

MDIA To Feature Speaker On 'Keeping It Simple'

WESTMINSTER, Md. — One of New York State's leading dairy producers will unveil his "Secret of Profitable Dairy Farming in the East" at the Maryland Dairy Industry Association's (MDIA) 2003 Annual Meeting, scheduled Tuesday, Dec. 16.

George Mueller, Clifton, N.Y., has a theory that should be of interest to all Maryland dairy producers, according to MDIA president Robert Ramsburg.

Mueller's time-tested theory of "keep it simple," has proven successful on his 2,200-acre dairy farm near Rochester, N.Y., where two generations milk 1,200 cows, raise 1,000 replacement heifers, and lay plans for a nearby additional 1,000-cow satellite operation. Mueller says his plan will help eastern dairy producers compete with large California dairies, while keeping their production costs at manageable low levels.

Mueller and other dairy industry experts will speak at the MDIA 2003 Annual Meeting at the Carroll County Agriculture Center, adjacent to the County Farm Museum, Westminster.

Resource panels include officials from Rutgers University, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Taylorsville Veterinary Clinic, and McLanahan

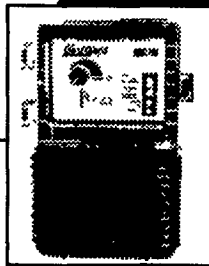
Corporation, as well as successful dairy producers from Misty Meadow, Harmony, and Mercer Vu Farms. Specialists will outline new dairy programs, including control of Johne's disease, improvement of milk quality, and latest government initiatives on nutrient management. There will be an update on special provisions developed for dairy producers in the FY2004 crop insurance program. Attendees can choose from among three morning sessions, each moderated by a dairy specialist from Maryland Cooperative Extension.

An afternoon general session will review what was learned from Maryland's recently completed pilot program on dairy quality management. The session will also feature the state's newly appointed coordinator on Johne's Disease control, along with dairy producers and extension specialists participating in the programs.

A minimal registration fee will include a buffet country-style lunch, breaks, and complete proceedings. Members are encouraged to bring family or farmstead workers to the industry program. Non-members are welcome. For the first time, exhibitors will be sponsoring dairy producer customers to join

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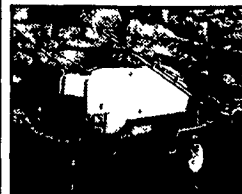
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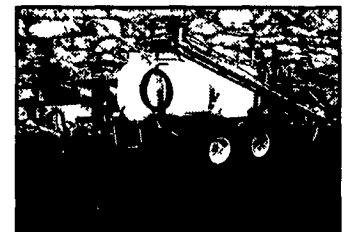
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