### Agriculture Department Observes World Food Day

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)
— Agriculture Secretary Samuel
E. Hayes Jr. recently joined representatives of state and
community-based emergency
feeding organizations to observe
World Food Day at the state
capitol.

"Hunger is not acceptable in Pennsylvania and this country," Hayes said. "We are gathered here today to pledge our continued efforts and urge all Pennsylvanians to help eliminate hunger and malnutrition."

This year's theme is "A World Without Hunger."

Secretary Hayes noted that Pennsylvania, through the Agriculture

Department, is a national leader in providing emergency food assistance to needy Pennsylvanians. In 1999-2000, the Agriculture Department provided \$14.46 million in cash grants to counties to purchase and distribute food through the State Food Purchase Program. In addition, since July 1, 1998, the Emergency Food Assistance Development Program has provided \$5 million in state funds to counties to enhance and

Hayes recognized individuals from emergency food agencies across Pennsylvania who have volunteered their time to work in food

strengthen emergency food assis-

tance networks.

banks, soup kitchens, and other programs to help those in need.

Hayes also presented awards to student winners of a statewide poster contest who submitted posters under the theme "A World Without Hunger." The first-place winner in the elementary school category was Julie Dlugos, an eighth-grade student at Christ the Divine Teacher School in Latrobe, Westmoreland County. Sam Michlovitz, eighth-grade student at Susquehanna Middle School, Harrisburg, Dauphin County, was named the winner in the junior high school division, and Meredith Yanchak, Chartiers Houston High School, Houston, Washington

County, was the winner of the high school division. First-place win-

ners each receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond for their efforts.

#### No. 4 Weighted Average Price \$15.44

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Middle Atlantic Order Acting Market Administrator David Z. Walker announced a September 1999 weighted average milk price of \$15.44 per hundredweight.

The weighted average differential price was - \$.90 per hundredweight and the producer nonfat milk solids (NFMS) price was \$1.32 per pound. The weighted average price was up \$1.76 from August but was \$1.33 lower than a year earlier.

The producer NFMS price

was up 90 cents from last September. The nonfat milk solids price, applicable to handler payments, was \$1.3290 per pound for the month, up 90.31 cents from last year. The gross value of September producer milk, adjusted to 3.5 percent butterfat was \$72.9 million, compared to \$78.2 million a year ago.

Walker said that producer receipts totaled 474.1 million pounds during September, an increase of 3.3 million pounds from last September and the average daily delivery of 3,262 pounds per producer decreased 85 pounds or 2.5 percent from a year earlier. An estimated 35 million pounds of milk was voluntarily withheld from the pool during the month of September. Had this milk been pooled, total producer receipts would have increased 38.3 million pounds, or 8.1 percent, from September

A total of 4,884 producers supplied Order 4 handlers during the month, an increase of 155 from a year ago. Class I producer milk totaled 257.8 million pounds and was up 21.4 million pounds, or 9.1 percent, from last September. Class I milk accounted for 54 39 percent of total producer receipts during the month compared with 50.22 percent in September 1998.

The average NFMS test of producer milk was 8.66 percent, up from 8.62 percent the previous year. The average butterfat test of producer milk was 3 66 percent, up from 3 59 percent last September

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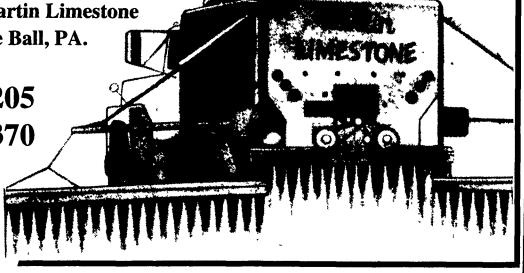
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