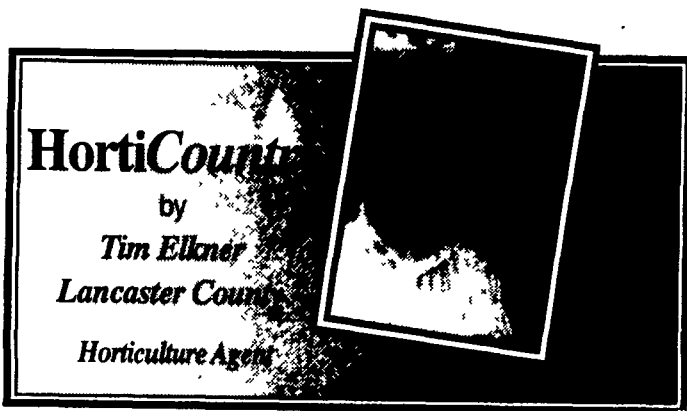


Top Protein Cows, Pennsylvania DHIA For May

(Continued from Page C6)

FLOYD BEARDSLEY	41.6	21793	835	3.8	694	3.2	WAYNE-ROGER SHERWOOD	70.1	23749	998	4.2	770	3.2
DENNIS LINDELL	69.5	21627	705	3.3	675	3.1	COUNTRY HEAVEN HOL	71.1	23517	830	3.5	752	3.2
WASHINGTON													
WAVERTOWN FARMS	107.9	24028	955	4.0	761	3.2	DA VUE HOLSTEINS	49.0	24116	962	4.0	746	3.1
HAMILTON BROS	254.2	24019	840	3.5	756	3.1	SHUPPS FARM	48.0	20699	923	4.5	680	3.3
JOHN & J E MARCHBZAK	77.2	22186	793	3.6	706	3.2	R + W KUZMA FARM	64.0	21675	911	4.2	678	3.1
CO-HILL FARMS	90.0	20612	734	3.6	691	3.4	YORK						
MARION PYLE STONE	38.5	22442	835	3.7	683	3.0	RAMSEY S COOPER JR	76.5	28327	1004	3.5	889	3.1
WAYNE													
CON ACRES	43.8	24879	847	3.4	777	3.1	WALK LE HOLSTEINS	102.5	27012	954	3.5	841	3.1
HIGHLAND FARMS	74.5	23738	822	3.5	758	3.2	SMYSERS RICHLAWN FMS	76.7	27809	1007	3.6	838	3.0
KEV&GERARDA BURLEIGH	54.3	23515	885	3.8	742	3.2	LEONARD GREEK	56.4	25440	929	3.7	808	3.2
TOM WOROBBY	53.2	23200	769	3.3	729	3.1	RUTTERS	59.1	25172	920	3.7	804	3.2
ART & BARB RUTLEDGE	52.8	22735	829	3.6	727	3.2	EDWIN L CALHOUN	61.4	24999	933	3.7	778	3.1
DALE WOROBEY	43.5	21206	776	3.7	711	3.4	WAYSHAR FARM	87.2	24834	849	3.4	774	3.1
GEORGE&DAVE BANICKY	58.4	21760	852	3.9	707	3.3	LYNN WOLF	110.9	24160	831	3.4	766	3.2
JACK AND ELLA CHYLE	65.7	21240	737	3.5	697	3.3	BARL FUHRMAN	97.9	24443	828	3.4	753	3.1
CLEAFIELD FARMS	120.2	20953	710	3.4	680	3.2	GLEN & DAWN ANDERSON	97.4	22731	699	3.1	728	3.2
ROWE BROS	93.3	21699	900	4.1	675	3.1	CALVIN HOSTETTER	128.7	22236	836	3.8	723	3.3
WESTMORELAND													
JOHN & ROBERT GRAHAM	54.2	24737	891	3.6	800	3.2	GARY W THOMAN	56.1	22348	778	3.5	717	3.2
HARRY R MARKER	74.0	25248	836	3.3	796	3.2	ELVIN R DEITER	68.7	22352	750	3.4	709	3.2
JAMES E MC QUAIDE	66.3	22865	872	3.8	748	3.3	TAYACRES FARM	154.2	22245	781	3.5	705	3.2
RICHARD G STONER	99.5	23208	904	3.9	723	3.1	WILLIAM MYERS	42.4	22696	807	3.6	701	3.1
KEITH C WALTERS	52.9	22085	755	3.4	692	3.1	NEW JERSEY						
WYOMING													
INSINGA HOLSTEINS	74.9	25391	917	3.6	804	3.2	MYERWOOD FARMS	302.4	24500	864	3.5	751	3.1
NEW YORK													
HALL, BERNARD E.													
B. LEONARD REICHMANN													
HIDDEN VALLEY FARM													



Timothy Elkner, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Lancaster County

We are now moving into summer, the main season for vegetable production. As usual, the weather has been anything but ordinary. First we had cool, wet weather, then hot and dry, then hot and wet, and now we're back to hot and dry. An next week - who knows?

Unfortunately, these variations in the weather make it difficult for you to produce a high quality crop. When we have these types of variable conditions your attention to detail will affect the ultimate quality of the crop.

Hot, dry weather will require you to pay close attention to the water status of your fields. Alternating periods of excessively wet and then hot and dry weather will stress your plants because it will affect root growth. During the wet periods root growth will be reduced because the plants will have adequate water with only a small root area.

However, when the weather suddenly turns hot and dry this small mass of roots will not be able to supply the water that the plant needs. So watch your fields closely this week and next for the early signs of water stress and apply water before growth is slowed and yields are reduced.

When you do irrigate be sure to water thoroughly. Drip irrigation allows water to be applied at a rate that will be readily absorbed by the soil. If you are using overhead irrigation be sure to apply the water at a rate that will allow it to be absorbed into the soil rather than

running off. Maximum irrigation rates are 0.40 inch per hour for sandy soils, 0.30 inch per hour for loamy soils, and 0.20 inch per hour for clay soils.

Blotchy Ripening of Greenhouse Tomatoes. Blotchy ripening of tomatoes in greenhouses is a frustrating experience for tomato growers. Every spring I receive calls from growers asking how to solve this problem.

Unfortunately, blotchy ripening can be caused by several factors including excessive heat, high humidity, low light levels and low potassium levels. Some varieties are more likely to experience this problem as well. What should you do if you are having this problem? The first thing to do is to have a tissue test to determine if low levels of potassium are to blame. This is the most common cause of blotchy ripening and the easiest to solve.

Environmental factors such as temperature and humidity are not easily controlled and you need to minimize the effects of these factors by variety selection. For greenhouse production of tomatoes you should plant varieties developed to grow in a greenhouse. Examples are Trust, President, and Match.

Some people don't want to grow greenhouse varieties because they are afraid that these types have less taste than regular varieties. However, these newer cultivars produce a very high quality tomato and I would encourage you to try one or more of these varieties if you are having problems with uneven ripening.

Late Blight and Early Blight of Tomatoes. The potential exists to

have problems with Late Blight this year. There have already been documented cases of Late Blight in Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio.

There is the possibility that more Late Blight is present in PA because of the large number of potatoes that overwintered in harvested fields from last year. Our mild winter did not kill these tubers as it normally would have so the potential for more Late Blight inoculum is greater because it survives in overwintering tubers.

Growers are advised to scout tomato and potato fields regularly during weather favorable for the development of this potentially devastating disease.

Weather conditions have already been favorable for Early Blight development on early-planted tomatoes in Lancaster county. Dr. Alan MacNab of the Pathology Department at Penn State is advising a fungicide application to tomatoes planted in early to mid-May.

Fields planted after mid-May should if crop rotation is being practiced and fields are scouted regularly. Growers can receive the latest disease updates by calling the PDA's hotline at 1-800-PENN-IPM. You need a touch tone phone to utilize these reports.

Sweet Corn IPM

Sweet corn growers who planted for the early market are harvesting some of the earliest corn they have ever grown, thanks to our warmer-than-normal spring. However, this same warm weather is also resulting in the early appearance of corn earworms.

Normally these pests have to migrate up from the warmer southern areas but this year they are already in our area. Fortunately, the population is currently below damaging levels. However, I advise growers to follow the population levels of both corn earworm and European corn borer, our regular early-season pest.

Scout fields regularly for these pests, especially during corn silking, and adjust your spray schedules appropriately. You can also receive an updated report on the trap catches of the corn pests by calling the PDA hotline men-

tioned above.

Harvest Procedures

Finally, growers should strive to preserve the quality present at harvest in their produce by following proper harvest and handling procedures.

First, harvest your crops at the proper maturity for your market. Zucchini should be small and tender while cantaloupes should be harvested at half-slip to full slip to have the best taste. Harvest in the cool of morning whenever possible and move harvested produce to a cool, shaded location as soon as possible.

Store any harvested produce

for the shortest time necessary. The sooner you get your produce to market or the consumer, the better their eating experience will be. And always handle produce like the delicate commodity it is. Avoid drops, bruising and any rough handling procedures. The extra care you take when harvesting and handling your produce will result in more satisfied buyers and more return sales for you.

Tim Elkner

Penn State Cooperative Extension, 1383 Arcadia Rd., Rm 1 Lancaster, Pa. 17601 Phone (717) 394-6851 FAX (717) 394-3962

American Farmland Trust Accepts Nominations

WASHINGTON, D.C. — American Farmland Trust, a national farmland conservation group is welcoming nominations for its third annual Steward of the Land Award.

The \$10,000 award recognizes outstanding efforts by an individual farmer or farm family in land stewardship, agricultural conservation policy, and the use of environmentally and economically sustainable farming practices.

The award honors the memory of AFT's late founding board member, Peggy McGrath Rockefeller. Throughout her life, Rockefeller dedicated herself to conserving the nation's agricultural resources. AFT's board of directors established the Steward of the Land Award to salute farmers who exhibit the same commitment to farmland conservation and protection as Rockefeller, who died in 1996.

The present Steward of the Land Award recipient, Ellen Straus of Marin County, Calif., exhibited her leadership in protecting farmland by her efforts in implementing environmentally

sound farming practices, educating the public about the importance of agriculture and co-founding the first land trust in the country that focused exclusively on protecting farmland.

The award includes a \$10,000 cash stipend and a plaque inscribed with the recipient's name. All nominees' applications will be reviewed and the winner selected by AFT's board of directors. The award will be presented in January 1999 at a special meeting in Washington, D.C. Travel expenses for two family members to the ceremony will be borne by AFT.

Nominations must be received at AFT's National Office by 5 p.m. (EST) on Nov. 2, 1998. For award and nomination form, contact Shannon Weller, Steward of the Land Award Coordinator, American Farmland Trust, 1920 N. Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036, Phone: (202) 659-5170 ext. 3044; fax: (202) 659-8339; e-mail: sweller@farmland.org. For more information, visit AFT's homepage at www.farmland.org

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