

Brandt-View Hosts Lebanon Holstein Night

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Lancaster Farming Staff

CAMPBELLTOWN (Lebanon Co.) — About 500 people were willing to risk getting wet rather than miss the annual Lebanon County Holstein Night at Brandt-View Farm late last week.

While rain showers chased the party indoors for part of the evening, Holstein enthusiasts didn't miss what they came for: food, fellowship, and the chance to look at some fine Holsteins.

Brandt-View is owned and managed by David and Jeannette Brandt, along with sons Karl and

Daniel and their families. Karl and Daniel are the third generation of Brandts on the farm, originally purchased by David's father, Amos, at the age of 38.

The Brandts have developed an exceptionally productive herd, with a current rolling herd average of 31,530 pounds of milk, 1,204 of fat, and 943 of protein for 102 cows. In recent years, the Brandts have also increased their focus on breeding for high type-production-index (TPI) cows.

This program has resulted in a demand for Brandt-View Holsteins in North America and countries around the world, including Argentina, China, Germany, and Poland. Two Brandt-View bulls have recently been accepted in Latvia as well. Altogether, about 25 Brandt-View bulls have been sent to stud services. One star cow in the herd, Da-Net Manfred Miss, has pro-

duced 15 of these through the Brandt's flushing and embryo transfer program.

Miss is classified EX-87 with an excellent udder and has tallied 36,539 pounds of milk, 1,421 of fat, and 1,241 of protein in 365 days.

A highlight for Holstein Night visitors was the chance to participate in judging three classes of Brandt-View cows: 2-, 3-, and 4-year-olds. The contest offered divisions for youth, men, and women interested in testing their judging skills. The official judge was Tom Harkenrider, director of young sire procurement at Genex and speaker for the evening.

Sharon Arnold, Myerstown, and Paul Miller, Harrisburg, placed at the top of the field in the adult judging contests. Youth winners were Elizabeth Smith, Lebanon, ages 14-and-under division, and Jake Spatz, Lebanon, ages 14-18.



It's a tough call judging the 3-year-old cow class at Lebanon County Holstein Night. Deliberating here, from left, are Ammon Peiffer, Mark Balmer, and Dustin Lentz.



Daniel Brandt points out a top cow to Holstein Night visitors.

Weekly Dairy Market Outlook

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there are two classes of milk under the Canadian system where exports are accounted for. One is under the "special class" that includes Canada's WTO commitment. The other is a separate export class that is not pooled with the other classes and is

not managed by the Canadian government.

Producers can contract directly with a processor each month for milk destined for the export market. Normally a producer would only do this if they expected to exceed their quota in a particular month. Producers aren't going to make much under the export class, since it only fetches the world price, around \$8-\$10 per 100 pounds of milk. For Canada, the key issue is that a producer is contracting directly with a commercial processor for exports. So, they would argue, this milk is not subsidized and should not be subject to WTO export limitations.

The Canadian system of quotas, milk classes, and government involvement in pooling of milk revenues is changing rapidly. The government is turning over much of these tasks to the provincial governments. This is in response to the WTO case with the U.S.

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