

Workers Nail Trusses In Place At Lebanon Produce Auction

REISTVILLE (Lebanon Co.) — Trusses were delivered Wednesday afternoon and nailed into place by a half-dozen men at the new site of the Lebanon Produce Auction Inc. on land from Amos Stoltzfus here on Reistville Road west of town.

When completed within the next week, the site, totalling 7,200 square feet, is scheduled to begin auctioning produce beginning Tuesday, May 26, at 10 a.m., according to Wilmer Hoover, chairman of the auction. Auctions will be Tuesdays and Fridays and more often as the season progresses.

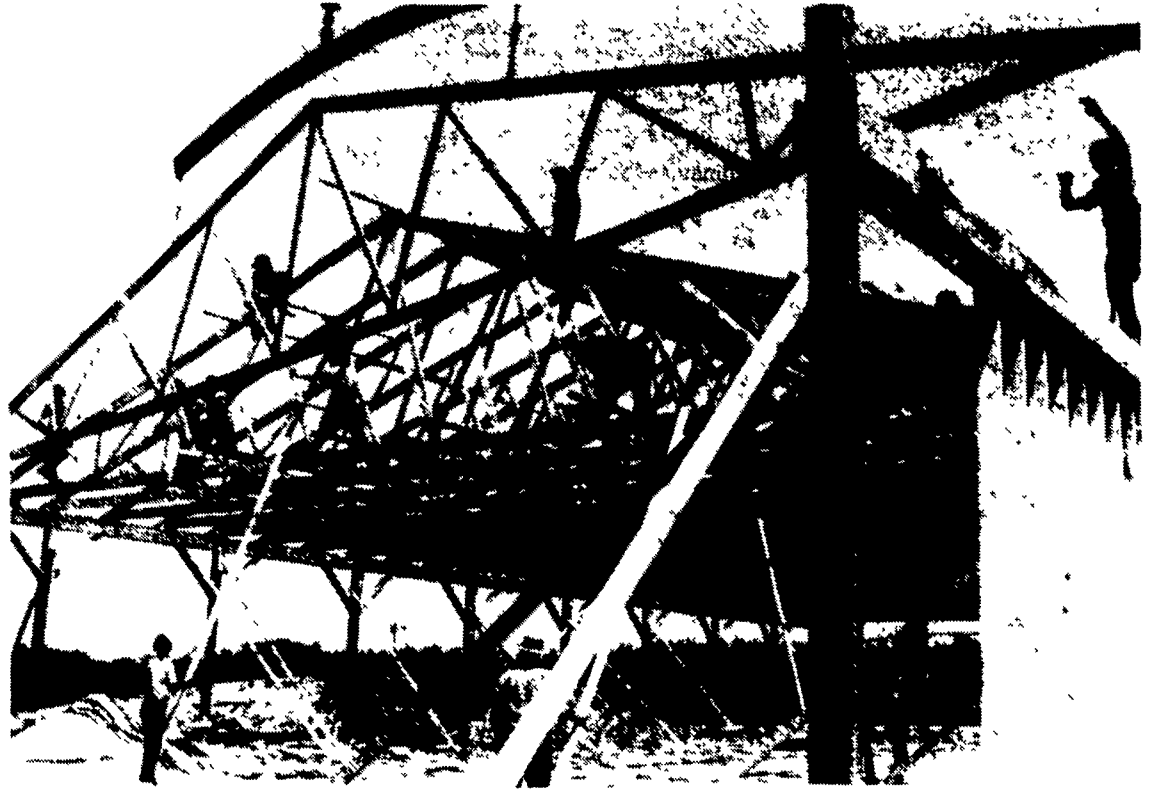
The construction began before the rains of the past several weeks and started up again early this week, Hoover noted. The site occupies almost five acres on Reistville Road about a half mile west of town. Total cost for land and building is about \$225,000, Hoover noted.

The auction warehouse includes 30-foot by 30-foot office space and will have 17 bays. About 20 individuals are involved in the corporation. The sale site will accommodate about 250 growers in the region.

Officers of the corporation include Wilmer Hoover, Elizabethtown, chairman; Elvin Nolt, Richland, treasurer; and Mervin Weiler, Womelsdorf, secretary. Board members include Joe Horning, Myerstown and Russell Wolf, Lebanon.

Hoover noted that the upcoming auction season looks promising. The auction will be the site chosen by people who are used to selling locally and in other areas.

Hoover himself grows about 50 acres of vegetables, including sweet corn, cantaloupe, watermelon, and other crops. For more information, growers can contact Hoover at Elizabethtown, (717) 367-8379.



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N.Y., N.J. April Milk \$13.50

ALBANY, N.Y. — Dairy farmers who supplied regulated milk dealers (handlers) under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during April 1998 will be paid by handlers on the basis of a uniform price of \$13.50 per hundredweight (29 cents per quart).

The price for the corresponding month last year was \$12.82 per hundredweight.

Market Administrator Ronald C. Pearce stated that the price was \$13.89 in March 1998.

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 10,093 dairy farmers supplied handlers regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders with 1,033,948,727 pounds of milk during April 1998. This was an increase of 5.5 percent (about 54 million pounds) from last year.

The gross value to dairy farmers for milk deliveries was \$141,947,631.26.

Regulated handlers used 388,207,407 pounds of milk for Class I, 37.5 percent of the total. This milk is used for fluid milk products such as homogenized, flavored, low test, and skim milks.

For April 1998, handlers paid \$15.74 per hundredweight (33.8 cents per quart) for Class I milk compared with \$14.88 a year ago.

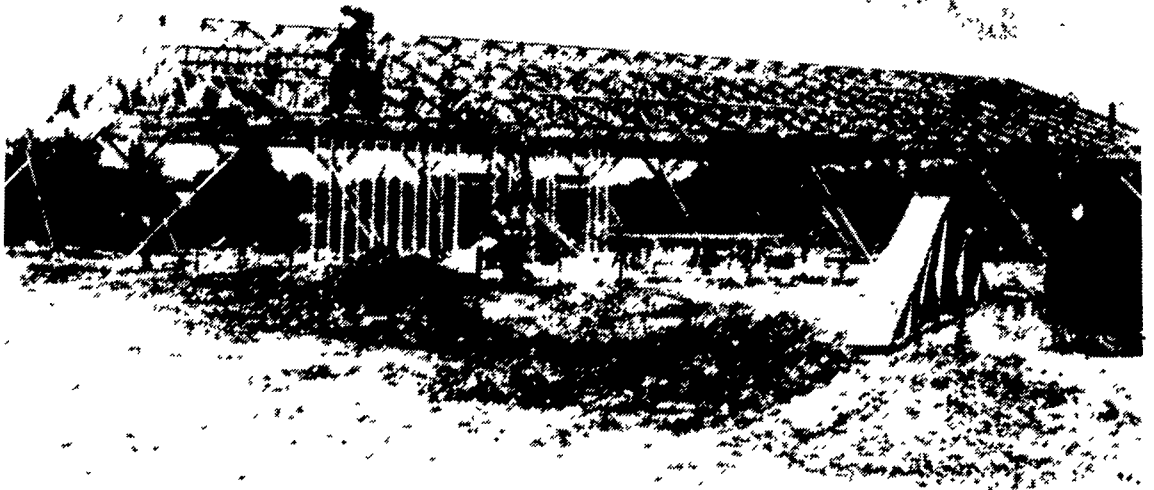
Handlers used 151,016,272 pounds of milk for Class II products, 14.6 percent of the total. Class II products include fluid cream, eggnog, ricotta and cottage cheese, ice cream, and yogurt. Handlers paid \$13.62 per hundredweight for this milk.

Milk used to manufacture Class III products including butter, cheese (other than ricotta and cottage cheeses), and whole milk powder totaled 452,574,866 pounds (43.8 percent of the total). Handlers paid \$11.92 per hundredweight for this milk.

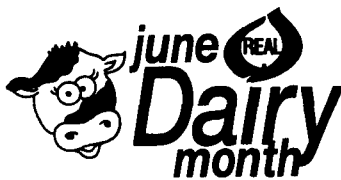
Milk used to manufacture non-fat dry milk (Class III-A) totaled 42,150,182 (4.1 percent of the total). Handlers paid \$12.79 per hundredweight for this milk.

The uniform price is based on milk containing 3.5 percent butterfat. For April 1998, there was a price differential of 14.2 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- to 210-mile zone from New York City.



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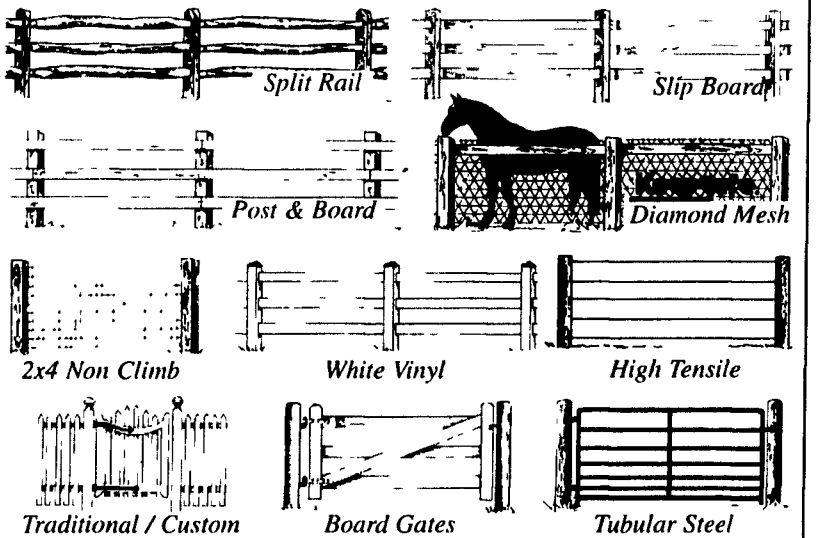


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