A24 Lancaster Farming, Saturday, October 31, 1998

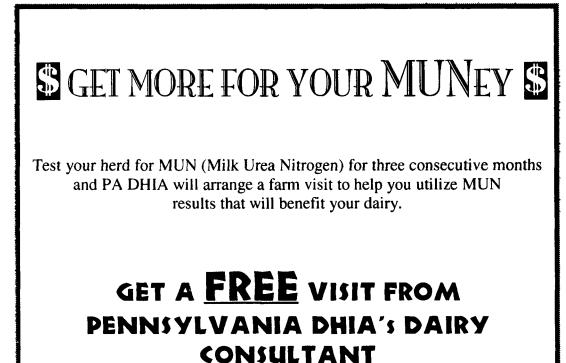


First Simmental Embryos Exported To Poland

Marking the first shipment of Pennsylvania Simmental beef cattle embryos to Poland, these officials and farmers gathered to mark this special state agriculture exporting event. Bill and Karen Flagg of Warren Point Simmental Cattle, Elverson, were contacted by a large Polish farm with the desire to import U.S Simmental genetics because the beef cattle in Poland do not have pure bloodlines. Actually, the dam of most of the embryos is a 19 year-old daughter of a foundation cow that was imported to the U.S. from Germany in the 1970's. The exported embryos, which have already arrived at their destination, will become the foundation herd for the Ostaszewski family in Poland.

The Em-Tran facility at Elizabethtown provided the reproductive technology and found veterinarians in Poland who could do the recipient implanting. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, under the direction of Samuel Hayes, Jr., secretary, helped with the contact and visited the actual farm on a Pennsylvania trade mission to Poland at the time these embryos reached their destination.

In the photo, from left, Noah Wenger, state senator; Hayes; Boyd Henderson, Em-Tran veterinarian; Steve Mower, Em-Tran dir. of export promotions; John Hasler, Em-Tran technical director; Karen and Bill Flagg, Simmental cattle breeders, and Emily Cardey, embryologist.



Plum Bottom Hosts State Ayrshire Sale

BELLEVILLE (Mifflin Co.) — John Reed Rodgers of Plum Bottom Dairy Farm, Belleville, hosted the Pennsylvania Ayrshire Association's Consignment Sale the middle of September. The "Raised to Graze" sale drew buyers from Pennsylvania, New York, and Maryland. Most of the animals sold were originally purchased by Rodgers privately or at consignment or dispersal sales, then raised through intensive rotational grazing. Thirteen others consigned animals.

Alvin String III, of Harrisonville, N.J., paid \$2,000 for the highest selling animal, Toll-Gate-Ayr BBK Beth, who was Grand Champion at the Eastern National Junior Show in 1993. This animal was owned by Rodgers. The second highest selling animal was owned and bred by Carolyn Loucks of Reedsville. Roundabout-Fru-T Pebbles was purchased by Earl VanTassel from Idalia County for \$1,350.

Of the 64 lots sold, the averages were as follows: three milking cows averaged \$1,183; five dry cows averaged \$1,035; 25 fresh first-calf heifers averaged \$984; 18 bred heifers averaged \$708; five grade bred heifers averaged \$517; seven open heifers averaged \$407; five September ('98) calves averages \$256.

Rodgers said that many of the animals went to herds of other color breeds. U.S. Ayrshire Forum President David Patrick spoke before the free Ayrshire grass-fed beef luncheon. The Zembo Highlanders, a bagpipe group from Harrisburg, entertained.

This was the highest selling animal at the Pennsylvania Ayrshire Sale, held recently near Belleville. Owned by John Reed Rodgers, this animal was purchased by Alvin Sting III, of Harrisonville, N.J. for \$2,000.

Mifflin Conducts Holstein Sale

REEDSVILLE (Mifflin Co.) — The Mifflin County Holstein Club held its Fall Classic Sale in September at the Mifflin County Youth Park in Reedsville.

Tim Peachey of Petersburg consigned the high cow. Peachey Luke Nina sold for \$2,900, just \$50 over the second highest selling Holstein. The second highest selling cow was Byler-Crest Mathie Ballet, owned by Sam R. Byler, Jr., Milroy.

Overall, 71 lots sold for an average of \$1,600. The sale staff included auctioneer Art Kling, John Burket (pedigrees), Gordon Wood, and John Rheam. Sale chairmen were Paul Neer and Dave Spicher.



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