



Lancaster Dairy Herd Improvement Assoc.  
1592 Old Line Rd. Manheim, PA 17545  
(717) 665-5960

## Lancaster DHIA Achieves Record Turn-A-Round Time

**JAY MYLIN**  
Manager

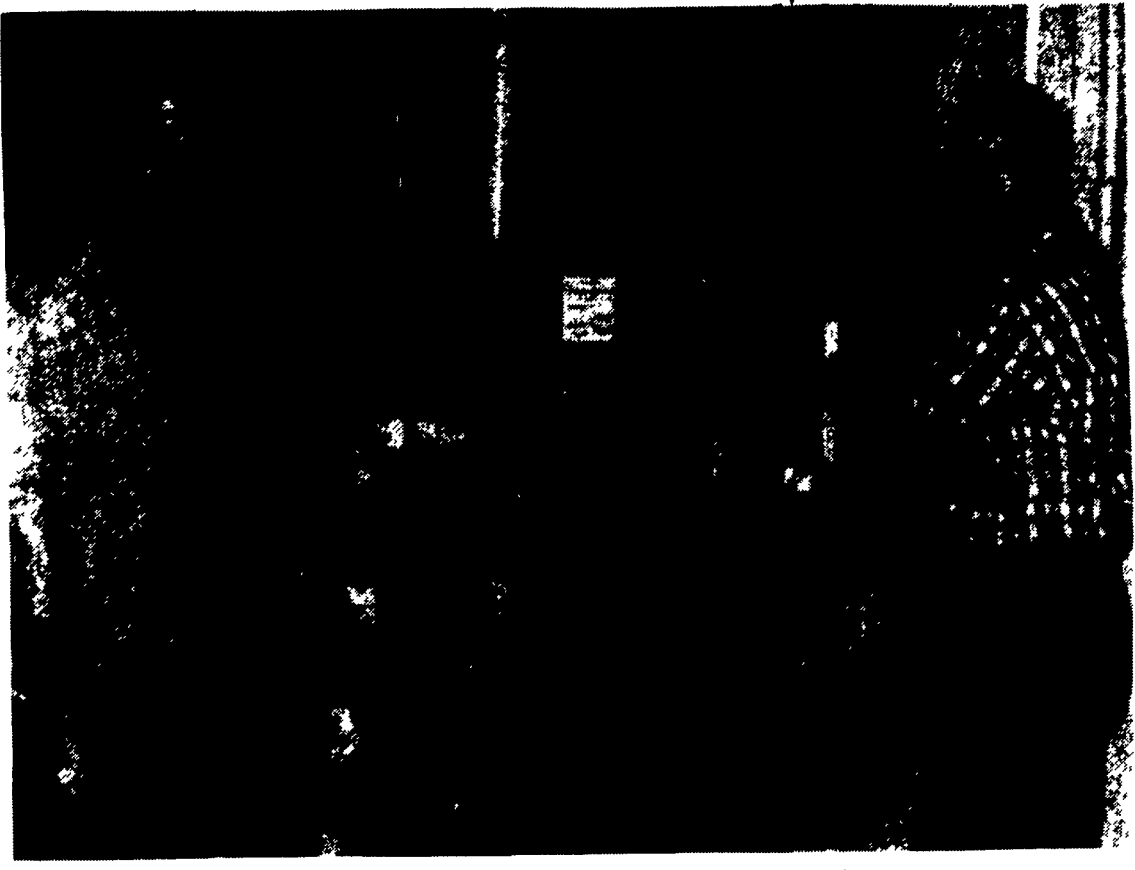
For the month of July, Lancaster DHIA had a 1.9 day turn-a-round time. Turn-a-round time for DRPC reports is calculated from the day the herd is tested until reports are mailed from DRPC to the dairyman. Most of our members receive their SCC and lab reports (which are mailed from our office) the next day after the samples are tested in the lab. Weekends and holidays will increase turn-a-round time. Turn-a-round time has been cut in half for our members due to picking samples up from our Technicians five days a week and having our own lab. We believe it is important to our members in making management decisions to have SCC and M.U.N. results back in their hands as soon as possible.

Lancaster DHIA serves Southeastern Pennsylvania. For information on our services call the office at (717) 665-5960.

**DHIA Management Tips**  
Milk production in Lancaster DHIA was up 4.3 lbs. in July 1997 as compared to July 1996. The same amount of increase was also noted for June comparisons. Many factors may contribute to this increase; good management, cow mattresses, tunnel ventilation, feed and genetics all play a part. On the chart below, look at the comparisons.

- Milk price is \$1.07 lower
- Days in milk is only 2 days higher
- Feed cost to feed a milking cow is \$.14 per day lower
- Even with 4.3 lbs. milk more, income over feed cost is \$.15 per day lower

Milking Cows	July 1996	July 1997
Milk	60.8	65.1
% Fat	3.6	3.4
Days in Milk	190	192
Standardized 150 day milk	67.9 lbs	71.8 lbs
Milk value per day	8.37	8.08
Feed cost	3.61	3.47
Income over feed cost	4.76	4.61
Feed cost per 100 lb. milk	5.95	5.42
Milk price	13.68	12.61



### Barn Meeting Held

A new technology for vacuum pumps on milking machines was unveiled at a barn meeting at the John Landis farm, Landisville. The meeting was sponsored by Fisher & Thompson, Inc., Leola. Lee Southwick, director of marketing, said the new technology was developed at Cornell University and put on the market by Etron, Inc., Ithaca, N.Y. The principle is to slow the pump down and create only the vacuum needed to do the milking rather than use a release valve to relieve the excess pressure. The new technology cuts electricity costs for milking as much as 50 to 80 percent. In the photo are from left, Amos Fisher, owner, John Landis, farmer, and Lee Southwick, Etron, Inc.

## Loan Forgiveness Applications Available

**HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)**  
— Applications are now available for the Agriculture Education Loan Forgiveness Program, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has announced.  
The application deadline is Nov. 15.  
The program was established in 1992 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and is funded by a state

appropriation. This year's appropriation was approximately \$177,000.

The program will repay up to \$2,000 per year of PHEAA-guaranteed student loans for each year the borrower is employed full-time in an agriculture-related field. Borrowers are limited to a lifetime maximum of \$10,000.

"The increased cost of a higher education means that many of our students must rely on student loans to realize their higher education goals," PHEAA President and C.E.O. Michael H. Hershock said.

"This loan forgiveness program encourages students to pursue a higher education and remain in Pennsylvania, while contributing to the growth and professionalism of our largest industry, agriculture."

To be eligible for the program, a borrower must remain in Pennsylvania after graduation and be employed full time in the operation of a family farm, a family farm corporation or practice veterinary medicine.

Veterinarians must be certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to sign health certificates required for the interstate commerce of agricultural animals and animal products. Veterinarians must also be able to certify regulatory testing.

Applicants must have a degree related to agriculture or veterinary medicine from a Pennsylvania school or college. Applicants must also be in their first year of full-time employment in the field on or after July 1, 1991. Only those loans guaranteed by PHEAA are eligible. Personal and commercial loans do not qualify. Applications can be obtained from members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly or by calling PHEAA at (717) 720-3600. Additional information can also be obtained from PHEAA's Internet Website at [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org).

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