

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

DAIRY OF DISTINCTION WEEK
August 10 - 16, 1997

WHEREAS, Last year, the 642,000 dairy cows on our Commonwealth's farms produced 10.6 billion pounds of milk, which maintained Pennsylvania's status as the fourth largest milk producing state in the country. Pennsylvania also ranks second nationally in the annual production of ice cream, with 66 million gallons per year, and sixth in the production of cheese, with 348 million pounds per year; and

WHEREAS, the dairy industry is the leading segment of our Commonwealth's number one industry, agriculture. More than 38 percent of the agricultural income of Pennsylvania is generated by milk sales which represent a \$1.46 billion contribution to the Commonwealth's economy. In addition to our 10,800 commercial dairy farmers, thousands of Pennsylvanians are employed in the manufacturing and processing of dairy products. As these statistics reveal, the Pennsylvania dairy industry continues to be sensitive to and meet the changing demands of consumers; and

WHEREAS, the Dairy of Distinction program was developed to recognize the most attractive dairy farms in Pennsylvania. Rating them for neatness, maintenance and roadside appearance, a team of skilled judges carefully select those dairy farms exhibiting the highest standards of excellence. Since the inception of the program in 1987, six hundred and fifty-nine Commonwealth farms have been honored, including twenty-six farms receiving Dairy of Distinction awards in 1997.

THEREFORE, In special recognition of the strength and vitality that our dairy farmers and their families bring to our rural communities, I, Tom Ridge, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim August 10 - 16, 1997, as DAIRY OF DISTINCTION WEEK in Pennsylvania. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize the invaluable contributions made by the dairy industry to our economy and our quality of life.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this fifteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and twenty-second.

Tom Ridge

Tom Ridge
Governor

Twenty-Six New Farms Named

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positive image for milk. Applicants for the award are judged by committees who evaluate the farms' roadside appearance, as well as the cleanliness of the grounds and buildings.

Winners receive official 18x24 "Dairy of Distinction" signs which are mounted at the roadside for all to see. Award-winning farms are also visited annually by the judging committee to ensure that they continue to meet the standards of excellence set by the program.

Pennsylvania has 10 districts that are run by local committees with area coordinators. These coordinators are:

District 11, George Wilcox, Erie; District 12, Brett Brumbaugh, Brockway; District 13, Susan Alexander, Brookville; District 14, David and Janet Hileman, Tyrone; District 15, Norman Coons, Dry Run; District 16, Robert and Bernice Gabel, Newport; District 17, Craig Williams, Wellsboro; District 18, Allen Roszel; District 19, James Barnett, Southampton; and Russell Rooks, Allentown.

The 1997 Pennsylvania Dairy of Distinction winners are:

District 11: Craig Hayes, Edinboro;

Douglas Stanhope, Linesville; and Dennis Rynd, Cochranville.

District 12: Charles Carr, New Alexandria; and Albert Fritz, Valenica.

District 13: Duane Ilgen, Centre Hall.

District 14: Vaughan May, Breezewood; Jerry and Joan Bechtel, Martinsburg; Kurt Walker, Somerset; James Sechler and Bradwin Winters, Somerset; Dennis Brumbaugh, Martinsburg; Mark and Tammy Martin, Berlin; George and David Smith, Martinsburg; Jay and Kirk Hillegass, Berlin; Harry Mosholder, Rockwood; and James and Keith Snyder, Rockwood.

District 15: Roy Coale III., Littlestown.

District 16: Lloyd Zimmerman, Danville.

District 17: Paul G. Robbins, Ulster.

District 18: Joseph Pavelski, Susquehanna.

District 19: Lamar Gockley, Mohnton.

District 20: William and Karen Boyd, Mertztown; Michael Dietrich, Kutztown; Peter Markel, Breinigsville; and Melvin Stoltzfus, Cochranville.

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