# Ag Symposium Set For June 14

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) has scheduled its Ag Research Symposium Thursday, June 14, here at the Capitol Complex.

The symposium, which includes information on export opportunities, livestock and plant research, and information for a wide variety of producers, is scheduled from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Ryan Building, Room 205, in the complex.

Twenty-one research projects will be highlighted at the symposium. For more information, contact PDA's office of the secretary, (717) 772-2853.

#### **MICHELLE RANCK** Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) - Visitors to the capitol building on a warm Tuesday afternoon were treated to an ice cream sundae — or, more accurately, part of one — at a June Dairy Month kickoff event organized by Pennsylvania's dairy promotion organizations.

The event, which began at noon, drew a crowd as 126 gallons of Green's vanilla ice cream were stacked in a plastic recreational pool.

Five gallons of Hershev's chocolate syrup and five gallons of

### Ice Cream Important To America

✓ Commercial production of ice cream began in Baltimore, Mary-land, in 1851, by Mr. Jacob Fussell, now known as the father of the American ice cream industry.

✓ Ice cream was invented in China in about 200 B.C. when a soft milk and rice mixture was further solidified by packing it in snow. ✓ In 1921, the commissioner of Ellis Island made the decision to

treat all incoming immigrants to a taste of something truly American by serving them ice cream as part of their first meal.

✔ National Ice Cream Month was designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1984.

✓ More ice cream is consumed on Sunday than on any other day of the week.

✓ Although chocolate and strawberry rank high as consumer favorites, vanilla still leads the way in ice cream sales. It accounts for 20 percent of all ice cream sales.

✓ Caramel ice cream is the fastest growing flavor nationally with its volume production increasing 49 percent in 1998. Mocha/coffee is also becoming more popular with sales up 15 percent since 1996.

✓ About 10 percent of the total milk produced in the U.S. is used in ice cream products.

✓ Americans consume about 23 quarts on average per person per year, which is more than is consumed in any other nation.

✓ It takes about seven quarts of milk to make a gallon of ice cream. ✓ About one quarter of the milk produced in Pennsylvania is made into ice cream products.

✓ Air is added to convert the cream and sugar mixture into the light and fluffy treat we call ice cream.

## Sundae On Tuesday At The Capitol

caramel syrup were topped off by five gallons of chopped nuts from Zimmerman's Nut Company in Harrisburg

> Whipped cream and a 12-inch ball of cherries crowned the creation.

> According to Alexa A. Stoner, industry relations specialist, American Dairy Association/ Dairy Council Middle Atlantic served more 1,300 people with the help of 16 dairy princesses and agriculture secretary Sam Hayes to dish the ice cream.

This event was first for many of the dairy princesses who have been newly crowned. Dairy princesses Katie Nailor, 18, Perry County, and Sherry Plummer, Jefferson County, helped to hand

out spoons and napkins to the crowd.

"We came a long way to get here, so I was hoping it would be something like this," said Plummer. "I was expecting lots of people and lots of ice cream, and that's what we got."

Additionally the Lancasterbased Green's sampled one of its newest ice cream flavors, Cotton Candy Confetti.

The American Dairy Association/Dairy Council Middle Atlantic, the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Mid East, and the Pennsylvania **Dairy Promotion Program helped** organize the event.



The finished product was quickly dished out to 1,300 people in Harrisburg.



Sixteen dairy princesses from across Pennsylvania came to help serve the generous scoops of ice cream.

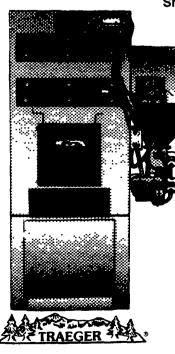


Students of Colorful Future Day Care, Harrisburg, found their way to the event and their own bowls of ice cream.



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