

Emergency Statewide Hearing Set To Consider Modifying Over-Order Premium

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Milk Marketing Law, 31 P.S. § 700j-101 et seq., that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board ("Board") will conduct an emergency public hearing for all milk marketing areas on October 10, 1997, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in Meeting Room B on the second floor of the Farm Show Complex, Cameron and Maclay Streets, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the emergency hearing is to receive evidence concerning whether the current over-order premium of \$.80 per hundredweight, as established by

impractical for the whole herd, but unnecessary.

Take it seriously enough to do it right.

But, before you start anything, honestly evaluate the performance of your herd on early lactation mastitis. Record not only the clinical cases but also those which are, by DHIA criteria, new infections.

Go back in your records and determine the extent of the problem. Write it down. Then set a goal for the level that you believe you can achieve within three months or six months. Write that down too!

Now start by taking the steps to change the situation you have.

The payback will be tremendous when you reduce early lactation mastitis; in milk, in breeding, and importantly, in money.

Official General Order A-894, should be increased based on changed circumstances that are causing severe economic stress for Pennsylvania's dairy farmers, as requested in petitions filed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania State Grange, and the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

The petitioners and the staff of the Board are deemed to be parties to this hearing and to have complied with the following filing requirements. Other persons who wish to present evidence may be included on the Board's list of parties by (1) having their attorney file with the Board on or before October 3, 1997, a notice of appearance substantially in the form prescribed by 1 Pa. Code § 31.25 or (2) if unrepresented by counsel, filing with the Board on or before October 3, 1997, notification of their desire to be included as a party.

Evidence deemed by the Board to be relevant to this hearing includes but is not limited to:

1. The current average cost of milk production in Pennsylvania and current average dairy farm income in Pennsylvania compared with that data for April 1977, when the Board established the \$.80 over-order premium now in effect

2. Prevailing prices and associated premiums for milk in New York, Maryland, Ohio, New Jersey, and Virginia, along with the cost of transporting that milk

into Pennsylvania
3. Supply-demand patterns that affect the marketing of milk in Pennsylvania

4. Effect of an increased over-order premium on decisions by lending institutions to extend credit to dairy farmers

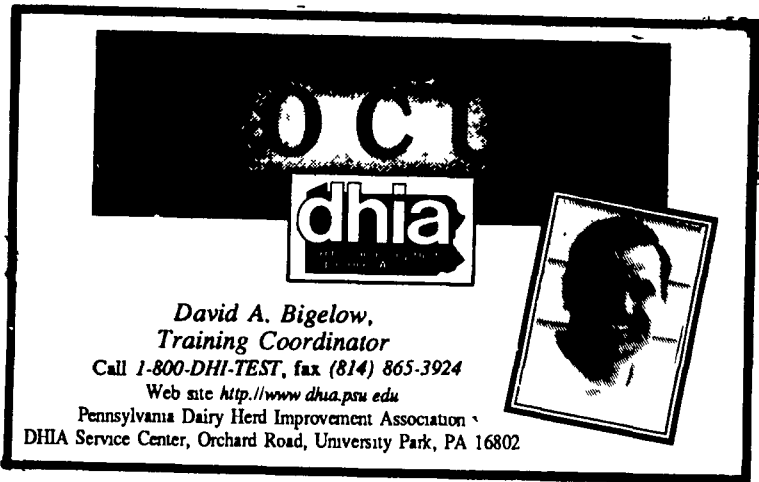
Presubmission of testimony and exhibits is not required. However, copies of written testimony and exhibits shall be provided at the hearing to members of the Board and to all other parties, with at least twenty (20) additional copies made available in the hearing room by their sponsor.

Parties that wish to offer in evidence documents on file with the Board, public documents, or records in other proceedings before the Board, or who wish the Board to take official notice of facts, shall comply with, respectively, 1 Pa. Code § 35.164, 35.165, 35.167, or 35.173.

A prehearing conference for all parties will be held at 2:00 p.m. on October 6, 1997, in Room 110 of the Agriculture Building, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The filing address for the Board is Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board, Room 110, Agriculture Building, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408.

PENNSYLVANIA MILK MARKETING BOARD
O. Frank Garcia
Executive Secretary



dhia

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Call 1-800-DHI-TEST, fax (814) 865-3924
Web site <http://www.dhia.psu.edu>
Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association
DHIA Service Center, Orchard Road, University Park, PA 16802

PHIL DURST
Extension Agent
STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Research out of the University of Tennessee shows that a case of clinical mastitis before first service prolongs the time before a cow gets bred.

According to the research, cows with clinical mastitis in early lactation were first-serviced a full cycle (23 days) later than cows which did not have mastitis.

Add to that discarding treated milk in early lactation and reduced milk yield from cows with mastitis and you can see that for the sake of breeding, milk and profit it would be good to set a goal to reduce mastitis within the first 90 days of milk.

Why is it then that many producers seem to have problems with early lactation cows, the very ones that we want to keep from getting mastitis?

There are several reasons. It would be good to consider whether these apply to your herd. Consider these possibilities:

A cow may freshen with the same mastitis that she has been infected with since dry-off. To find out if this is a problem with your herd, check your records. Are cows that have mastitis in early lactation the same ones that had

mastitis at the end of their previous lactation? Is it in the same quarter? Infections of Staph aureus are very difficult to cure even if with a dry treatment because of the nature of the bacteria which walls itself off in the udder and is thus protected from the antibiotic.

Secondly, consider the calving environment and the immediate care at calving. The cow, as well as the calf, is very prone to new infections at this time. She may be leaking, the calf may be allowed to suckle, the environment may be wet and contaminated. Any of these may be all the opening that is needed for bacteria to invade the teat and gain a foothold in the cow.

Thirdly, think about the stress that cow is under; stress on her immune system and her ability to fight off infections. Maybe the same practices that have acceptable results for most of the herd are not good enough at this time of acute stress. Maybe you should consider special practices for early lactation cows if you have been having a problem with early mastitis. Special practices could involve extra cleaning, extra bedding, barrier type teat dip, a milk-first routine or other special care practices which may not only be

Average Farm Feed Costs For Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's last week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania.

Remember, these are averages, so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

- Corn, No.2y — 3.018 bu., 5.40 cwt.
- Wheat, No. 2 — 3.265 bu., 5.453 cwt.
- Barley, No. 3 — 2.038 bu., 4.36 cwt.
- Oats, No. 2 — 1.678 bu., 5.235 cwt.
- Soybeans, No. 1 — 7.183 bu., 11.995 cwt.
- Ear Corn — 84.21 ton, 4.21 cwt.
- Alfalfa Hay — 138.75 ton, 6.938 cwt.
- Mixed Hay — 132.00 ton, 6.6 cwt.
- Timothy Hay — 138.00 ton, 6.9 cwt.

Agri Chopper - Round Bale Chopper

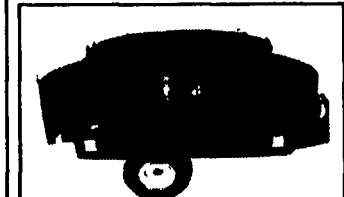
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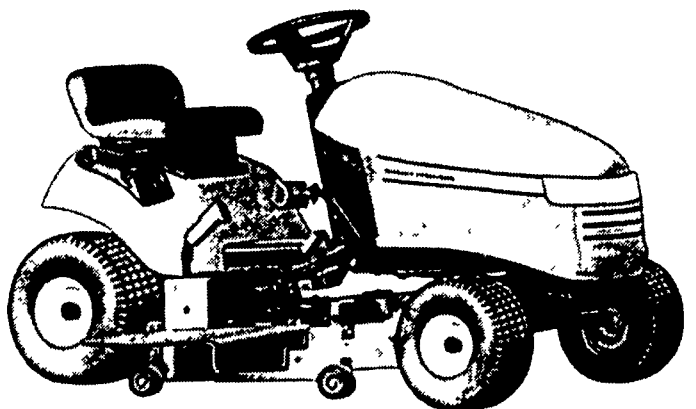


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