

Washington County Hosting Maryland Holstein Convention

HAGERSTOWN, Md. — The Maryland Holstein Convention will be hosted by the Washington County Holstein Association, March 16 and 17, in Hagerstown, Maryland. The day meeting and banquet will be held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel on Route 40 east of Hagerstown on March 16.

The sale will be March 17, 11

a.m. at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center. The center is located seven miles south of I70 on Route 65, Sharpsburg Pike.

The meeting on Friday will feature Ron Gillespie, vice president of marketing for Cyagra. Cyagra is the livestock cloning subsidiary of Advanced Cell Technology, Inc. of Worcester, MA. Gillespie's interest in and

experience with cattle cloning began with the birth of the first cloned calf, Gene, in 1997 at the ABS, Global's stud in Wisconsin. In 1998, he established a business that offered cell processing and storage for animal owners. This led to him joining Cyagra.

Gillespie will provide a layman's introduction to the science of cattle cloning and review how cloning may be used by dairy producers and possibly impact their business.

The ladies program will feature home decorating tips with Karen Tatman, Longaberger Consultant, showing versatile ways of using Longaberger baskets. This will be followed by Caroline King, Massage Therapist, giving a demonstration and background on massage therapy.

A guided tour of the Antietam Battlefield will be available for the juniors. Lunch will be at the Western Maryland Research Farm, followed by a program presented by Jeff Semler, Extension Education, 4-H/AGNR.

The program, titled "Animal Science on the Cutting Edge," shows the science behind the cow. The juniors may experience "hand on" participation, or just watch as they dissect and explore the reproductive tract of a cow.

The annual banquet will be held at 7 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton, followed by awards and entertainment by Peggy Dawson, a local comedian from Mont Alto, Pa.

Dawson has been performing

her comedy act for seven years for organizations such as the Pa. Holstein Association, DHIA, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, AARP, as well as others.

During the day meeting and the banquet, a silent auction will be held to benefit the Dairy Shrine. All funds will be donated to activate, fund and find a new home for the shrine. If you wish to donate an item, please bring it with you to the convention. Any questions about the auction can be answered by Brenda Leggett, (301) 733-2818.

The sale will begin at 11 a.m. on March 17 at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center. Greg Wiles, Sales Chairman reports that 85 plus head are consigned. Special consignments include a clone of Con-Acres HS Zita (EX-94) to be born in August and consigned by Futuraland 2020 Holsteins.

Additional consignments include the probably All-American and All-Canadian Junior 2-year-old Woodbine-DAS Fabulous (VG-89), undefeated at the 2000 shows, first choice Lee due 09-20-01 from Shoreman S Alicia (EX-95) and named Supreme Champion 2000 Royal Winter Fair and a

fancy Inspiration Junior Yearling from Tri-Day Ashlyn (EX-94), first 3-year-old Madison 2000.

Sale catalogs are available on request by contacting Chris and Budgee Hill, Sales Managers at 14315 Peddicord Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771 or phone: (301) 829-9451 or fax (301) 829-2145.

Interesting and educational booths and exhibits will be set up at the Four Points Sheraton as well as the opportunity is available for exhibitors to set up at the sale on Saturday. Space is still available for those wishing to set up a booth for \$250 per space. For more information, contact Matt Iager (301) 739-4885 or Matt DeBaugh (301) 432-5739.

Send registration and money to Matt Iager, 1655 Langley Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Checks should be made payable to the Washington County Holstein Association.

Lodging is available at the Four Points Sheraton. Rooms have been reserved for the convention and are guaranteed until Feb. 17; phone: 1-800-325-3535. Other area hotels are Comfort Suites, (301) 791-8100 and Hampton Inn, (301) 739-6100.

USDA Suspends Brazilian Beef Imports Into U.S.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Following close consultations with Brazilian government officials, the USDA recently announced that it is temporarily suspending the import of processed beef and associated products from Brazil.

This decision is a temporary action pending the release of requested data to complete a bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk assessment.

USDA is working with Brazilian agriculture officials to expeditiously complete a risk assessment regarding this matter. Once this data has been received and USDA is assured that Brazil has taken sound measures to

prevent BSE, the suspension will be lifted.

There is no evidence of BSE in Brazil. USDA, along with appropriate federal health agencies, will continue to monitor and assess this situation and take any additional actions that may be necessary or appropriate.

USDA's BSE policy has been to be proactive and preventative. USDA has taken stringent measures in surveillance, prevention, education, and response. Import restrictions in countries known to have BSE have been in place since 1989 and active surveillance efforts began in 1990.



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CONVENTION TICKET ORDER FORM

Buffet Business Lunch	_____ # of persons	@ \$15.00	\$ _____
Buffet Ladies Lunch	_____ # of persons	@ \$15.00	\$ _____
Junior Program Lunch	_____ # of persons	@ \$ 6.50	\$ _____
Convention Banquet Buffet	_____ # of persons	@ \$25.00	\$ _____
			TOTAL \$ _____

List names of those attending:

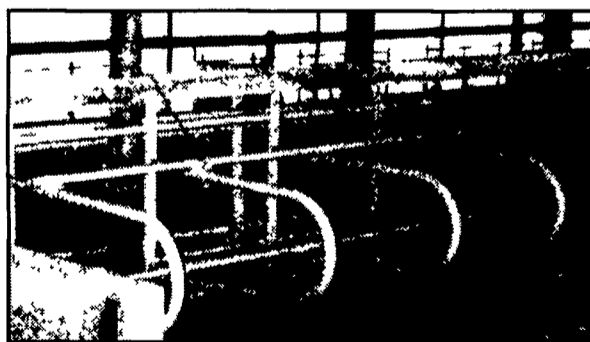
Business Meeting _____
Ladies Program _____
Junior Program _____
Convention Banquet _____
Address _____
Telephone _____

Mail reservations to:
Matthew & Laura Iager
1655 Langley Drive
Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-739-4885

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