



# Milk Production Must Keep Up With Burgeoning World Demand

## Dairy Awards Program Features Wilson, Honors Industry Contributors

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Editor

**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin Co.) — For now, forget love.

What the world needs more of in the coming years — desperately — is milk.

In the view of one dairy leader, the global milk supply is losing ground at a time when population is expanding and major producer countries are cutting back, according to Doug Wilson, chief executive officer, Cooperative Resources International, Shawano, Wis.

Wilson spoke to about 125 dairy producer and industry representatives Wednesday evening at the annual Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders Banquet and Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association awards program at the Holiday Inn East in Harrisburg. Included were several award presentations.

Wilson quoted statistics from USDA and other sources that point to the need for the U.S. and other global dairy producers to increase production. In fact, with

the steadily increasing world population, producers must double overall food production by the year 2035.

That's going to prove challenging, according to Wilson. The world produces about 1.04 trillion pounds of milk, with an annual increase of only .1 percent per year during the last five years — all while the population has increased 10 times faster.

"The global milk supply is losing ground," noted Wilson. He said that Western Europe produces 23 percent of all the milk in the world, but production is slated to decline 5 percent in the next five years, with cow numbers headed downward to the tune of 5-10 percent in key countries. Latin milk production, at 10 percent, is declining. Argentina, a major global ag producer, has seen numbers decline 20 percent during the past 12 months. "Twenty-six percent of the people in that country are unemployed and the Mafia is in charge of the government," said Wilson.

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**Berneta Gable, center, was honored with the 2003 Distinguished Woman Award. At right, John Rodgers was honored with the 2003 Charles E. Cowan Memorial Award. Not present is Clyde Myers, Berks extension agent, the 2003 Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association Extension Award winner. At left is David Norman, president of the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association. Photo by Andy Andrews, editor**

# Farm-City Exchangees Experience Life On The Other Side Of Fence



**After spending the day on the other side of the fence, Gary Lentz, Tony Buckholz, Mary Miller, and Cheryl Horst reveal the good and the bad about city versus farm jobs. Photo by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor**

**LOU ANN GOOD**  
Food And Family  
Features Editor

**LEBANON** (Lebanon Co.) — Working on the farm versus an office job has perks and disadvantages, according to four participants in Lebanon County's annual job exchange program.

During the Farm-City Banquet Tuesday evening at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center, the exchangees shared highlights from their experiences. Dairy farmer Gary Lentz spent a day working with Tony Buckholz, chief executive

operator of Goodman's Vending, where he learned to maintain their motto, "Clean, Full, and Working."

Lentz said he realized that the company is in the same boat as farmers — they have to get bigger to adjust to the economy.

At least in one area, Lentz is greatly relieved to be a farmer, "Tony needs to go through six steps when he has an unproductive employee, but it doesn't take me long to get rid of an unproductive cow."

Buckholz said that he was

jazzed up for his day on the farm until the alarm went off at 3:30 a.m. In the barn, he was in for another rude awakening when he faced walking down the middle between two rows of the 70-head herd.

"It was like walking in a water park trying not to get wet," Buckholtz joked.

Buckholtz learned to put on milkers, mix feed, dehorn calves, and breed cows. "That was the biggest plastic glove I've ever seen."

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# Food And Farms Summit Focuses On Hunger, Health

**DAVE LEFEVER**  
Lancaster Farming Staff

**WILMINGTON, Del.** — The U.S. needs to deal with problems in its food system in order to attain a healthier population and a "truly democratic society," according to a keynote speaker at the 4th Annual Future of Our Food and Farms Summit here Dec. 5 and 6.

"We are in a really major crisis in our country," said Dr. Desmond Jolly at the event attended by some 300 people from the Mid-Atlantic area.

Jolly, ag economist and director of the University of California Small Farm Program, said that the U.S. is caught in a "paradox of plenty," where food is avail-

able in abundance, yet upward to 50 million living Americans suffer from hunger or "food insecurity" at some time in their lives.

Meanwhile, many people are suffering from obesity and "the whole array of health problems that go with it."

This dilemma of overconsumption and underconsumption of food, the most basic need of humans, Jolly said, needs to be resolved in order to build a "truly democratic society."

"Visitors from other countries are awed by the abundance and variety of foods in our supermarkets," he said. "Our food system presents this dazzling array of

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**Are the tracks in the snow mysterious crop markings? Snowmobile tracks? Santa's sleigh? Winter made its earliest presence felt by an 8- to 10-inch snowfall, the largest this early in at least four decades, last week throughout the southeast region. The photographer captured this image on the corner of Maple and Peace roads near Leola. Photo by Andy Andrews, editor**