

Cumberland DHIA Honors Outstanding Member Achievements

BETH MILLER
Cumberland Co.

HUNTSDALE (Cumberland Co.) — Curtis and Ann Day of Shippensburg came away from the 76th annual Cumberland County DHIA Banquet with nearly every award.

For starters, their cows captured the 1995 awards for the county's all-time high in protein, in milk and in butterfat.

The Days' Tri-Day Astro Jet X-Eve posted the protein high with 1,085 pounds.

Their Miss Beautician Pearl, which was the county all-time high milk producer, recorded 40,433 pounds of milk.

That same animal logged the county all-time high in butterfat with 1,485 pounds.

The banquet at the Penn Township Fire Hall in Huntsdale also saw the Days win the county DHIA's first-place Herd Management Award.

Second place Herd Management Award went to M. Thomas Sheaffer. Paul M. Snyder captured the third place Herd Management Award.

Brymesser Farms took home the fourth place Herd Management Award and the fifth place award went to Fred B. McGillvray.

McGillvray also had the 2-year-old cow that posted the high in milk production.

The 2-year-old that logged the year's high in protein was in the herd of Mains Acres. Steve and Mary Reese had the 2-year-old that recorded high in fat.

The Days were back in the winner's circle again when their entire herd was named the top herd in protein for 1994-95.

Jet-Rae Farm of Shippensburg, owned by Ray Thrush, made the Somatic Cell Count Honor Roll not only for the county DHIA, but for the state DHIA as well.

Thrush, who has 76 cows in his herd, recorded a somatic cell count of 65,000 to place at the top of the county's honor roll and in third place statewide.

Also, local members were told how the DHIA began in October to test for milk urea nitrogen as another tool for gauging a herd's performance.

Milk urea nitrogen, or MUN, measures the efficiency by which nitrogen is used by an animal. Nitrogen is an important component for rumen microorganisms.

If MUN levels are too low or too high problems may exist in the ration that can harm an animal's performance, affect environmental pollution and cut economic efficiency.

MUN testing can help DHIA members adjust their ration to gain top production efficiency from their herds.

Other events at the Cumberland County banquet, which had the theme, "Celebrating 76 Years of Testing," included a presentation by the county's 1995 dairy princess, Lori Brownwell, and remarks by state director Neal McCulloch.

McCulloch is the chair of the county's DHIA local. Lonnie Wickard is the vice-chair and Michael Brymesser is the secretary.

The other directors of the Cumberland local are Harold Myers, Lee Hoover Jr., and Gerald Davidson.



From the left, sitting, this year's Cumberland County DHIA award winners are Richard Mains, Ray Thrush, Curtis Day and Jeff McGillvray. From the left, standing, are Jean Thrush and Ann Day with Cumberland County Dairy Princess Lori Brownwell.



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