

Highest Protein Pennsylvania DHIA Herds For January

The top producing herds above 675 pounds of protein in Pennsylvania DHIA for January are listed by county. In addition, herds from New Jersey and New York are also listed. They are as follows:

NAME	NO COWS IN MILK	MILK LBS	FAT LBS	FAT PCT	PRO LBS																
SPUNGOLD HOLSTEINS	82.1	24777	956	3.9	785	BONZO ONE-O-ONE	38	28271	1028	3.6	898	SILVERDALE FARM	28.7	24090	865	3.6	728				
KE-HOLTZ DAIRY	364.9	25272	866	3.4	750	DIANE BERRY	21	21996	821	3.7	692	EUGENE STAUFFER	41.9	23254	850	3.7	723				
BUTTONWOOD FARMS	149.2	23302	912	3.9	722	FRED SCHEEL	44	21775	764	3.5	686	MOUNTAIN SPRINGS FRM	58.5	22874	829	3.6	723				
KENNETH H WENGER	190.9	22918	778	3.4	717							STEVE + JERI RITCHEY	69.0	23370	906	3.9	710				
KE-HOLTZ DAIRY 2	11.4	24301	861	3.5	706	ROCKLANE FARM	61	32131	1113	3.5	969	OBIE SNIDER	191.9	21492	796	3.7	692				
LAGGING STREAM FARM	154.9	22398	862	3.8	702	MARLIN D HEISEY #	75.7	26540	906	3.4	802	MICHAEL STOLTZFUS	65.1	22593	799	3.5	691				
R FREEHLING	97.7	24010	170	3.2	734	ANDY T MOHR	74.0	25134	919	3.7	798										
TE & MARYJEAN GROOMS	70.0	22384	718	3.2	684	HAROLD S ZIMMERMAN	65.9	25366	893	3.5	765	JUNGE FARMS INC & RAY	85.2	29293	1146	3.9	918				
						MEADOW CREEK FARM	181.7	23715	864	3.6	747	HIDDENVIEW HOLSTEINS	70.9	28200	1004	3.6	868				
						PAUL & DAVID HELSEL#	127.9	23203	909	3.9	741	ROLLING ACRES FARM	42.3	27375	960	3.5	866				
						HARRY & EDNA SNYDER	54.5	24278	885	3.6	741	RING-KUL FARM	49.8	26639	952	3.6	858				
						J AND S FARM	72.6	23302	868	3.7	734	EARL R HAFER & SONS	216.2	26582	887	3.3	838				
											DON & AMY RICE	96.7	25759	946	3.7	825					
											FANTASYLANDHOLSTEINS	206.3	26043	863	3.3	824					
											JOHN C MERTZ	40.7	25900	981	3.8	806					
											KIRBYVILLE HOLSTEINS	69.1	24689	873	3.5	785					
											CARL Z GOOD	60.5	26540	961	3.6	780					
											GRUMBRO HOLSTEINS	31.9	24312	921	3.8	779					
											WALNUTRIDGE HOLSTEIN	57.9	24506	899	3.7	766					
											BETANNY DAIRY FARM	50.2	24405	854	3.5	746					

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Streamside Forests Provide Profits, Protect Water

COLUMBUS, Ohio — If managed properly, streamside forests can be harvested for timber and contribute to healthy waterways, said Kathy Smith, Ohio State University extension associate in forestry.

"You just have to be more conscience of where you are and what you're doing when cutting timber," Smith said. "Take actions that create a lighter footprint on the area."

Forested corridors along streams, rivers and lakes help prevent water pollution. They also can yield a variety of timber products that may provide income for a landowner.

"The areas along streams often have very good soils, so oaks, walnuts and other high-value timber trees will grow very well in these areas," Smith said. "Corridors like this can also produce other types of wood that small custom markets would like."

The dollar value of trees from

these areas can vary greatly. Areas with little or no management are less likely to produce high-value products than those where some management has taken place, she said.

Special forest products such as maple syrup or trees grown for commercial nut production also may be grown in areas along streams and rivers. Which type of tree would be best to grow depends on location, soil type and the market options that are available, Smith said.

But, all forest management decisions need to keep the health of the stream system in mind. Forests protect water quality by stabilizing banks, shading the water, and filtering nutrients, sediment and pollutants from water running off nearby land. The nutrients are used for tree growth, while some pollutants are trapped or broken down into harmless compounds, said Leslie Zucker, Ohio State University Extension associate

for riparian systems.

"The extensive network of tree roots holds the soils of the bank in place, reducing erosion and keeping the stream banks and shoreline stable," Zucker said. "The shade from trees helps reduce water temperatures. Cooler water contains a higher concentration of dissolved oxygen, which benefits many types of aquatic wildlife."

Forested areas also provide habitat for terrestrial animals and reduce the potential for flooding downstream by absorbing more storm runoff before it reaches the stream or river.

Trees can be harvested from a waterside forest area without disturbing water quality if guidelines or Best Management Practices (BMPs) are followed. Smith and Zucker offer these rules of thumb for streamside forest management.

1. If a tree casts shade on the water, leave it. Only remove

trees that are at great risk of falling into the water. Trees with root systems more than 50 percent undercut by the stream are the only "leaners" that should be considered for removal.

2. Maintain at least a 50-foot wide strip of waterside forest area. A 50-foot wide forest corridor on slopes of four percent or less can filter out the majority of pollutants before they reach the water body. Slopes greater than four percent require wider forest corridors.

3. Single-tree selection harvesting is the only cutting method that should be used. In selection cutting, individual trees are removed based upon their current health, future health and future contribution to forest. Enough trees should be retained to maintain water quality functions. To prevent bank erosion, a 25-foot no-cut or light-cut zone should be measured from the top of the stream bank.

4. Avoid creating roads for equipment in the watershed forest and avoid running equipment in a stream bed. Remove harvested trees by cable and winch to minimize the number of roads needed and disturbance to the site. Heavy equipment can compact the soil and expose it to erosion. Equipment in the stream bed adds mud to the water and destroys wildlife habitat.

5. If a stream must be crossed

in a harvest operation, use a bridge. Use a temporary, portable bridge or find another access to the timber on the other side of the stream.

6. If you use forest management chemicals, carefully follow the label instructions. Make sure the chemical is not sprayed on the water and, most of all, be sure the chemical is labeled for the intended use.

7. File an Operation and Management Plan with the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). This plan helps both the logger and the landowner understand how the harvest will be done and the BMP's that will be used.

8. Use a written contract when selling timber or using vendors of forestry services. The contract should clearly state the responsibilities of each party, which tree are to be harvested, what equipment may or may not be used, the requirement to use BMP's, and other job specifications.

For more information on managing streamside forests for profit and clean water, contact local offices of Ohio State University Extension, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources — Division of Forestry, private forestry consultants or industry foresters. An Ohio State University Extension flyer titled You Can Manage Streamside Forests For Profits — and Clean Water is available at Extension offices.

Farm Bureau Supports Ridge's Plan

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is supportive of Gov. Ridge's spending plan for agriculture in the coming fiscal year.

The spending plan was contained in his recently unveiled state budget proposal for fiscal year 2001-2002.

"We're happy to see that the governor's budget proposal includes a nice increase for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the primary agency serving that state's number one industry," said Guy Donaldson, president of the statewide farm organization.

The Agriculture Department's general operating budget would be increased from \$28.6 million to \$31.6 million under the governor's recommendation.

Proposed increases for research at the Ag Department, from \$3.5 million to \$3.6 million, and for the budget of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, from \$4.1 million to \$4.2 million, are also commendable. "Agricultural research and the Animal Health Commission's efforts to fight animal disease are vital to the future profitability of agriculture in this state," Donaldson said.

Also receiving approval from Farm Bureau were the governor's plans to boost spending for the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania — from \$34.8 million to \$35.8 million — and for the Ag Loan Forgiveness program from \$238,000 to \$284,000.

"The Vet School is Pennsylvania's only school for veterinarians," Donaldson said, "and

the Ag Loan Forgiveness program is designed to keep agricultural college graduates from leaving the state."

Farm Bureau does have a concern over the governor's budget related to spending plans for research and cooperative extension at Penn State. Both line items are scheduled to receive a three percent increase in the budget proposal.

"That's not enough," said Donaldson. "It will take a six percent increase for both of these programs to stay even with what they're already doing. We are advocating a 10 percent funding increase for both programs. Research is important for making the necessary improvements in agriculture to

stay competitive in the 21st century. Cooperative extension helps link farmers to the information and expertise needed to operate efficiently and soundly in today's world."

Farm Bureau also supports further decreases in the state's inheritance tax rate which was not included in the budget proposal. Legislation last year decreased the tax rate by 1.5 percent to 4.5 percent on inheritance to children, parents or grandparents.

"The state inheritance tax is a disruptive burden when it comes time to pass the family farm on to the next generation," said Donaldson, "We want to see another 1.5 percent cut in this tax."





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