

Dairy Youth Benefit From Maryland Dairy Woman

MADISON, Wis. — Every mother works hard to see her children succeed, but the 2001 World Dairy Expo Dairy Woman of the Year has worked tirelessly to ensure the success of hundreds of youth interested in agriculture and the dairy industry. This year's recipient is Judy Iager from Maple Lawn Farm, Fulton, Md.

Iager and husband Charles operate the 1,200 acre sixth generation Maple Lawn farm, with his brother Gene and family. Their 175 head of Registered Holstein cows average 26,446 pounds of milk, 960 pounds of fat and 820 pounds of protein. In addition, the Iager family operates a 20,000-bird fresh retail turkey business.

But it is Iager's dedication to dairy youth programs that has made her instrumental in the lives of so many 4-H, FFA and collegiate students. This Maryland 4-H All-Star honoree has been a 4-H Dairy Club leader for 20 years where she stressed the importance of accurate project records, Dairy Bowl participation, dairy cattle judging and being in the cattle show ring. Under her leadership, their club won the "Hoard's Dairyman" pictorial judging contest several times.

For 19 years, Judy served as the Southeastern Holstein News editor for Maryland, taking pictures and

(Turn to Page 46)



Judy Iager

Confined Animal Production

(Continued from Page 43)

permits would include management strategies for manure collection, storage, and disposal, including the land application of manure nutrients. We estimate that five percent of confined livestock farms are potential CAFOs under current regulations. These farms produced over half of the excess onfarm nitrogen and two-thirds of the excess onfarm phosphorus in 1997. If all potential CAFOs followed an NMP, the amount of nutrients available for runoff or leaching to water resources could be significantly reduced.

In areas with high concentrations of animals and high levels of excess onfarm nutrients, there may be insufficient land available for spreading at agronomic rates, particularly where NMPs are phosphorus based. Some producers will need to transport manure offsite, and incentives may be required to encourage local farmers without animals to use manure. Transportation costs will largely determine the economic feasibility of this strategy.

In any case, areas with insufficient land for spreading manure have the greatest need for alternatives to land application. Mechanisms to encourage industrial use of manure as a feedstock for commercial enterprises (fertilizer manufacturing or energy production)

or central processing facilities would be especially valuable in these areas. These livestock clusters might also be strong candidates for targeting both policy-driven adjustments and USDA funding and research assistance.

All farms are eligible to apply for technical, educational, and financial assistance in managing manure nutrients under both USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Technical Assistance Program. In addition, EQIP is authorized to assist small and medium-sized confined animal farms (less than 1,000 AU) with investment in storage and treatment facilities. Requests for subsidized manure storage and treatment facilities and nutrient management assistance will likely increase if NMPs are required on more farms.

Successful development of facilities to process manure at a central location may accelerate trends in animal industry concentration, while failure to find viable off-farm alternatives for manure may slow, or even reverse, these trends. Further research is needed to evaluate the impact of manure management policies on the animal industry.

For more information, call (202) 694-5139 or e-mail ERSINFO@ers.usda.gov.