

USDA Approves New Owner Sampler Program

DAVID BIGELOW Training Coordinator STATE COLLEGE (Centre

Co.) — USDA has approved an owner-sampler program as part of the farm record management system available through Pa. DHIA.

Dairymen who participate in young sire programs can benefit greatly while maintaining a low cost and accurate testing program.

For only 84 cents per cow, plus a stop charge fee, a Pa. DHIA technician will deliver and pick up all testing equipment.

Free, tailor-made reports are available immediately to the dairymen enabling them to make quick and effective management decisions.

Included in these same-day test reports are vet action reports that

document future actions such as lows to dry off, pregnancy check, reed and freshening dates. These reports are beneficial to have available during herd visits by a veterinarian or consultant and can be important time savers.

Pa. DHIA currently has an industry high of 83 percent useable records being utilized by USDA. They are invaluable when participating in young sire programs as well as maintaining an optimum dairy herd management record program.

The award-winning lab at Pa. DHISA offers fat, protein and somatic cell analysis for owner sampler herds, while offering milk urea nitrogen analysis at a low additional fee.

Finished processed reports available are barn sheets, herd summary I or II, monthly lactation reports, individual cow page each lactation, herd and cow certifi-

cates and monthly invoicing.

Call Dean Amick at 1-800-344-8378 to begin a Pa. DHIA testing program.

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

Corn, No.2y — 3.01 bu., 5.38 Wheat, No. 2 — 3.14 bu., 5.24

Barley, No. 3 — 2.34 bu., 4.98

Oats, No. 2 — 1.73 bu., 5.38 Soybeans, No. 1 — 6.36 bu...

10.61 cwt. Ear Corn — 86.64 ton, 4.33 cwt. Alfalfa Hay — 161.75 ton, 8.09

Mixed Hay — 142.25 ton, 7.11

Timothy Hay — 138.00 ton, 6.9



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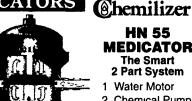
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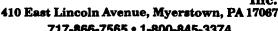
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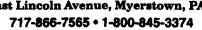
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