worthy causes." He said that Lobaugh has been the association's champion cheese seller for years. The proceeds of the annual cheese sale are used to fund association activities.

Lobaugh was presented with a plaque honoring his accomplishments and a dinner gift certificate to enjoy with his wife Ruth. The couple, married since 1946, have two children and four grandchildren.

Lobaugh said he was "very pleased" by the honor and kind remarks.

In other business, the association elected new directors. Dean Lobaugh, Donald Rose and Rose Wenger were elected to two-year terms. Alan Zepp will serve a one-year term. Guy Kehr, Adam Lobaugh and Dan Waybright went off the board.

Adams County Dairy Princess Julie Zepp and Alternate Princess Joy Hess attended the banquet. The duo have done 47 dairy promotions since July. Zepp gave her speech "Milk, the Drink You Never Outgrow" at the banquet. Hess was lauded for her performance at the state 4-H and FFA dairy judging contests. She was high individual in both contests and placed third at the All American in Harrisburg. Hess was second in oral reasons at Harrisburg, missing first place by one point.

The association also applauded the efforts of Chris and Steve Wood of Penn Gate Farm in Littlestown. The Woods have been named progressive young breeders and premier exhibitor and breeder at the Pennsylvania Fall Championship show and had the first, second, and third place win-

ners in the Pennsylvania Holstein Futurity.

County extension director Thomas E. Piper showed a "year in review" slide show, bringing back memories of the association's many activities over the past year. Pictured events included the DHIA awards banquet, a teleconference on dairy nutrition, the association's dairy tour in York

and Lancaster counties, a twilight meeting this summer, and the recent Farm-City Day celebration at Getty Acres.

In final business, Chris Wood announced that junior members aged 6 to 21 are welcome for a night of dairy bowl games and other activities on Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. at the county extension office.

Federated Genetics, CRI Study Joint Programs

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)—The board presidents and senior management of Federated Genetics and Cooperative Resources International have agreed to study alternatives that would further strengthen the product development, marketing, and internal operations of the cattle breeding group.

Cooperatives represented in the study include Atlantic Breeders, Lancaster; Eastern AI, Ithaca, NY; Louisiana Animal Breeders, Baton Rouge, LA; NOBA, Tiffin, OH; and 21st Century Genetics, Shawano, WI.

Federated's long-range planning committee points out that this study is being carried out concurrently with the completion of their own merger plan which is developing between Atlantic, Eastern, and Louisiana.

In authorizing the study, leaders of the five AI cooperatives established two primary objectives: 1)

any change in relationships must maintain a governing structure that allows the principles of cooperative enterprise—farmer ownership and control, member representation, and equity distribution—to function; and 2) the review will examine current operations and determine if efficiencies and product quality can be enhanced through a closer working relationship.

The most recent audit of each organization shows that the five cooperatives have \$47 million in assets, \$73 million in sales, and net worth at 76% of total assets. Last year they served nearly 45,000 members. Together, they own more than 2,000 sires housed at nine locations.

These cooperatives currently have a supply agreement that provides a complete exchange of each other's genetic products throughout the United States. Their beef and color dairy breeds genetic development programs are fully integrated.

PDA Reports On Trade Visit

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)—A delegation of state Agriculture Department officials and state legislators conducted a recent trade visit to the Mexican states of Hidalgo and Veracruz to expand markets for Pennsylvania-made or grown products.

"Mexico is the largest importer of Pennsylvania's agricultural products," Agriculture Secretary Charles C. Brosius said. "Through Gov. Ridge's Keystone Export Strategy, we will strengthen the trade relationship with sister states in other nations, such as Hidalgo and Veracruz."

The state of Hidalgo is located in central Mexico, and Veracruz is a coastal state on the Gulf of Mexico. Principal agricultural products of the two states include beef and dairy cattle, citrus fruits and vegetables.

The delegation included Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Roger A. Madigan, Sens. Raphael J. Musto and Patrick J. Stapleton, Reps. Arthur D. Hershey and Paul

W. Semmel, Bureau of Market Development Director Ana Maria DiStefano, Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board Executive Secretary Frank O. DeGarcia, and several staff members of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The Pennsylvania delegation was invited to Mexico by the governors of Hidalgo and Veracruz.

As a result of the visit, the state delegation established direct means of communication with the two Mexican states and the Mexican federal government, developed a framework for an agricultural-student exchange program and arranged for the purchase of dairy cattle from Pennsylvania.

In addition, the delegation arranged for the purchase of cattle and poultry feed from Pennsylvania farmers, considered the use of the Veracruz port of Tuxpan as a sister port to Philadelphia and discussed issues regarding the export of Pennsylvania-grown apples and Christmas trees.

Mexican elected and appointed

officials have visited Pennsylvania twice during 1995. In March, they met with Gov. Ridge and Secretary Brosius.

Due to the interest shown by the Ridge Administration and the General Assembly, Mexican officials have proposed two trade visits. After this first visit by the Pennsylvania delegation, a second trip will be scheduled in February.

Holstein Association Changes Trait

BRATTLEBORO, Vt.—Holstein Association USA has changed the linear trait "Thurl Width," replacing it with "Rump Width."

This is defined as the inside measurement between the pin bones.

According to John Connor, director of type evaluations at the Association, making this change assures the Association's commitment to the harmonization of linear traits being recognized by the World Holstein Friesian Association.

"We also feel that the pin bones are easier for classifiers to focus on, compared to thurls, which should result in more uniformity when evaluating this trait," Con-

nor said.

The accompanying scale will be used when evaluating this trait. The implementation date for this change was Oct. 1.

Linear Scale	for Rump Width Inside Measurement in Inches 2.0" and below
1 =	2.0"
5 =	2.5"
10 =	3.0"
15 =	3.5"
20 =	4.0"
25 =	4.5"
30 =	5.0"
35 =	5.5"
40 =	6.0"
45 =	6.5"
50 =	7.0" and above