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 duction Forum and Annual Meeting, Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., (717) 445-5776.
 Penn Ag Seed Council Annual Meeting, Colonial Country Club, Harrisburg, 9:30 a.m., (717) 651-5920.
 Joint Meeting: Conservation Committee and Pa. Legislative Timber Caucus, Hearing Room 1 North Office Bldg., Capitol Complex, Harrisburg, 8:30 a.m., (717) 787-7570.
 Winter Calf Management Meeting, Mat and Nancy Beckerink's, Rt. 430, Findley Lake, N.Y., 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.,

(716) 664-9502.
Wednesday, December 12
 Pa. Dairy Stakeholders' Conference, Holiday Inn, Grantville, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., thru Dec. 13.
 Ground Managers' Seminar, Warrington Motor Lodge, Warrington.
 DEP Workshop, DEP South-central Regional Office, Harrisburg, and Greensburg Four Points, Greensburg, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.
 Ohio Extension Vegetable School, Washington State Community College, Marietta, Ohio, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (740) 376-7431.
Thursday, December 13
 New Benefits of Tree Conference, Penn State Great Valley, (610) 489-4315.
 Building Better Farmers' Markets Seminar, Howard

County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, Maryland, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (410) 313-6500.
 Annual Breakfast Meeting, Pa. Dairy Stakeholders, Holiday Inn Grantville, 7 a.m.
 DEP Workshop, DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut St., Meadville, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.
 Navigating into the 21st Century Financial Seminar, The Lighthouse, Findley, Ohio, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (419) 422-3851.
 Cambria County Annual Turf and Ornamental Pesticide Update Meeting, Lemon Drop Lounge, Ebensburg.
 Pesticide Certification Examination, Penn State Cooperative Extension Luzerne County office, 16 Luzerne Ave., Suite 200, West Pitts 8:30 a.m., (717) 826-2040.

Friday, December 14
 Business Sense Management for Dairy CFOs, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Holstein Northeast Region Show and Election Meeting, Pa. Holstein Office, State College, 11 a.m.

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which is the Northeast order, will command a floor price of \$17.50 per CWT. The Class I

price in December 2001 is \$15.23 per CWT and would be lower in January 2002.

The bill calls for the Commodity Credit Corporation (C.C.C.) to make payments to producers when the price used for manufactured milk falls below \$14.25 per CWT. The payment will be based on 25 percent of the difference between \$14.25 per CWT and the lower price.

The premium money for Class I milk will be pooled nationally and all dairy farmers will benefit.

The national pooling of the Class I premium should gather support from the senators and representatives of the upper Midwest because their producers, with a very low Class I utilization, will realize as much as other dairy farmers. However, it appears that some representatives from the upper Midwest are opposing the dairy provisions. They are calling the provisions similar to the original Northeast Dairy Compact and point to a supposedly report from Penn State calling the compact a cartel to raise milk prices to consumers.

The only report from Penn State that I am aware of came from Ken Bailey, who came to Penn State from the University of Missouri. In my opinion, Bailey's report was somewhat misleading and gave ammunition that was used to undermine the Compact.

Isn't it strange that references continue to be made about Penn State, when both the Pennsylvania House and Senate passed legislation that would have allowed Pennsylvania to join the Compact? The legislation was signed into law by former Gov. Tom Ridge. Maybe Penn State should evaluate the work of some of their people and determine if their work is helping or harming dairy farmers.

I strongly urge all dairy farmers and interested parties to contact their U.S. senators and representatives to oppose the proposed dairy legislation.

— Arden Tewksbury
 Manager
 Pro-Ag
 Meshoppen



OPEN HOUSE

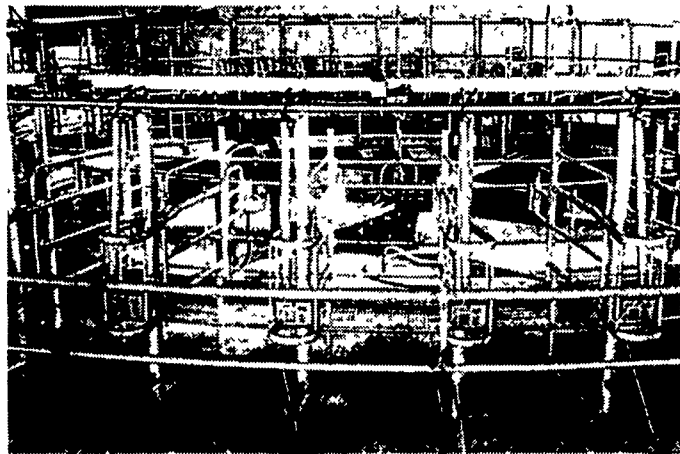
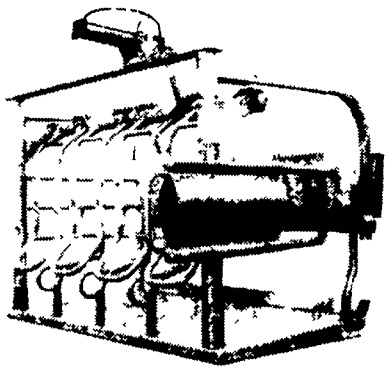
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Main Office 15 Newport Rd., Leola, PA 717-656-3307

Dale Weyant, New Enterprise Division Manager (814) 766-9970

