

(Continued from Page A10)

to UNITE, and then proceeded to dump one day's milk. How much would this affect the price of milk? I am not sure, because I don't have all the numbers in front of me, but take a look at these numbers from September.

In three regions, New England, New York/New Jersey, and Mid-Atlantic production totals were 1,892,331,000 pounds from 17,625 producers.

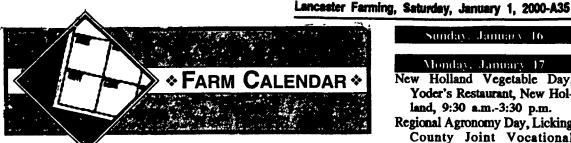
If the producers in these three regions were to dump one day's milk (63,078,981 pounds). It would represent about 3.3 percent of the receipts for the month. Now assuming that the other regions in the U.S. are similar, we would be reducing the milk supply by about 3.3 percent. Reducing the milk supply by 3.3 percent nationwide would definitely cause the price to increase. How much? I'm not sure, but I think it would surprise all of us dairy producers. We often hear about a mythical milk surplus 1.7

of 4 percent. Dumping one day's milk would basically eat up that surplus.

I know what you are thinking. I can't afford to lose one day's revenue. Well to offset the lost revenue we would buy futures on milk and cheese. Can we unite all the dairy farmers? I hope so, because it's the only way we will ever get paid a good price for our milk is if we join as one.

If we don't unite, then we will continue to produce more and more milk, while the price of that milk will continue to drop. With upcoming milk around \$12 cwt just take a minute and think if all the work you do as a dairy farmer is worth \$12 cwt. Personally I would feel more comfortable in the \$15-18 range. Fax me at (413) 586-4092 or email me at user196576@aol.com if you have any interest in uniting as dairy farmers.

> Brian C. West Hadley, Mass.



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ter, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Dairy Farm Management Basics,

Two-Day Session, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., also Jan. 14.

Berks County Dairy Day, Berks County Ag Center, Leesport. Schuylkill County Dairy Day, Penn State Schuylkill Campus.

9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday, January 8

Pennsylvania Farm Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg,

# thru Jan, 13, Sunday, January 9

Beyond Cheddar 2000 at the Pa. Farm Show, Family Living

Center, 2 p.m.- 3 p.m. Monday, January 10

## Luesday, January 11

Farmers' Market Association Leadership and Communication Skills Workshop, NYS Dept. of Agricultural Markets,

Albany, N.Y., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Morrison's Cove Produce Auction meeting, Martinsburg.

- FSA Production Workshop, Lebanon Valley Ag Center, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., also Jan. 13, 25,
- and Feb. 8 and 16. Ephrata Area Young Farmers pesticide meeting, Lincoln Village
- Smorgasbord, Ephrata, 6:45

# Wednesday, January 12

Thursday, January 13 Mexico Vegetable Growers meet-

ing, Mexico. Drought Recovery Financial Series, Holiday Inn, Beth-

lehem. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Friday. January 14

Crop Insurance: Making It Work For You!, Cochranville Fire Hall, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, January 15

Dauphin County Holstein Association Annual Meeting, Old

Country Buffet, Harrisburg, 10:3<u>0 a.m.</u>

# Sunday, January 16

### Monday, January 17

- New Holland Vegetable Day, Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Regional Agronomy Day, Licking County Joint Vocational School, Newark, Ohio, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 36th Annual Meeting of the Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County, Farm and Home Center. 6:30 p.m.

#### Tuesday, January 18

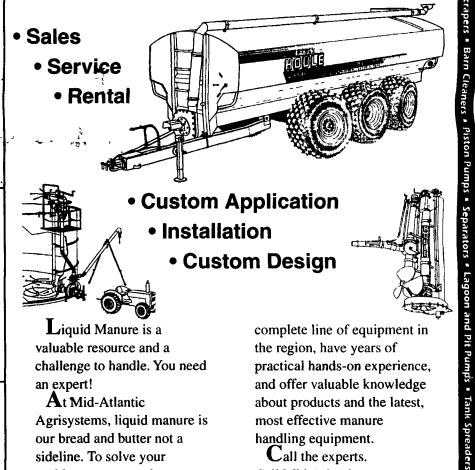
- N.J. Annual Vegetable Meeting, Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, thru Jan. 20.
- Risky Business-Solutions, Financial Management Seminar, West York, 9 a.m.
- Regional Agronomy Day, Wilmington, Clinton County Fair-
- grounds, Ohio, Expo Center, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Lime and Fertilizer Conference, Penn Stater, University Park, thru Jan. 20.
- Great Lakes Vegetable Growers Convention, Grand Rapids, Mich., thru Jan. 22. Wednesday, January 19

Risky Business-Solutions, Financial Management Seminar,

Chambersburg, 9 a.m.

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