

N.Y., N.J. September

Milk \$12.59

ALBANY, N.Y. — Dairy farmers who supplied regulated milk dealers (handlers) under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during September 1997 will be paid by handlers on the basis of a uniform price of \$12.59 per hundredweight (27.1 cents per quart); the price for the corresponding month last year was \$15.81 per hundredweight.

Market Administrator Ronald C. Pearce also stated that the price was \$12.22 in August 1997.

The uniform price is a market-wide weighted average of the value of farm milk used for fluid and manufactured dairy products.

A total of 10,478 dairy farmers supplied handlers regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders with 966,777,079 pounds of milk during September 1997. This was an increase of 6.7 percent (about 60 million pounds) from last year.

The gross value to dairy farmers for milk deliveries was \$122,742,857.22. This included differentials required to be paid to dairy farmers but not premiums, deductions authorized by the farmer, or assessments.

Regulated handlers used 415,824,784 pounds of milk for Class 1, 43 percent of the total. This milk is used for fluid milk

products such as homogenized, flavored, low test, and skim milks. For September 1997, handlers paid \$13.28 per hundredweight (28.6 cents per quart) for Class 1 milk compared with \$16.91 a year ago.

Handlers used 152,206,891 pounds of milk for Class II products, 15.8 percent of the total. Class II products include fluid cream, eggnog, ricotta and cottage cheeses, ice cream, and yogurt. Handlers paid \$11.16 per hundredweight for this milk.

Milk used to manufacture Class III products including butter, cheese (other than ricotta and cottage cheeses), and whole milk powder totaled 376,292,689 pounds (38.9 percent of the total). Handlers paid \$12.85 per hundredweight for this milk.

Milk used to manufacture non-fat dry milk (Class III-A) totaled 22,452,715 pounds (2.3 percent of the total). Handlers paid \$11.93 per hundredweight for this milk.

The uniform price is based on milk containing 3.5 percent butterfat. For September 1997, there was a price differential of 10.6 cents for each one-tenth of one percent that the milk tested above or below the 3.5 percent standard.

All prices quoted are for bulk tank milk received from farms in the 201-210 mile zone from New York City.

Leesport Farmers Market Honored



Prior to the fall feeder cattle sale at Leesport Farmers Market on Friday, October 24, 1997, the Weist family, owners of the market, were honored for 50 years of service to the livestock industry. The award in the form of a plaque was presented by Ed Frost from the National Livestock Marketing Association headquartered in Kansas City, Mo.

The market opened on July 9, 1947. The livestock was sold by the head because there was no scale. There were 25 consignors of cattle to the first sale. Wilmer Phillips still consigns animals fifty years later.

Today the expanded facility has many community events, in addition to their regular "Farmers Market" activities. The market has been home to the Pomona Grange annual consignment sale for 27 years. Community fairs, a circus, car shows, family picnics, wool pools, marathons, and many other activities are all part of the growing center. "Where Friends Meet" is the motto of Leesport Farmers Market, Inc. Friends have met here for the past 50, and the owners hope friends will continue to meet here for the next fifty years.

In the photo are, from left, John Weist, Bill Weist, Ed Frost, Woddy Weist, and Leroy Weist.

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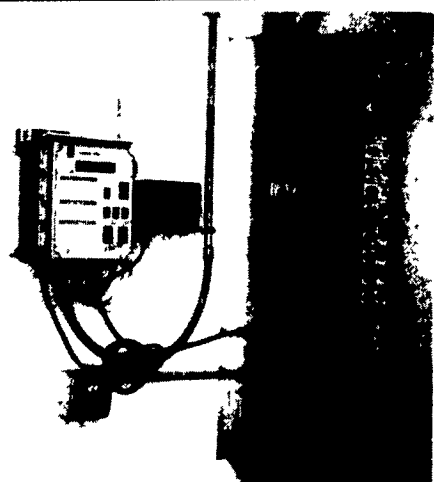
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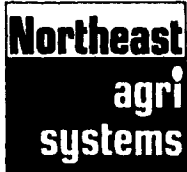


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