

New Dairy Housing And Equipment Systems Proceedings Available

ITHACA, N.Y. — A new publication from the Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service (NRAES) presents and documents guidelines for managing existing housing systems and planning new systems to improve profitability, reduce labor requirements, and improve cow comfort. This collection of 36 papers (\$30.00 plus S&H/sales tax, 456 pages, February 2000) is the proceedings from the conference "Dairy Housing and Equipment Systems: Managing and Planning for Profitability," held February 1-3, 2000, in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

Dairy Housing and Equipment Systems: Managing and

Planning for Profitability, NRAES-129, includes 36 papers divided into eight categories. The first section on cow comfort, decisions, and management presents papers on facilities; capital investments; cow comfort, fear, and productivity; and producer satisfaction with expansion decisions.

The next group of five papers reviews planning new facilities: site evaluation and selection, farmstead layout, freestall barn layouts, responsibilities in constructing new facilities, and growing a staff. Five presentations on system management discuss evaluating and improving existing dairy systems, biosecurity, lighting, photoperiod management, and putting

money where it matters.

The next four papers on environmental control for cow comfort explain natural ventilation systems, systems controls, heat stress relief and supplemental cooling, and tunnel ventilation.

The topics of freestall troubleshooting, design, and management encompass the next five papers, including a paper on sand for bedding. The section on facilities management and health includes three papers on bedding's contribution to mastitis, environmental risk factors contributing to lameness, and flooring. The next three presentations discuss the design of the feed area and water space, feed-bunk management, and the impact of head gates and over-

crowding on production.

The final section of this publication includes papers on defining and managing special cows, facility design and case studies for the transition cow, plastic and fabric covered arch-frame buildings, restraint and treatment facilities and equipment, and sort gates.

Dairy Housing and Equipment Systems: Managing and Planning for Profitability, NRAES-129, is available for \$30.00 per copy, plus shipping and handling and sales tax, from NRAES, Cooperative Extension, 152 Riley-Robb Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-5701. The shipping and handling charge is \$5.50 for a single copy within the continental United States.

New York residents, add 8% sales tax (calculated on both the cost of publications and the shipping and handling charges).

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DFA And NZBD Announce DairiConcepts Joint Venture

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) and the New Zealand Dairy Board (NZDB) have announced the formation of a new joint venture, DairiConcepts, L.P. (DairiConcepts), which will manufacture and market cheese and dairy ingredients for sophisticated applications in the food processing industry.

Named to reflect the company's emphasis on innovation, DairiConcepts is a limited partnership with equal DFA and NZDB ownership and management. The new company will combine the resources of NZDB's cheese technology and ingredients company, NZMP Key Ingredients, and the manu-

facturing and marketing resources of DFA.

DFA President and Chief Executive Officer Gary Hanman spoke of the new venture as a "key strategic move" that allows both organizations to advance more quickly and share in the growth opportunities of this expanding market segment.

"This relationship is a good fit. DFA has the manufacturing power. NZDB and Key Ingredients have an established, worldwide reputation for superior technology in the development of intense-flavored cheese ingredients, seasoning blends, enzyme modified cheeses and other dairy-based ingredients," said Hanman.

DairiConcepts will initially market established product lines, but will soon offer new types of ingredients coming from its expanded research and development operations. NZDB Chief Executive, Warren Larsen, said that the arrangement enhances both organizations' global market opportunities. "There are clear benefits for farmer shareholders both in the United States and New Zealand," he said.

John Weidner, former vice president of operations for DFA's formulated business, will serve as president and chief operating officer of the new limited partnership. Headquarters for DairiConcepts will be in Springfield, Missouri with additional sales and service offices in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania and production facilities located at Hummelstown and at sites

Free Trade With China Will Mean Bright Future

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The following statement was issued by National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) President Lynn Jensen of Lake Preston, S.D. following the recent 237-197 House vote in favor of permanent normal trade relations for China:

"From Wal-Mart to Pottery Barn, Americans can already buy 'Made in China' products. Now, 1.28 billion Chinese people

throughout the Midwestern United States.

The NZDB is the marketing arm of the New Zealand dairy industry. The Board's main business is separated into consumer, foodservice and ingredients sales.

will get a chance to taste American agriculture, from corn and corn products to soybeans, wheat, meat, poultry and dairy.

"Today's House vote was a vote in favor of opportunity — for U.S. farmers and for the people of China. The nation's corn growers are gratified that a majority of House members heeded agriculture's message and voted to give us open access to the world's largest market, rather than pandering to the protectionists who refuse to recognize that we operate in a global economy.

"As corn growers said in the fortune cookies we distributed on Capitol Hill this week: 'free trade with China will mean a bright future for U.S. farmers.'"

LOOKING TO EXPAND YOUR DAIRY OPERATION?

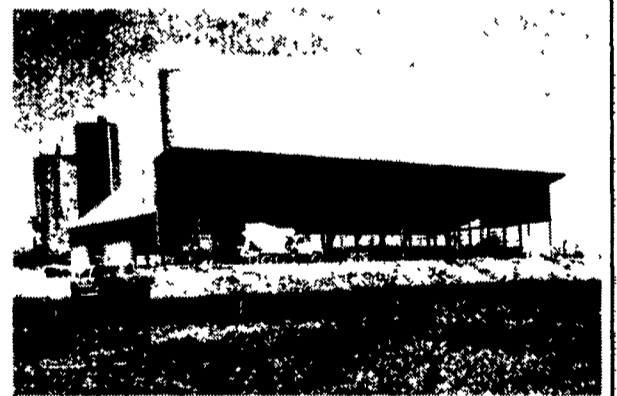
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