

Dairy Stakeholders Conference Set

MIDDLETON (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders 2003 Conference will take place Wednesday and Thursday, December 10-11. This year's event will take place at the Holiday Inn in Grantville.

The theme for the conference is "Setting the Pace; Coming Together to Grow Our Industry."

The program is full of exciting and valuable presentations from many different representatives of the dairy industry. Professor David Kohl, Virginia Tech, and Mary Ledman, Keho Ledman Associates, are keynote speakers.

Following a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, the conference will kick off with a segment on "The State of Our Industry." Monsanto's Fowler Branstetter and Chuck Cruickshank of Land O'Lakes will join Kohl in addressing reasons behind the declining dairy industry infrastructure in other parts of the country and why we need to maintain a viable infrastructure in the Northeast.

George Wolff of PennAg In-

dustries Association, Chris Galen from National Milk Producers, and Gary Smith of the Chester County Economic Task Force will outline ways to get involved in the political process to shape and guide laws and regulations governing the industry in the second segment entitled "Advocating Our Cause."

Governor Ed Rendell has been invited to speak at the Wednesday evening banquet about agriculture and the dairy industry as "The Backbone of Pennsylvania." The Pennsylvania Dairy-men's Association awards will also be presented at the banquet.

Day two of the conference begins with the Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders Annual Meeting. Stakeholders President Gary Heckman will present the organization's "2003 Progress, 2004 Plan." Pacesetter Awards will be presented at this meeting, and Dean Robert Steele of Penn State's College of Ag Sciences will speak.

"One Size Does Not Fit All" is

the topic of Thursday morning's discussion. Ledman will be joined by Brad Hilty, of Penn State's Dairy Alliance, and a panel of Pennsylvania producers with varying herd sizes to share best management practices that lead to profitability on all sizes of farms.

Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Dennis Wolff will wrap up the conference, encouraging all members of the dairy industry with "Pennsylvania Wants and Needs You!"

Cost to attend the conference is \$90. Producers registering in groups of three or more and paying with the same check receive a discounted rate of \$75 each. Sleeping rooms are blocked at a special conference rate at the Holiday Inn in Grantville for conference attendees until Nov. 25. Conference registration deadline is Nov. 28. For more information or to register, please contact Michelle Jaymes-Parks at (717) 948-6609 or michelle@padairy-stake.org.

'Breeding For A Top Dairy Herd' Field Day Set

LEOLA (Lancaster Co.) — A genetics and reproduction field day is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mar-R Farms, the Marvin R. Stoltzfus herd, at 392 E. Eby Rd., Leola.

The program has been planned by Penn State Extension in Lancaster County and the Capital Region Dairy Team. All producers are welcome.

Topics will include Choosing

Bulls for Your Dairy Herd, Crossbreeding-The Wave of the Future?, Systematic AI Programs, The Reproductive Tract-Physiology of the Cow, and Type and Profitability.

Speakers include Dr. Stephen Foulke of Agricultural Veterinary Associates; and Jeff Myers, Dr. Chad Dechow, and Beth Grove, all of Penn State.

A free barbeque lunch provided by program sponsors. Please register by Friday, Nov. 14. For more information and

registration, call the Lancaster County Extension Office at (717) 394-6851. There is no charge for this workshop.

Program sponsors include ABS Global, Alta Genetics, Genex, Inc., Select Sire Power, Pfizer Animal Health, and Monsanto Dairy Business.

To find the farm from Lancaster, take Rt. 23 east through Leola to Bareville. Turn right on Hess Road (at Turkey Hill). Travel to stop sign, make left onto E. Eby Rd. First farm on the right is Mar-R Farms.

Junior Holstein Contest Forms Available

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association contest entry forms are now available. Many different contests are available for junior members this year. The contests include:

- Junior Progressive Breeder Awards
- Breeder of Excellent Award
- 30,000 Pound Production Award
- Total Performance Award
- Achievement Scholarship Award
- 150,000 Pound Lifetime Production Award
- 200,000 Pound Lifetime Production Award
- Public Speaking Contest
- "PAL" Adult Leader Award
- Folding Display Contest
- Milk, Fat and Protein Production Contest
- Junior All-Pennsylvanian Contest
- Dairy Bowl Contest
- Banner Contest
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest

For interested juniors who have not received entry forms by mail, forms for most of the contests can be found and printed off the Pennsylvania Holstein Association website at [HYPERLINK http://www.paholsteins.com](http://www.paholsteins.com) www.paholsteins.com.

Most contest deadlines are Jan. 1, 2004. The Junior All-Pennsylvania Contest deadline was Nov. 1, and the Milk, Fat and Protein Contest deadline is Dec. 1.

For contest entry forms or additional information on Pennsylvania Junior Holstein activities please contact Pennsylvania Holstein Association, 839 Benner Pike, State College PA 16801; phone (814) 234-0364; fax (814) 234-1698; or e-mail contact@paholsteins.com.

Fluid Milk Tops \$18/CWT

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB) announced the prices to be paid to Pennsylvania dairy farmers for October Class I milk (beverage) as an average of \$18.32 per hundredweight (CWT) in the western areas of the Commonwealth; and an average of \$18.81 per CWT in the central and eastern areas of the Commonwealth. These prices include the over-order premium of \$1.65 per CWT.

Farmers, whose milk production is pooled under a federal order, will receive a market-wide blend price based upon the value of all classes of milk. However, the blend price received will vary as the component composition of a farmer's milk differs from the established benchmarks of 3.5 percent butterfat, 2.99 percent protein, and 5.69 percent other solids.

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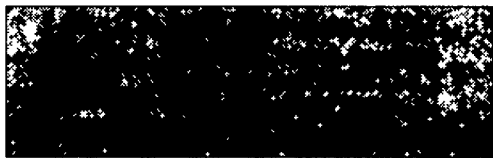
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