

Pa.DHIA Conducts MUN Seminars

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, June 1, 1996-A19

DAVE SLUSSER
Pa.DHIA Manager
STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Pa.DHIA conducted seminars throughout Pennsylvania on milk urea nitrogen (MUN) for farm consultants, dairy nutritionists, veterinarians, financial consultants and county agents.

Dr. James Ferguson from New Bolton Center and George Wilcox,

Eric County Extension agent gave presentations on how to interpret MUN test results and on factors affecting MUN levels in Pa.DHIA-member herds.

Jim Boyer, manager of the Pa. Dairy Records Processing Center, discussed how consultants can get MUN data off of the Pa.DHIA Laboratory Bulletin Board (computer internet) as soon as samples

are tested in the lab.

Boyer also reported on access to the Pa.DHIA ARIS program which includes MUN summary information, by way of the Internet.

I presented an overview and details of Pa.DHIA's Performance Economics program.

In our effort to support our members, we conducted these seminars so farm consultants could better advise our members on their herd's nutrition and health program.

The attendance was exceptionally high, at triple last year's attendance.

Unacceptable MUN levels are a result of any one, or all, of the following: overfeeding protein, an imbalance of soluble to bypass protein, an improper feed delivery system, inadequate water supply, heat stress, and animal health.

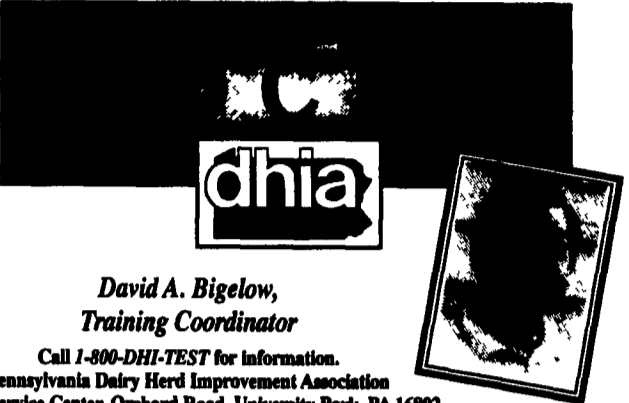
Due to economic conditions and the high price of corn, a member may have to live with slightly

higher MUN values. However, according to Dr. Ferguson, if your average MUN value is more than 14 ML/DL, you are spilling excess nitrogen.

As far as access to data, Boyer

said that now that Pa.DHIA is connected to the Internet, consultants and members can get easy access to Pa.DHIA data. We are the first

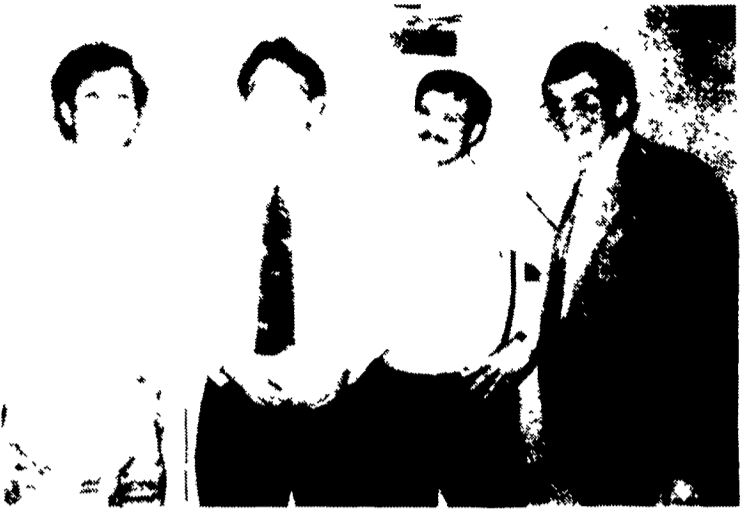
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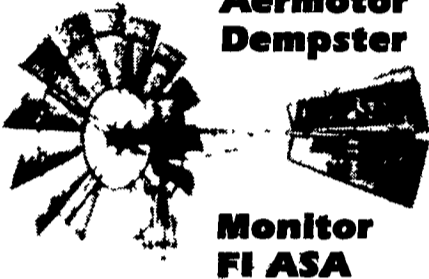
dhia

David A. Bigelow,
Training Coordinator

Call 1-800-DHI-TEST for information.
Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association
DHIA Service Center, Orchard Road, University Park, PA 16802




From the left, Dr. Howard Todd, a veterinarian from Elizabethtown; Dr. James Ferguson, from New Bolton Center; Phil Durst, Penn State Extension agent; and Dave Slusser, manager of Pa.DHIA, gather for a photograph after conducting a seminar on milk urea nitrogen and what it means.



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