



(Continued from Page A10)

based on a strict analysis of protein content, moisture, butterfat, or other grading mechanism, and seldom complain when the standards are clear and applied fairly. Such arrangements don't dictate how a farmer manages their operation, but reward outcomes.

Rewarding environmental performance should not be any different. It is, in fact, the fairest way to allocate the costs and rewards of activities that protect or improve the quality of our soil, water, and air.

—Karen Anderson
Executive Director Northeast
Organic Farming Association
Of New Jersey
Pennington, N.J.

Editor

I am writing in response to the Saturday, Feb. 8, *Lancaster Farming* lead story on "Red Power." I enjoyed reading about the festivities that are planned for the June event that will celebrate the heritage of International Harvester. I work for Case IH, and am proud to be associated with the legacy of IH.

Accordingly, I was disturbed by two comments in the article. First of all, the story says that "Cub Cadet...eventually assumed Case IH's tractor line." This comment is misleading. In fact, Cub Cadet only assumed the lawn and garden portion of International Harvester's product line. The Case IH product line includes a full line of agricultural tractors and was born out of the consolidation of Case and IH in 1985.

Secondly, the article depicted IH going out of business as "sort of an Enron thing." The Enron debacle involved criminal activity, and it is unfair and inaccurate to make such a comparison.

IH was one of the great companies of all time, and many of its people, products, dealers, and customers have carried on that tradition through the Case IH brand today. I applaud the efforts of organizations such as Red Power, as they are keeping the spirit of IH alive as well.

—Claudia B. Garber
Manager of Communications
and Brand Promotions
Case IH North America

NE, Mid-Atlantic States Targeted For Reduced Crop Insurance Costs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) last week made available up to \$18 million to reduce the cost of crop insurance programs in 15 historically underserved states. RMA will provide financial assistance to producers under the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program, authorized by the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA).

The Targeted States Crop Insurance Financial Assistance Program is available to producers purchasing policies after February 20, 2003, and acreage reporting dates prior to September 30, 2003, in the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

"Crop insurance is a vital part of risk management in American agriculture," said Risk Management Agency Administrator Ross J. Davidson, Jr. "This financial assistance will assist and encourage producers in these underserved states to use crop insurance products to manage their price and production risks."

The funding announcement was made by Secretary Veneman during remarks to the 79th Annual

Agricultural Outlook Forum in Arlington, Va. The Secretary announced a new risk management initiative being undertaken by USDA to examine risk management tools, identify underserved producers and closely examine the regions, commodities and risks and then prioritize the development of new products to fill the gaps identified.

The priorities of this initiative include examining the need to serve the livestock industry, including forage and range coverage; addressing concerns with coverage in regions facing multi-

year droughts; simplifying and improving the effectiveness of various insurance products; and reviewing various RMA authorities to ensure the soundness of the delivery systems and effective oversight of the crop insurance industry.

Interested producers should contact their agent regarding program eligibility and availability. A list of crop insurance agents is available at local Farm Service Agency offices or by using RMA's Agent Locator at: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>.

New Website To Help Dairy Producers

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders have developed a new Website designed to help dairy farmers find valuable business resources.

Dairy Farm Resource Planning Guide at <http://dairydevelopment.psu.edu> is a listing of service providers and educational resources to assist dairy producers, especially those developing a new business or expanding an existing business.

The site lists many of the important, necessary items to consider before embarking on an expansion or developing a new farm. It lists contact information

related to all aspects of planning, including engineering, obtaining permits, building, employee training, neighbor relations, and others.

Partial funding for the Website came from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

According to Vines, the Website will be an ever-evolving project, constantly changing as regulations change and as new resources become available or outdated. She urges representatives of any business or educational entity interested in being listed in the guide to contact her at (814) 865-3097 or at kvines@psu.edu for more information.



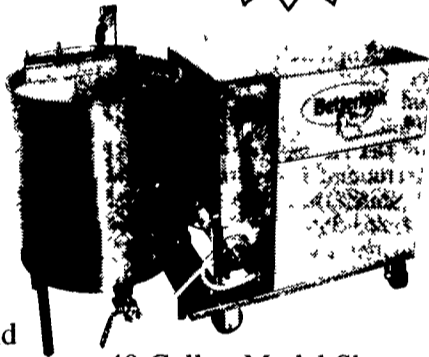
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| 3 It's very warm in bed | 11 You're now wide awake |
| 4 Bessie may or may not be freshening | 12 Trudge back to the house |
| 5 Get outta bed | 13 Reverse your dressing procedure |
| 6 Pull on some duds | 14 Crawl back in bed. |
| 7 Pull on the shoes | 15 Try to go back to sleep |
| 8 Get on a coat | |



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- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
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| 2 Click on the remote | 5 Go back to sleep |
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