## Maryland Brown Swiss Recognizes Breeders And Youth

NEW MIDWAY, Md. — A crowd of about 100 Brown Swiss breeders attended the annual meeting of the Maryland Brown Swiss Association recently conducted in New Midway, Md.

Maryland Brown Swiss posted another successful year throughout the state and also had success on the national level. National **Brown Swiss Executive Secretary** Dave Kendall, from Beloit, Wis. was the evenings guest speaker.

'I've been to a lot larger dairy states than Maryland, and not experienced this kind of attendence," said Kendall. He went on to bring news from the national office on the progress of improved services from the association, especially the classification program which will now be done with hand-held palm-pilot computers in the field. This will give the breeders instant results on the farm for their pedigrees.

Kendall also reported on university research projects being conducted on Brown Swiss discovering the benefits of Brown Swiss, not only as a cow that is rugged and can produce large quanities of component milk, but particularly the uniqueness of Brown Swiss milk and its health attributes.

The data from these herds have shown that Brown Swiss milk is naturally low in triglycerides, and also has naturally occuring levels of CLA, a cancerfighting component.

Among all breeds, Brown Swiss were shown to have the lowest somatic cell counts as well.

These will be long-term projects as we work with the university herds, but we need the data to educate others about the unique, profit-oriented Brown Swiss cow," said Kendall.

Kendall reported that begin-

ning Jan. 1, 2004, federal law will require each breeder to have in place permanent double ear tags with visible ID. The ID will be the Animal Identification Number (AIN). This system was developed to trace the animal back to the country of origin, and breeder in case of any threatening health outbreaks.

The award for top-producing herd went to Edwin C. Fry, Fair Hill Farm, Chestertown, Md. for herds of more than 20 cows with 27, 532 ECM (Energy Corrected Milk). Vales Pride Farm, Emmitsburg, Md. won the award for the category of 19 cows or less with an average of 23, 128 ECM on eight cows.

Individual award winners were named as follows:

Jr. 2-year-old: Erin Burall, New Windsor, Md.

Sr. 2-year-old: Bill & Cindy Warner, Frederick, Md.



Production Award winners at the Maryland Brown Swiss annual meeting are, from left, Bill Warner, Scott Hood, Ed Fry, Erin Burall, Mandy Valentine, and Samantha Valentine. Nicole Hood is in front.

Jr. 3-year-old: Nicole Hood, Middletown, Md.

Sr. 3-year-old: Scott & Judy Hood, Middletown, Md.

4-year-old: Dwayne & Miriam Bell, Keymar, Md.

5-year-old: Dwayne & Miriam Bell, Keymar, Md.

6-year-old & over: Erin Burall, New Windsor, Md.

Lifetime Production: Dwayne & Miriam Bell, Keymar, Md.

Highlighting the awards program were the recipients of the first Maryland Brown Swiss Association's Youth Scholarship Awards. This scholarship program became a reality from funds generated by member donations, Mid-Atlantic Brown Swiss calf sales, and hosting the successful 2000 National Convention.

The scholarships are offered to qualified 4-H and FFA youth from Maryland and surrounding states who have been active in Brown Swiss for at least three years.

The winner of the \$1,000 scholarship went to Emily Yeiser. Arnold, Md. The \$500 winner was Laura Sigler, Middletown,

2002 4-H record book winners are as follows:

Jr. Division: 1. Brianne Hevner, 2. Allison Perdue. 3. Hannah

Intermediate Division: 1. Hannah Smith. 2. Andrew Herbst. 3. Trenton Smith.

Senior Division: 1. Heather Molesworth. 2. Catherine Perdue. 3. Suzanne Perdue.

Tracy Webb was named youth sweepstakes winner. Representing the association's Brown Swiss Royalty was Miss Suzanne Perdue serving as the Swiss Miss. and Emily Yeiser as the Maryland State Dairy Princess.



Scholarships were presented for the first time at the Maryland Brown Swiss Association annual meeting. From left are Laura Sigler, recipient of \$500 scholarship, and Emily Yeiser, \$1,000 scholarship recipient.





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