

# Pennsylvania DHIA's Downsizing

(Continued from Page A1)

ram down so more people would use it and benefit. No one else can provide this service at this cost profitably and our MUN herd summary report is the first in the nation. Twenty-eight percent of our members' cows are on the program with over 1,000 herds participating.

"The Performance Economics Program is the first in the nation. This program will provide unbelievable cost analysis information through the PA DHIA system. It is confidential, and it is free to our members.

"The new direction of PA DHIA will change DHIA forever. Though our traditional role will remain, bottom line performance is the new game. Our goal is to improve the net farm income of our members, and our new direction will serve that end," Slusser said.

The association listed many major accomplishments in 1995. These included:

- A new herd summary report.
- Feed library and feeding program.
- Performance Economics Program.
- First MUN summary analysis and MUN individual cow data.
- MUN training for veterinarians, feed consultants, county extension employees, and members.
- MUN research projects with Penn State and University of Pennsylvania.
- Testing MUN samples for

Vermont, mid-East, and Virginia DHI's.

In addition, Jim Boyer, director of dairy records processing, was named to the National DRCP Committee and Dixie Burris, director, lab services and membership development, was elected to the North American Lab Managers board.

PA DHIA is now in cyberspace to connect by Internet to the USDA, breed associations, and AI studs. In the future the association will be able to connect more efficiently to DHIA technicians and Penn State extension.

Now that powerful, inexpensive desktop computers are available, DHIA has the opportunity to reduce hardware costs and increase the productivity of computer programmers. By late spring, plans are in place to move a significant part of the daily DHIA processing onto high end PC's from older type large computers with costly mainframes to process dairy records. The seeds of real change in this area were planted in 1995, and rich rewards are expected to be reaped in 1996.

Speakers on the program included James Ferguson, VMD, associate professor of nutrition, University of Pennsylvania, New Bolton Center, on the subject of MUN testing, and Steve Ford, associate professor, ag economics, Penn State, on the subject of Herd Performance Economics. In addition, Sonny Meyerhoefer, national director from Virginia, brought greetings from the national

association.

At the awards breakfast, the winners of the 1995 herd management awards were named. They are:

**HOLSTEIN**, 1. Milos and Sandy Sinan, Indiana County, 166 points; 2. Curtis and Ann Day, Cumberland County, 158 points; and 3. Fred and Tom Strouse, Northumberland County, 154 points.

**JERSEY**, (three first place ties, each with 90 points) Rankin Farm, Washington County; William R. Yoder, Somerset County; and Eugene and Brian Harris, Bradford County.

**MIXED BREEDS**, 1. William and Janis Budner, Washington County, 110 points; 2. Laszlo Mozes, Mercer County, 108 points; and Canon Dairy, Mercer County, 107 points.

**GOATS**, 1. Whitney and Harter

Farm, Center County, 29 points; 2. Elaine M. Eidemiller, Venango County, 26 points; 3. Harold and Joan Stump, Montgomery County, 23 points.

**GUERNSEY**, 1. Rutter Borthers, York County, 102 points; 2.

Trotacre Farm, Lawrence County, 84 points; 3. Richard O. Smith, Bucks County, 75 points.

**LOWEST SCC**, R.C. and J.R. Shoemaker, Franklin County, 65,000 somatic cells, 56 cows DHI-AP test.

## Youth Beef Industry Leaders To Meet

DENVER, Colo. — Youth leaders from across the United States will gather here March 21-24 for the bi-annual Youth Beef Industry Congress (YBIC).

Representatives from national breed associations and state junior cattlemen's associations will meet to learn more about the beef industry and the challenges faced in today's industry. They will also be presented with leadership development opportunities.

With top junior industry leaders in attendance, the YBIC will be filled with cutting-edge speakers such as Dr. Tom Field, Colorado

State University; Dr. Ronnie Green, Colorado State University; Dr. Bernie Rollins, Colorado State University, Greg Simonds, Desert Ranches; Colorado Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell; and Tim Schiefelbein, Monfort of Colorado. In addition to workshops on marketing, investments and leadership, the delegates will tour the National Cattleman's Beef Association and Maverick Ranch Meats.

The four-day congress will be capped March 24 with guest speaker Sonny Lubick, head coach of the Colorado State University football team.



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Time: 10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

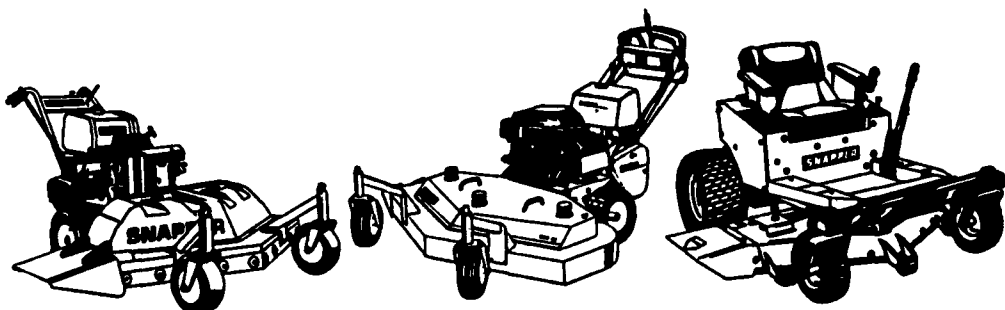
Location: Kreider's Restaurant  
Rt. 72, Manheim, PA

Host: Lamar Witmer, Agronomist  
Brubaker Agronomic Consulting

This meeting is free and open to the public and lunch will be provided.

On the agenda will be a discussion of chemical crop protection and pesticide safety. Representatives from Ciba, American Cyanamid and PDA will make presentations.

Reservations are requested, but not required. Please call at (717) 859-3278 to confirm your attendance.



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