

Happy Easter

FARMSHINE

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March 29, 2024

Creating wonders is God's full-time activity

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

This is not an April Fool's Day presentation. It is, instead, a commentary about the most successful and longest-running hoax of all time. And quite seriously ... *no fooling!* ... this most destructive of any hoax ever perpetrated is completely void of intelligence.

This hoax is believed by people around the world, taught in schools and universities and even protected by law. It is promoted across cultures by science, and yet it is all a lie. The biggest lie of all time.

There is no way the universe was created by accident. No way that life came into existence through random events. No way that anything in the entire universe evolved all by itself. Nothing ever comes from nothing.

For those who may doubt that an intelligent Creator is required for anything to be created, I offer some simple challenges.

1. Build me a sand castle on the beach, without first envisioning it.
2. Bake me an apple pie without following a recipe.
3. Carve for me a whistle from a willow branch, without giving thought first to what steps to take.
4. Make me a paper airplane without thinking.
5. Let's try playing checkers with our brains turned off.

If we reasonably intelligent human beings can't perform fairly simple tasks without using our brains first, what would make anyone believe that the complexities of the universe and miracles of life required no thought. No intelligence. No creator.

We take the solar system for granted, not realizing or recognizing the precision involved in the placement of the sun, moon and planets. It should be obvious that an awesome level of engineering had to be involved which we can't possibly ever comprehend.

But for God, it was likely a fairly simple achievement. Just like building a barn might be simple for us, but impossible for an elephant, horse, dog or ant.



Every tree, shrub and flower has its very own and distinct structure. We celebrate the beauty and simultaneously worship the Creator. And of all His never-ending miracles, sending us proof of life after death by way of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is the most wonderful and precious of all.

Everything God has created is an object of wonder. The moon, for example, stays in its given orbit just like the planets. But it does not turn on its axis, as do the planets. It faces us at all times and actually has a face. Coincidence? Or God showing us that He has a sense of humor?

As for the plants and animals that share this beautiful planet with us, they amaze us ever more, perhaps because they share our space and are within vision's reach.

I wonder how the spider acquired his geometric knowledge to produce magnificent webs. Who gave him the tools and talent to weave?

I wonder how birds, bees, butterflies, fish and whales navigate to very specific locations. For sure, they have their own GPS of some kind, and for sure too, they're not the ones that invented it and/or made it. If this natural ability wasn't installed by "evolution," then who? God, of course.

Similarly, bats come equipped with radar and dolphins have sonar. To suggest that they are evolutionary developments is nonsense. Junk science in its most absurd form, yet this is what's taught and consequently believed by many. Do these people not see; not wonder; not recognize the miracles and obvious clues that there has to be a Creator? Every tree, shrub and flower has its very own

and distinct leaf. Should this not be a clue? Could all that variety be possible without there being specific patterns assigned to specific plants?

I wonder how flowers acquired their beautiful colors, and trees their ability to draw water hundreds of feet into the air. Who is the artist? Who is the engineer?

I wonder who was the chemist who gave the skunk his stinky but extremely effective defensive system.

Who put the thorns on the rose; the fragrance into flowers and magnificent colors on the peacock? None are products of evolution or adaptation. They are all by God's design.

Who gave birds the songs we enjoy so much? Who gave puppies and dogs their pure love and unconditional loyalty? No theories by any scientist can adequately answer these questions without including God, the Creator, in the conclusion.

I wonder too, how our own bodies are equipped with at least five senses. How did the chemistry get put in place for countless functions, including digestion, hormones and disease resistance? And perhaps most wondrous of all: How does everything needed for a new life get packed into tiny organisms that join to start the miracle of life all over again?

No theories of evolution can even begin to explain the miracles. Such conclusions may not have been intended as hoaxes, but that is exactly what they are. Sadly, science does not apologize for wrong theories.

Compared to the vast wonders that surround our existence, these few sentences of mine don't even amount to the tiniest speck of dust. And these words won't change the prevailing thoughts and theories offered by people who consider themselves intelligent and educated, and yet defend the totally impossible -- that the universe and all of life in it came to be without a Creator.

God is like gravity, the wind, x-rays and radio waves. We can't see them, but we surely see their effects. God is real. His work is real. No foolin'.

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 -B.C.C., Ohio

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LETTER

Direction challenges evident; lessons noted

Editor:

The world could learn a lesson from dairy farmers of the United States of America. I woke up this morning (3/26/24) and saw the video of a container ship slowly moving toward the Francis Scott Key bridge, ramming it and collapsing the 1.6 mile bridge span.

Francis Scott Key wrote the *Star Spangled Banner*, our National Anthem.

Consider the symbolism of this event regarding our current direction as a country. The dismantling of our fossil fuel energy production system being replaced by the climate change agenda has been slow and ponderous. We have all seen the subsidized windmills and solar panels being installed throughout the USA.

In the dairy industry we have seen government subsidies galore generating methane digesters that supposedly turn manure into money. Very few seem to be thinking long term about the sustainability of these systems.

We are intentionally dismantling our foundation of Free Enterprise as we have moved to a more collectivist economy over the last 70 years following the lead of a few now dead and ironically, white, male German socialists who have slowly and ponderously undermined our Constitution replacing it with an oppressor/oppressed tribal society.

For example, look on YouTube and listen to lectures by Herbert Marcuse (part of the Frankfurt school in Germany who also held teaching posts at several major universities in the USA throughout the 50s and 60s) if you want to understand where and how it started.

Government subsidies rule the day with the goal of building the so-called "green" infrastructure. The long-term effect of this transition will result in more poverty, government debt and inflation as energy is required for everything including heat, light, food, transportation, research and everything else needed to support our economy.

Our current government, using fear tactics under the guise of climate change, wants the hoi polloi to accept the higher cost of living and sacrifice our freedoms on the altar of the Science deity.

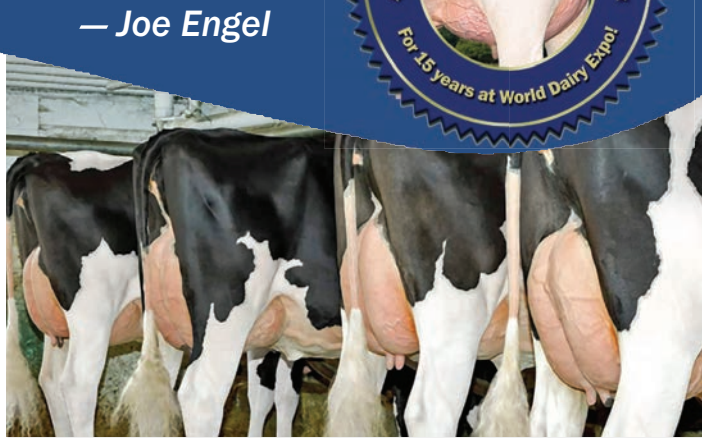
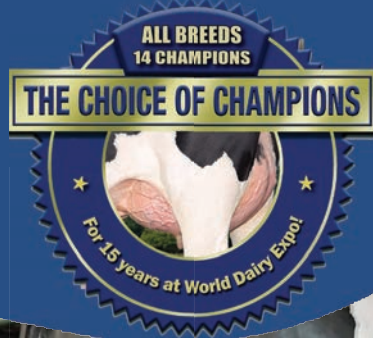
So, what can be learned from dairy farmers, stewards of those cow criminals who belch out methane?

Consider that in 1945 the U.S. Dairy census showed there were 27.8 million milk cows in the United States (Dairy Cattle: Principles,

turn to page 4

"It maximizes genetic potential."

— Joe Engel



(Above) Luck-E Merjack Asalia EX-95 2E sold in Best of Luck-E '23 to Tessa and Stella Schmocker. She was 4th WDE, 1ST WI State Show, Grand WI State Fair.

LUCK-E HOLSTEINS, Engel family, Hampshire, Illinois Milking 184 Holsteins, Dams average EX92, Bred over 600 EX, including 48 EX94, 4 EX95, 1 EX96 RHA 24,261M 1088F 813P, SCC 124,000

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Dieter Krieg, Editor & Publisher
 Melissa Johnson, Advertising Representative
 Ashley Denlinger, Advertising Representative
 Sue McCloskey, Secretary
 Douglas Denlinger, Production Manager

Send subscriptions, news & advertising to:
 FARMSHINE
 342 E. Main St., Suite 201, Leola, Pa. 17540
 Phone 717-656-8050 | Fax 717-656-8188
 news@farmshine.net | ads@farmshine.net

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'Bird flu' deemed culprit in dairy cow 'mystery illness'

Texas detections point to migratory birds as source; cows exhibit low appetite, low production



The symptoms of what officials are saying is bird flu in dairy cows include a sharp drop in milk production, reduced appetite, reduced rumination, and thicker milk resembling colostrum. As the investigation continues in the Texas Panhan-

dle region, including Kansas and New Mexico, dairy producers are implementing advanced biosecurity protocols. The Texas Ag Commissioner Sid Miller cited "ongoing economic impacts to facilities as herds that are greatly impacted may

lose up to 40% of their milk production for 7 to 10 days until symptoms subside... There is no threat to the public."

File photo by Sherry Bunting

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Federal and state officials confirmed this week that highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), otherwise known as bird flu, has been detected as the culprit in the mystery illness "among primarily older (mid-lactation) dairy cows in Texas, Kansas, and New Mexico that is causing decreased lactation, low appetite, and other symptoms."

USDA officials believe "wild migratory birds to be the source of infection as viral testing and epidemiological efforts continue."

In an email exchange with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) on Wed., March 27, Farmshine asked if cow-to-cow transmission has been ruled out at this juncture.

The APHIS press office could not answer directly, but on background, gave this response that mirrored a portion of the March

25 APHIS press release:

"The testing from Texas shows consistency with the strain seen in wild birds. As the release shared, based on the findings, the detections in Texas appear to have been introduced by wild birds. Federal and state agencies are moving quickly to conduct additional testing for HPAI, as well as viral genome sequencing, so that we can better understand the situation, including characterization of the HPAI strain or strains associated with these detections."

The answer appears to be that cow-to-cow transmission is not suspected as birds are the vector in what APHIS describes as a "rapidly evolving situation" and one in which they are continuing their investigation -- working closely with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as state veterinary and public health officials.

Furthermore, if migratory wild birds are the source, then this could be a seasonal anomaly that may shift or dissipate soon.

Word spread quickly on Monday, March 25 as public announcements from federal and state agencies and industry organizations were released in rapid, near simultaneous succession within minutes of the USDA APHIS press release announcing that, "Unpasteurized, clinical samples of milk from sick cattle collected from two dairy farms in Kansas and one in Texas, as well as an oropharyngeal swab from another dairy in Texas have all tested positive for HPAI. Additional testing was initiated on Friday, March 22, and over the weekend, because farms have also reported finding deceased wild birds on their properties."

Preliminary testing by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories further confirmed that, "No changes to the virus have been found that would make it more transmissible to humans, which would indicate that the current risk to the public remains low."

Announcements from all corners of health and industry conveyed this main message: "At this stage, there is no concern about the

safety of the commercial milk supply or that this circumstance poses a risk to consumer health. The commercial milk supply remains safe due to both federal animal health requirements and pasteurization."

Officials noted that the impact of the illness is averaging at 10% in the few identified herds, causing "little to no mortality in affected dairy cattle" and causing "declines in milk production" that are described as "too limited to impact the supply of milk in the U.S."

Bird flu (avian influenza) is a disease caused by a family of flu viruses primarily transmitted among birds.

According to USDA, there are two classifications, and the 'high' or 'low' pathogenic acronyms are based on the genetic sequence and the severity of disease caused in poultry: HPAI (high pathogenic, meaning it causes severe disease in poultry), which is found mostly in domestic poultry and LPAI (low pathogenic, meaning it causes no signs or

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He is not here; He has risen, just as He said!

Reader's letter _____ from page 4

Practices, Problems, Profits by Foley, Bath, Dickinson and Tucker (Lea and Febiger 1972).

Today we have just over 9 million milk cows. That is a reduction in cow numbers to one third of what it was in 1945 while at the same time producing 104 billion pounds more milk in 2023 (1945 production was 122 billion pounds and in 2023 production was 226 billion pounds).

In addition, Jude Capper published a paper in the *Journal of Animal Science* (The Environmental Impact of Dairy Production: 1944 compared with 2007: June 2009; Vol 87 (6): p. 2160) demonstrating the success of the dairy industry in reducing its carbon hoofprint to 37% of what it was in 1944.

First of all, sadly, very few people outside of the dairy community know these facts. Secondly, consider how this happened. Hard working dairy farmers, combined with allied industry innovations in genetics, milking equipment and new technologies reduced the carbon hoof print by two thirds using fossil fuels as its driving energy source over roughly 65 years. This is the result of Free Enterprise, freedom, innovation and technology.

Fossil fuel energy is analogous to dietary energy in the foods we eat. Carbohydrates, known as "carbs" are like ethanol in terms of energy content. Carbs and protein contain 4 calories per gram and fat has 9 calories per gram. Fat is equivalent to fossil fuels being 2.25 times more concentrated in energy than carbs. This is why when you put ethanol in gasoline you get fewer miles per gallon in your automobile. So moving from an energy foundation of fossil fuels to green energy will necessarily raise the price of energy significantly affecting everyone and putting more people into poverty.

In the long term, wind turbines and solar panels will need to be disposed of and replaced in an environmentally friendly manner. What appears to be free energy when the wind blows and the sun shines and the cows make manure has hidden costs that must be factored in as well.

It makes sense to utilize alternative energy as supplemental sources of energy letting the Free Market determine its use but to enforce it through government mandate is a bad decision.

Turning farmers' fields into solar energy generation for 30 years, effectively removing farmland that produces food for the world, is short-term thinking with long-term unknown and unintended consequences. Energy from fossil fuels can be stored and transported in tanks and pipelines and is readily available during the heat of summer or cold of winter with our present infrastructure.

Consider dairy farming in India in contrast to the U.S. According to Statista, there are 61 million dairy cows in India. There are 80 million dairy farmers producing 231 million tons of milk (AP News- Sibi Arasu, March 23, 2024) as of last year. The total cattle and buffalo population is 303 million. Milk comes from cows and buffalo but if the majority of milk comes from the dairy cow number of 61 million cows (231 tons/61 cows) that would result in an average daily per cow production of about 10 liters compared to about 30 liters in the USA.

Here is an incredible opportunity to use technology to reduce the carbon footprint in India. Accomplishing this in India will be much harder given the religious practices of Hinduism which views cows as sacred and in many places they live out their lives cared for until they die of natural causes.

However, the dairy industry there will grow over time following the pattern and technology of the U.S. dairy system because it works and people want to improve their standard of living. Following the U.S. model will feed their people more efficiently, while significantly reducing their carbon footprint.

Farmers are the foundation of the food producing system of our country (USA) and less than 2% of our population is feeding 98%. In addition, much of the world imports our agricultural products to feed their people. This is a very efficient yet fragile system and no government wants their citizens to go hungry as that doesn't end well for any country.

We have seen the result of climate change policies on European farming communities with tractors filling the highways and streets where politicians meet. I hope we don't see that in the USA.

Dr. David Pullen, dairy consultant
 Duncansville, Pa.

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 Ringgold Farms, MD
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Bird flu from page 3

few signs of disease in poultry), which is often seen in wild birds.

While APHIS publishes a list of HPAI detections in wild (and captive wild) mammals, and their locations, this is the first known detection in cattle anywhere and only the second detection among any mammal in Texas, the first being a skunk. This marks the second detection in a ruminant animal in the U.S., the first being detected a week earlier in a single goat on a Minnesota farm. The wild mammal detections since 2022 in the U.S. include skunks, racoon, red and gray fox, coyote, several types of bears, mountain lions, bobcats, fishers, opossums, martens, and harbor seals – all have in common their known contact with waterfowl and/or domestic poultry and/or their eggs.

“Mammals, including cows, do not spread avian influenza – it requires birds as the vector of transmission, and it’s extremely rare for the virus to affect humans because most people will never have direct and prolonged contact with an infected bird, especially on a dairy farm,” a joint dairy industry statement by National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA), Dairy Management Inc (DMI), and U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) reported on March 25.

According to the APHIS webpage devoted to avian influenza, “Wild birds can be infected with HPAI and still show no signs of illness. They can carry the disease to new areas when migrating, potentially exposing domestic poultry to the virus.”

This is why APHIS conducts a wild bird surveillance program to provide an early warning system for the introduction and distribution of avian influenza viruses of concern in the U.S., allowing APHIS and the poultry industry to take timely and rapid action to reduce the risk of spread to the poultry industry and other populations of concern.

For the U.S. poultry industry, this has meant

rolling incidences of flock depopulation and geographic quarantines whenever HPAI is discovered in a domestic flock to prevent the spread among birds because of the high mortality rate seen in domestic birds and the fact that birds transmit it to other birds within a production setting. According to USDA, approximately 58 million birds were killed in such depopulations in the U.S. last year.

The current detection in cattle is different because there is no confirmation of cow-to-cow transmission and there is little to no mortality in affected cattle.

“Unlike affected poultry, I foresee there will be no need to depopulate dairy herds. Cattle are expected to fully recover,” said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller in a press statement March 25, noting that the Texas dairy industry contributes roughly \$50 billion in state economic activity, ranking 4th in milk production nationwide.

Assuring consumers of rigorous safety measures already in place and soothing concerns about potential milk supply shortages, Commissioner Miller highlighted pasteurization and milk diversion protocols and the “limited number of affected herds.”

The required dumping of abnormal-appearing milk or milk from affected cows, as well as pasteurization as a fail-safe ‘kill’ for bacterial and viral agents were stressed in the variety of press releases as normal public health safeguards already in place.

“There is no threat to the public and there will be no supply shortages,” assured Commissioner Miller. “No contaminated milk is known to have entered the food chain; it has all been dumped. In the rare event that some affected milk enters the food chain, the pasteurization process will kill the virus.”

He also noted that, “Cattle impacted by HPAI exhibit flu-like symptoms including fever and thick and discolored milk accompanied by a sharp reduction in milk production averaging between 10-30 pounds per cow throughout the herd.”

He cited “ongoing economic impacts to fa-

cilities as herds that are greatly impacted may lose up to 40% of their milk production for 7 to 10 days until symptoms subside. It is vital that dairy facilities nationwide practice heightened biosecurity measures to mitigate further spread.”

Commissioner Miller advised dairies in the region “to use all standard biosecurity measures, including restricting access to essential personnel only, disinfecting all vehicles entering and leaving premises, isolating affected cattle, and destroying all contaminated milk. Additionally, it is important to clean and disinfect all livestock watering devices and isolate drinking water where it might be contaminated by waterfowl.”

There have been no reports of affected beef cattle, only older and primarily mid-lactation dairy cows. This is interesting, considering the fact that the number of cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of over 1000 head – mostly in open lots similar to drylot dairies that are prevalent in the three-state Panhandle region – far outweigh milk cow numbers by 5 to 1 and would be located in the same ‘migratory wild bird’ flyway.

Dairy industry statements point to the National Dairy Producer FARM Program (NDPFP) as the go-to for specific biosecurity, reporting, and recordkeeping measures that are urged on all U.S. dairy farms, including much emphasis being given to the safeguard of milk pasteurization.

“Dairy farmers have begun implementing enhanced biosecurity protocols on their farms, limiting the amount of traffic into and out of their properties and restricting visits to employees and essential personnel,” the

NMPF-IDFA-DMI-USDEC joint statement noted.

They cite biosecurity resources available at https://nationaldairyfarm.com/resource-library/farm-program/?_program=biosecurity, including reference manuals, prep guides, herd health plan protocol templates, animal movement logs, and people entry logs that dairies can use “to keep their cattle and dairy businesses safe.”

USDA APHIS encourages farmers and veterinarians, nationwide, to report cattle illnesses quickly so they can “monitor potential additional cases and minimize the impact to farmers, consumers and other animals.”

Industry announcements urge dairy farmers to immediately contact their veterinarians if they observe clinical signs in their herds that are consistent with this outbreak, such as a significant loss of animal appetite and rumination or an acute drop in milk production.

In turn, veterinarians who observe these clinical signs and have ruled out other diagnoses on a client’s farm should contact the state veterinarian and plan to submit a complete set of samples to be tested at a diagnostic laboratory.

Animals may also be reported to APHIS’ toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

In Pennsylvania, where HPAI depopulations and quarantines have occurred over the past two years in the poultry industry, there have been no reported cattle affected. The state is monitoring the situation and the Center for Dairy Excellence is conducting a conference call by zoom and telephone Wed., April 3 for dairy producers and dairy industry service providers. Please see page 6 for that information.



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Auction Guide

APRIL 1, 1 p.m. Billy Howard Horse Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

APRIL 2, 9:30 a.m. Zuck Registered Holsteins Complete Dispersal, Lebanon, Pa. Sale managed by Daniel Brandt.

APRIL 3, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

APRIL 3, 12 p.m. Stakenas Farms Online Dispersal, Free Soil, Mich. Managed by Kreeger and Assoc.

APRIL 4, 7 p.m. Special Dairy Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

APRIL 5, 9 a.m. Stoltzfus Farm Auction, Honey Brook, Pa. Sale managed by Tim Weaver Auction Service.

APRIL 5, 6 p.m. Spring Feeder Cattle Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

APRIL 6, 11 a.m. Ovaltop Holsteins Herd Reduction Sale, Richfield Springs, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

APRIL 8, 9 a.m. Annual Spring Auction, Archbold, Ohio. Sale managed by Yoder & Frey, Inc.

APRIL 8-15, 10 a.m. Online Only Equipment Auction, Brookville, Pa. Sale managed by KIKO Auctioneers.

APRIL 10, 12 p.m. W.K. Kellogg Dairy Farm Complete Online Herd

Dispersal, Hickory Corners, Mich. Managed by Kreeger and Assoc.

APRIL 12, 9 a.m. Hall Family Dynasty Trust Equipment & Real Estate Auction, Hughesville, Pa. Managed by Fraley Auction Co.

APRIL 12, 11 a.m. GTPI-Type Sale, Lancaster, Pa. Sale co-managed by Daniel Brandt Pedigrees & Marketing and Landis Marketing.

APRIL 12, 7:30 p.m. Public Auction, Fraley Dairy Complex, Muncy, Pa. Sale managed by Fraley Auction Company.

APRIL 13, 9 a.m. Spring Consignment Auction, Penns Valley Livestock, Centre Hall, Pa. Sale managed by Penns Valley Livestock.

Datebook

APRIL 5, Lebanon County Holstein tour, drop-in style, to the farms of Eric and Audrey High, Clifford Oberholtzer, Glen Martin and Diamond Valley Dairy.

APRIL 13, 9:30 a.m. Maryland Holstein Spring Show, Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship.

APRIL 25, 9 a.m. Pennsylvania Holstein Spring Show, Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall, Pa.

APRIL 26-27, Pennsylvania Ayrshire Convention, Shippensburg, Pa.

MAY 4, 1:30 p.m. Berks County Dairy Princess Pageant at the Mohrsville Church of the Brethren, 1542 Shoey Road, Mohrsville.

'Bird flu' in cows situation is subject of CDE call, April 3

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Center for Dairy Excellence will host a dairy industry conference call on Wednesday, April 3 at noon to provide updates on the situation regarding confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in four dairy herds in Texas and Kansas, and what it means for Pennsylvania dairy farmers and service professionals.

While there are no cases reported in Pennsylvania at this time, the state continues to monitor the situation to prepare for any cases that might emerge in Pennsylvania.

During the conference call, Dr. Alex Hamberg, the Pennsylvania State Veterinarian will share the state's perspective on what this disease is, how it spreads, and what the state is doing to address it and Dr. Hayley Springer of Penn State Extension will offer updates on biosecurity efforts and what farms can do now to be safe.

To join the call Wed., April 3 at noon EDT, dial +1 646 931 3860, meeting ID 880 8063 9319, passcode 588077.

Or join the meeting via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88080639319?pwd=bURDUU9zSG1SQ2RMIVZrcmhtbTVuUT09>

To ensure as many questions can be addressed as possible, questions may be submitted in advance of the call. Text 717-585-0766 to submit questions or email ctrdairyexcellence@gmail.com.

Heat stress, long term, to be addressed, April 8

FORT ATKINSON, Wis. — The long-term consequences of heat stress in dairy cattle will be discussed during the Hoard's Dairyman webinar on April 8th. Geoffrey Dahl from the University of Florida will be the presenter.

Heat stress takes a toll on lactating cattle and has even more profound effects during late gestation. Evidence shows that the developing fetus is negatively influenced as well. This presentation will cover the heat stress impacts that last long after the initial thermal insult.

To register for the webinars, visit www.hoards.com/webinars. There is no cost to register or to view the webinars.

Penn State ice cream vies to be among 'coolest' of all

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How? By casting their votes in the "2024 Coolest Thing Made in PA" contest, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry. Recently, the chamber revealed its lineup of 64 Pennsylvania-made products, all set to duke it out in public voting for the title of this year's contest champion.

According to the Chamber, the nominees span a wide range of industries across every region of the Commonwealth. The bracket unveiling offered an opportunity to discuss the importance of these brands to consumers in Pennsylvania and beyond and the excitement surrounding the annual "Coolest Thing Made in PA" contest that will be held on the Pennsylvania Chamber's X and Instagram pages over the next several weeks. For more information, visit <https://creamery.psu.edu>.

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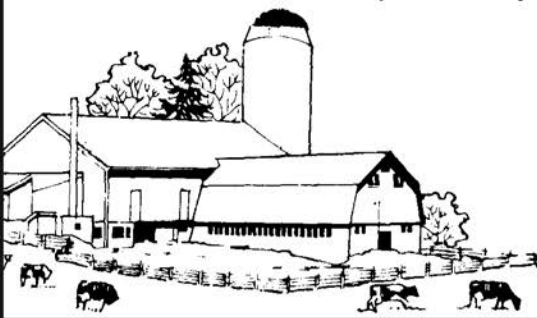
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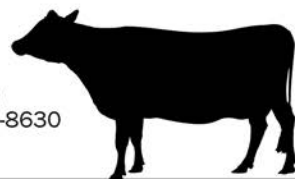
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Grants available to pair dairy farms with professional consultants

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Center for Dairy Excellence has a few grants remaining for the Dairy Decisions Consultant (DDC) Grant Program for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Grants are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Through the grant program, dairy farm families can work with a professional consultant with firsthand experience in the dairy industry to help make decisions in one of seven strategic areas. Leveraging funds provided through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, the DDC grants pair dairy farm families with professional dairy consultants who offer one-on-one support to make strategic business decisions.

"Many Pennsylvania dairy producers who have utilized these grants really value having an outside set of eyes and a fresh perspective when making significant business decisions. I encourage you to take advantage of one of the few DDC grants we have remaining, and work with an experienced consultant who can collaborate with you and share their expertise in certain areas," said Melissa Anderson, programs and operations manager at the Center for Dairy Excellence.

The Center for Dairy Excellence has a list of approximately 22 Dairy Decisions Consultants with extensive expertise in different business sectors. Farms can receive up to \$4000 to work with a consultant who can help enhance business performance, reach financial benchmarks, and explore new opportunities.

Consultants can work with farms in one of seven strategic areas:

• **Employee Management & Communication** – Employee management is more than just ensuring that your employees are doing their job. It consists of procedures and strategies that can help you measure, monitor, and interact with the workforce that plays a huge role in your business.

"We employ 26 employees. We decided to use the grant to employ a consultant to help plan for the future and create a management strategy for our business. We liked using the consultant because he was able to give his insight on what he has already seen and experienced from working with other dairy producers. A lot of time, the consultants may be able to help further your goals with less roadblocks."

— Milton Rotz, Cedar Pine Farm, Franklin and Adams County, Pa

• **Business Planning & Structure** – Business planning is a necessity to help manage volatility and create a roadmap for decision-making in all aspects of the business.

"We have two separate operations, one milking 300 and one milking 800. We wanted to work with a consultant to understand areas for improvement as both operations were purchased in the last three years. Having the resources from the consultant to be in a benchmarking program allows us to compare several key data points and look for ways to improve. It is easy to see most of the problems that come up on a daily basis. It is much harder to take the time and go through all the books to decide what is cost-effective, efficient, and productive. It's good to work with an experienced consultant for the knowledge and experience they have working with many farms."

— Cory Mellott, Molly Pitcher Milk LLC, Cumberland County, Pa.

• **Product Marketing & Labeling** – Effective marketing and labeling of your branded dairy products can create a more positive impact on your customers and their purchasing decisions.

"For my husband and father-in-law, [the DDC program] helped them see that change is a possibility for the future. They were feeling stuck and like they didn't have options because the market was so bad. To hear our consultant's perspective and his projections, they learned what to elimi-

nate that's losing money and how they can come out on top. The DDC program allowed us to have the support to seek some other funding and try to add a value-added portion to our farm. This program gave us the courage to say 'yes, we can keep going.'"

— Jill Henry, Henry Farms of Knox LLC, Clarion County, Pa.

• **Direct Marketing** – Directly marketing products made from your milk to consumers can help a farm capture more revenue, but the processing and branded business can be complex.

"We're focusing on regional growth first and then national growth. With our consultants' help, we've figured out how to go into this retail industry that's really hard to puncture. We're working with distributors and brokers and

learning how to deal with small and big wholesale accounts. It's a whole other language, and without the consultants, we definitely wouldn't know what we're doing. Things are going really well right now. We're optimistic and being strategic with the help of our consultants."

— Stephanie Painter, The Painterland Sisters, Tioga County, Pa.

• **Animal Welfare** – Veterinarian consultants will help farms establish animal welfare protocols related to the FARM Program as well as help train employees in FARM compliance.

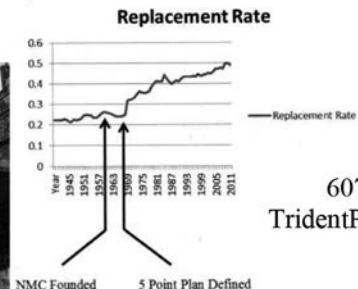
"Dairy farmers are continually evaluating best practices, how we can improve, what changes we can make, and going above and beyond to keep our cows safe and comfortable."

turn to page 10

Keep on dreaming!

Keep dreaming??? Making mastitis management easy??? How possibly after more than 60 years is the NMC having a meeting this summer with this agenda? After 60 years of little real progress other than the slaughter of cows after a couple lactations. Since the NMC founding the US replacement (slaughter) rates have doubled. Does anyone think that in any meeting today at Boeving they are talking about dreaming? The NMC and your dealer have sold you a dream for decades and your cows and wallet have paid the price. How much longer will you continue to dream? **Call us when you are ready for the dream to become reality.**

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Chenango County

HOLCOMBS GUERNSEY FARM	38 XX	15298	733	509
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
ROBIN & JASON CANNISTRA	XX	141		34

Herkimer County

SAMUEL S. KING	72 HO	27007	1024	846
JONATHON SHIRK	42 HO	23624	1009	736
IRVIN LEID	49 HO	21200	868	636
JOHN E. STOLTZFUS	44 HO	18398	769	551
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
JONATHON SHIRK	HO	142		42
SAMUEL S. KING	HO	179		72

Montgomery County

GIDEON S. KING	80 HO	25209	1039	790
KELLET, JR., JOHN G.	83 HO	22114	852	727
PETERSHEIM, IVAN & ESTHER	71 HO	22522	901	711
DANIEL B. STOLTZFUS	59 HO	20004	895	647
SAMUEL L. STOLTZFUS	58 XX	20167	875	643
ABRAM MILLER	46 HO	21188	809	638
DREAMROAD JERSEYS LLC.	64 JE	17064	814	622
DELLAVALLE FARM	20 HO	19469	790	621

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
DELLAVALLE FARM	HO	115		20
PETERSHEIM, IVAN & ESTHER	HO	163		71
DREAMROAD JERSEYS LLC.	JE	195		64

Ontario County

LAKE COUNTRY HOLSTEINS	77 HO	32035	1215	1013
NEVIN SENSENIG	62 HO	29288	1205	946
LEON NEWSWANGER	56 HO	29911	1090	922
HARVEY SENSENIG	61 HO	28325	1133	921
RUEBEN WEAVER	50 HO	27719	1225	919
NELSON SENSENIG	54 HO	28323	1140	911
DAVID BURKHOLDER	47 HO	27917	1183	898
VERNON OBERHOLTZER	91 HO	24865	1110	833
LEWIS R. SAUDER	54 HO	26034	1082	832
ARTHUR ZIMMERMAN	169 HO	24228	927	750
CLEARVIEW FARM	61 HO	24626	987	742

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
NEVIN SENSENIG	HO	69		62
VERNON OBERHOLTZER	HO	80		91
HARVEY SENSENIG	HO	87		61
DAVID BURKHOLDER	HO	102		47
LAKE COUNTRY HOLSTEINS	HO	128		77
CLEARVIEW FARM	HO	144		61
RUEBEN WEAVER	HO	164		50
LEWIS R. SAUDER	HO	169		54
NORMAN BURKHOLDER	HO	174		65
LEON NEWSWANGER	HO	175		56
NELSON SENSENIG	HO	179		54
ARTHUR ZIMMERMAN	HO	188		169

Otsego County

EVAN M. CHARLES	63 HO	26771	1041	870
MARVIN FISHER	56 HO	24529	870	747
MATHEW FISHER	61 HO	22034	987	685
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
EVAN M. CHARLES	HO	173		63

Rensselaer County

ERIC ZIEHM	57 XX	18117	748	544
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Schoharie County

ERIC & TAYLOR BOGARDUS	26 HO	25486	870	803
SLATEHILL FARM	116 HO	22940	942	746
ERIC & TAYLOR BOGARDUS	31 AY	17885	680	565
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
ERIC & TAYLOR BOGARDUS	AY	142		31
ERIC & TAYLOR BOGARDUS	HO	185		26
SLATEHILL FARM	HO	191		116

Schuyler County

MARLIN HOOVER	45 HO	21620	900	716
BROOK'S EDGE DAIRY	75 HO	21549	860	682
ALLEN, THOMAS R.	47 HO	16416	652	533

Seneca County

WINDY HOLLOW FARM	161 HO	25260	987	782
KEITH MARTIN	75 HO	23559	882	759
CLAIR ZIMMERMAN	84 HO	24957	922	759
DELMAR & DAWN MARTIN	111 HO	21278	837	668
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
CLAIR ZIMMERMAN	HO	137		84
DELMAR & DAWN MARTIN	HO	146		111

Steuben County

PAUL & KATHIE WHITE	113 HO	28091	1226	890
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
PAUL & KATHIE WHITE	HO	154		113

Tioga County

LAWTON JERSEY FARM	103 JE	22464	1100	799
SHIPMAN, DAVID	238 HO	20138	788	644
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
SHIPMAN, DAVID	HO	143		238
ROGER FORD	XX	155		42

Tompkins County

HOUSTON, MARLIN JR.	148 HO	20043	799	629
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
LIBERTY VIEW FARMS LLC.	XX	172		50

Washington County

CHRIS CURTIS	180 HO	24981	954	809
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
CHRIS CURTIS	HO	132		180

Wayne County

KEVIN HUBER	65 HO	28235	1240	905
RICHARD HORNING	148 HO	26779	1062	866
DWIGHT SENSENIG	75 HO	24527	949	784
LARRY MARTIN	86 HO	24583	976	761
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
KEVIN HUBER	HO	47		65
DWIGHT SENSENIG	HO	131		75
LARRY MARTIN	HO	141		86
RICHARD HORNING	HO	150		148

Yates County

DAVID MARTIN	51 HO	27840	1149	889
MATTHEW ZEISET	60 HO	28705	1122	881
DANIEL K. MARTIN	64 HO	27669	1033	860
CLARENCE GARMAN	53 HO	26349	1076	850

AMMON REIFF	65 HO	24742	1033	842
MERVIN LEE ZEISET	49 HO	26088	1079	827
DAVID HORST	49 HO	26013	1107	818
DUANE MARTIN	44 HO	25966	993	777
TOWNRIDGE FARMS LLC.	145 HO	24445	964	772
LEON WEAVER	58 HO	23818	960	769
SCENIC RISE DAIRY	51 HO	24291	922	766
DELMAR BURKHOLDER	59 HO	23076	935	729
JOHN BURKHOLDER	45 HO	23257	915	729
NEIL WEAVER	40 HO	23556	874	727
BRANDON HOOVER	51 HO	21603	892	700
VINE VALLEY FARM	228 BS	20498	839	691
MARK HOOVER	57 HO	21117	833	651
ROLLEN N'S DAIRY	72 HO	19743	778	609
WILMER HORNING	44 HO	19823	751	596
ANDREW Z. LEID	50 HO	19607	745	590
MARTIN FOX	49 XX	16425	731	575
RICHARD NOLT	44 JE	14396	668	510

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
DAVID MARTIN	HO	53		51
MERVIN LEE ZEISET	HO	57		49
DANIEL K. MARTIN	HO	84		64
AMMON REIFF	HO	87		65
JOHN BURKHOLDER	HO	89		45
RICHARD NOLT	JE	93		44

CLARENCE GARMAN	HO	100		53
MATTHEW ZEISET	HO	102		60
ROLLEN N'S DAIRY	HO	105		72
SCENIC RISE DAIRY	HO	112		51
LEON WEAVER	HO	117		58
DELMAR BURKHOLDER	HO	132		59
AARON H. KILMER	XX	148		37
ANDREW Z. LEID	HO	157		50
DAVID HORST	HO	179		49
BRANDON HOOVER	HO	183		51
ZACH PIZZENTI	HO	185		68
WILMER HORNING	HO	192		44

NEW JERSEY

Middlesex County

SPRING RUN DAIRY LLC.	61 XX	16704	738	575
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
SPRING RUN DAIRY LLC.	XX	143		61

Cmlnd/Glstr/Salem Counties

WALDAC FARM	194 HO	16117	737	504
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ADANE presented two scholarships and 'Golden Cow Award'

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — American Dairy Association Northeast (ADANE) recently presented scholarships to Gabriella Taylor of Newark, N.Y. and Molly Mueller of Clifton Springs, N.Y. Also presented was the Golden Cow Award, which went to Janice Smith of Franklin, N.Y.

Gabriella earned the \$1000 Dawn Houppert Memorial Scholarship, given to a college student who is a current or former dairy promoter in New York State, and has completed one year of post-secondary education. The scholarship was created in memory of Houppert, who worked for dairy farmers and ADA North East for more than two decades, including managing the dairy princess program for 10 years.

Gabriella served as the Wayne County Dairy Ambassador and 2022-2023 New York State Dairy Ambassador. She is a junior at Saint Bonaventure University, studying strategic communications and political science with the intent to work in agricultural communications or policy upon graduation.

Molly Mueller received the \$500 Leo Briggs Memorial American Dairy Association North East Scholarship given annually to a college student who has completed one year of



Gabriella Taylor



Molly Mueller



Janice Smith

post-secondary education and is from the ADA Northeast territory. The Briggs award is given to someone who followed Briggs' legacy of leadership in dairy promotion.

Molly served as the Ontario County Dairy Princess. She is a junior at Cornell University majoring in environment and sustainability. Her goal upon graduation is to help improve agricultural practices at the farm level to feed a growing population by working with rural and developing countries to implement new and available technologies.

Janice Smith, recipient of ADANE's Golden Cow Award, was recognized for her outstanding service and dedication to local dairy promotion in New York State. She served her county promotion committee for more than four decades, encouraging youth to become a part of the program and developing life-long dairy advocates.

Grants available from page 7

There are consultants and continuing education opportunities for farmers that share the latest research and practices, demonstrating that U.S. dairy farmers are committed to producing high quality, safe milk with integrity.

— Jennifer Orr, Harmony Acres Dairy, Fayette County, Pa.

• **Financial Management** – Financial management and planning can provide dairy farm families with professional consulting resources to help make decisions that will shape the future of their farm.

"It can be easy for farmers to [get depressed] or go into a downward spiral. I can see how it happens. I lost money last month, but now that I've talked to my consultant, I know that it's the industry and not something huge that I can do. I always felt like such a failure when I couldn't pay my bills or make money. I always wondered what I was doing wrong. He put it in perspective for me. It gave me peace of mind. Consultants help make every-body accountable. I never knew I was going to learn this much."

— Todd Benedict, Sunset Dairy, Warren County, Pa.

• **Pre-Farm Transition** – Business and financial feasibility is an important part of transitioning the farm and/or family issue projects to set the farm up for a future transition team.

"When you work with each other day in and day out, sometimes you don't always hear things like someone else does. Our consultant just had a different perspective on listening to what we all had to say and then presenting it back to us. It was helpful. He encouraged us to take [the farm transition] slow and gave us real insight on how to keep things moving forward and some thoughts on which direction to go."

— Betsy Yoder, Heron Run Farms, Huntingdon County, Pa.

If a farm operator already has a consultant in mind they would like to work with, that person can be named within the application for approval by the Center. Farms are eligible to receive the DDC grant once every three years. Limited grants are remaining for the 2023-24 fiscal year, and funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Farms must complete an application and submit the required \$100 application fee to participate in each program. Visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/ddc to learn more and apply online. Contact Melissa Anderson at manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org or dial 717-788-0296 for answers to your questions.

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Significant numbers bear watching

While the February milk production report March 20 showed total U.S. production down the 8th straight month, off 1.3% from a year ago with a downward revision noted also for January, the concern about the first confirmation of cattle with highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is also putting a damper on milk production for the small number of dairies in the High Plains region that are affected at this time.

"On average about 10% of each affected herd appears to be impacted, with little to no associated mortality reported among the animals," the USDA APHIS report stated, with declines in milk production described as "too limited to impact the supply and price of milk and dairy products."

An AABP press release notes that, "It is too soon to predict if all of the recent reports of unexplained illnesses in dairy cattle in the U.S. are due to HPAI. Veterinarians and the dairy industry are working collaboratively with state and federal officials during the ongoing investigation."

The release also noted that there are no confirmed cattle deaths directly from the illness, although higher rates of culling are occurring in herds where an economic decision is made about some affected cattle, when their production is not regained after recovering to health.

In an AABP webinar March 22, before the HPAI strain was confirmed in samples, the findings of veterinarians involved early-on were described, and presenters were asked about how many dairy cows have been affected.

An effort is underway "to count them up, but the number is significant, and I'll leave it at that," said Dr. Brandon Treichler, DVM, who was joined by Dr. Alexis Thompson with Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in presenting AABP webinar information.

Treichler hails from a family dairy farm in eastern Pennsylvania and serves as a quality control veterinarian, primarily working with large dairies in West Texas and eastern New Mexico. He is active with AABP and National Mastitis Council.

Dr. Treichler talked about practitioner findings: "The most consistent factors seen across herds include a decreased feed intake in the herd and at the same time less rumination... These cows are being sorted for us for changes in the milk, and (facilities) with conductivity available see conductivity spike on a large number of cows and then decreasing milk production across the herd, with individual cows seemingly more severely affected going from a high production cow to dry or very nearly dry, very quickly. Some of those cows appear to have colostrum-like milk that is either thickened, or thickened with some discoloration," he said.



Milk Market Moos

by Sherry Bunting
agrite2011@gmail.com

Cl. IV milk futures steady, Cl. III tumbles

Class III milk futures fell unevenly lower, with the steepest loss on near-term contracts as April slipped below \$16 at \$15.64 on the close Wednesday, March 27 and May came close at \$16.05. Class IV futures were mixed and generally steady across the board.

On Wed., March 27, the Class III milk futures averaged \$17.55 for the next 12 months – down 31 cents from the previous Wednesday, losing all of last week's advance, and then some. Meanwhile, the 12-month average for Class IV futures contracts averaged \$20.34, down just 3 cents from the previous Wednesday.

The projected divergence of Class IV over III now ranges \$2.50 to \$4.25 through yearend – fully \$3.50 to \$4.25 near-term. If realized as these months play out in FMMO pricing, the Class I advance base price mover will be devalued by \$1 to \$2.00 per hundredweight.

Meanwhile, spot cheese crashes again while other products hold steady

In the CME daily spot market, block and barrel cheese plunged lower with blocks barely holding on to the \$1.40 mark. All other commodities were generally steady on the week. In daily spot cash trade, Wednesday, March 27, butter was pegged at \$2.84/lb, up a penny on the day and a quarter of a cent on the week with a single load changing hands. Grade A nonfat dry milk, pegged at \$1.12/lb lost a quarter of a cent on the day, but gained a quarter of a cent on the week with 4 loads trading. The cheese market lost last week's short-lived luster as the roller-coaster ride continues for cheese. On Wednesday, March 27, the 40-lb block Cheddar price was pegged at \$1.4075/lb, down nearly 2 cents on the day and fully a nickel lower on the week with 3 loads trading. The 500-lb barrel cheese price pegged at \$1.42/lb lost nearly 2 cents on the day and was 7 1/2 cents lower on the week with a single load changing hands. The dry whey spot price at \$0.4025/lb was generally steady with no trades.

Dairy transformation takes on a whole new meaning

"I believe most dairy farmers want to inspire consumers to what's real in life instead of being sucked into an unreal and confusing world of gaming," I wrote in a *Farmshine* editorial in October 2022 after listening to a DMI panel give

their vision of future dairy transformation during a 'tan-bark talk' at the 2022 World Dairy Expo. DMI's dairy transformation strategist suggested that she "likes saying milk has 13 essential nutrients," but that she thinks it will be "so much cooler to identify, annotate and digitize the 2500 to 3000 metabolites in milk and then be able to pair them to products and brands in the personalized app-driven diets of the future."

This transformation strategy rank-and-file dairy farmers have been paying for in their checkoff is now blossoming into new beverage ideas that were discussed at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit 18 months later in February 2024 – drinks that pair proteins and elements fractionated from milk with other ingredients to somehow become what Paul Ziemnisky, DMI's fluid milk innovation point person, describes as "the innovation pillar that encompasses nutrition science and all the functional research for the body to the product science and technologies like ultrafiltration then bringing in the growth platforms and partnerships."

That's right folks, DMI has been painting this picture of future diets digitized by apps and algorithms to match up to the individual metabolic needs and desires of consumers. Instead of meeting consumers where they are and providing the education about what milk and dairy deliver, they are leading Gen-Z into a future where they won't really know WHAT they are consuming, just a mix-and-match of elements as presented by global processing corporations that are "all-in" for this future of food confusion.

While DMI innovates, partners and promotes the disassembly of milk to its thousands of metabolites – the proprietary work of God in nature so that processors can create new "functional" drinks to compete with fluid milk – while dairy farmers wither on the vine, one example announced this week shows where these ideas can go.

A new partnership was just announced between Triplebar Bio and FrieslandCampina to boost manufacture of lactoferrin, a bioactive milk protein found in milk, by using genetically engineered microbes in precision fermentation tanks.

Triplebar developed a 'hyper-throughput' screening platform that is supported by Artificial Intelligence and machine learning "so more efficient biomanufacturing platforms that use animal or microbial cells can be developed.

Yes, dairy farmers and their cows are being used and abused to launch AI-concocted targeted functional future drinks and products in exciting packages that consumers will have no clue about what they are consuming. That's dairy transformation on your nickel and part of the dime too.

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Government contract has Idaho dairyman suc

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

OWYHEE, Idaho — Securing a government contract to supply non-fat milk to federally-operated facilities in the western United States was a dream come true for C.W. Jehosaphat, a 64-year old dairy farmer and life-long resident in Idaho's Treasure Valley. Ironically, he had prepared for such a bonanza over a dozen years prior, when all but non-fat milk was ruled out of schools, thanks to First Lady Michelle Obama. But the anticipated contract never came to him; or anyone else, for that matter.

Nevertheless, Jehosaphat, a Democrat in a very staunchly Republican state, didn't give up and as luck would have it, his name was still in the bureaucratic system in far-away Washington, D.C. over a decade later.

"I received a letter," Jehosaphat told *Farmshine* in a recent phone interview which he initiated, eager to share the news. "The letter explained that the Department of the Interior was in desperate need for more skim milk due to the masses of migrants arriving through Mexico at a rate of now nearly 200,000 per week," he shared.

Complicating the supply problem even more, *Farmshine* was told, are U.S. export commitments; primarily for non-fat milk. Whether in liquid form or dried, not much stays State-side because USDEC — jokingly referred to by some as the U.S. Department of Economic Catastrophes — insists that these "lowest-bids-win" exports are funneling extra dollars into the pockets of America's dairy producers. Jehosaphat, now as an exclusive domestic supplier in nine western states, plus Alaska, no longer concerns himself with exports.

Be that as it may, the feds have become aware of a significant and rapidly growing dilemma: Keeping their countless cafeterias at VA hospitals, military bases, refugee camps, tent cities, prisons and homeless shelters adequately supplied with skim milk has become challenging to say the least.

The problem will be partially alleviated when the school year ends, but it won't be nearly enough, confirmed a USDA spokesperson under the condition that his name not be used in any investigative reporting.

Meanwhile, Jehosaphat is "sitting pretty" to meet the surge in demand. Unlike every other dairy farm in these



A seasoned and savvy dairyman with a half-century of experience, C.W. Jehosaphat is uniquely successful on the proverbial less-traveled path. In fact, he's the only dairy farmer on that path. This picture

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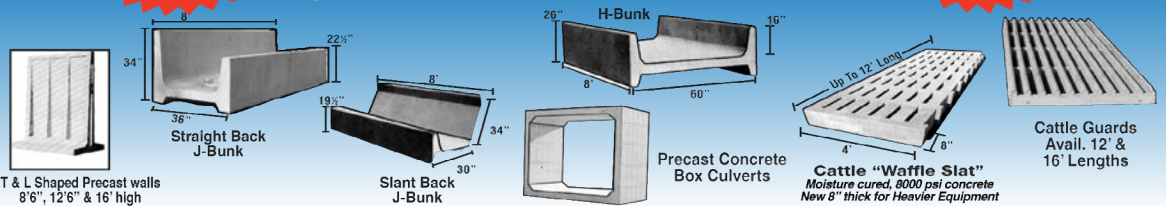
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shows him at one of his 15 ranches in southwestern Idaho where he milks over 50,000 low-butterfat-testing cows, averaging 75 pounds of milk per cow per day. Photo submitted

United States, his cows produce non-fat milk. Or so he claims.

After checking with people in Provo, Utah, we learned that Jehosaphat's herd of 50,050 cows (as of last month) is in fact averaging 0.85% butterfat. It's under 1% and can't qualify as 1% milk; so by default it's non-fat, satisfying USDA requirements on a technicality.

A butterfat herd average of 0.85% is hard to believe, Jehosaphat readily agrees when challenged about it.

"It's hard to believe because everyone else has been breeding for higher butterfat; higher solids," he began to explain. "I'm old enough to remember the days when a Holstein's milk was laughingly referred to as 'chalk water'. Or that you could toss a coin into a bucket of milk and still see that dime, nickel or quarter when it landed at the bottom. Generally speaking, that was never true of course. But you get my point.

"Now, what do you think happens when you breed in the opposite direction? Less butterfat instead of more? That's precisely what I've done, starting in 2010 when USDA gave all Americans... not just kids in school ... a slate of dietary guidelines which pretty much ousted all milk but non-fat.

"I eagerly anticipated that market and started breeding for it immediately. I went to local auction barns and bought cows that were culled because of low butterfat. They were cheap, gave lots of milk but not much fat. Cows with the lowest butterfat tests became my bull mothers since no A.I. stud offers bulls with low butterfat ... at least not low enough for me."

Feed rations also play a significant role to achieve the desired results, Jehosaphat affirmed. "I balance my own rations," he said, adding that he had worked as a dairy nutritionist for Carnation Feeds prior to seriously focusing on the expansion of his herd. And he has done some experimenting of his own over the years to see what forage might affect butterfat in the most negative way.

The answer: Tumbleweeds.

"They're bountiful and free out here," Jehosaphat

said, laughing. "Harvesting them is a simple matter of erecting a basic barbed-wire fence in strategic locations so that they don't roll off of my property. My cattle have well-managed access to them. You might say that we have our own system of rotational grazing," the sage dairyman joked.

On a more serious note, Jehosaphat spoke of milk pricing formulas, noting that he is not subject to FMMO regulations because his cows' production is all skim and all Class I. His milk price is "not bad", he says, considering he misses out on any payments (much less premiums) for butterfat.

But he saves on hauling costs, Jehosaphat proudly pointed out, because a gallon of non-fat milk weighs only 8.3 pounds, compared to 8.6 pounds for a gallon of whole milk. "I had that figured out back in 2010," he exclaimed, "and I was counting on it even then. For me, this hauling discount surely qualifies as a kind of premium."

"If our hauling charge was by the gallon, I wouldn't save a penny. A gallon is a gallon. My hauling charge is per hundredweight — like it is for all other dairy-men who ship milk in this great country of ours. When you do the math (as I already have) you'll find that it takes 12 gallons of my non-fat milk to make one hundredweight. For whole milk, it's about 11.6 gallons. In other words, I get about 3 percent more milk on the same tanker. That adds up substantially and quickly when you're shipping close to 452,000 gallons per day.

To conclude the interview, we asked Jehosaphat: Who is the wiser or more efficient dairyman — the whole milk producer or the non-fat milk producer, given the inputs and outputs of each?

"Let me just suggest a clever headline for your article," he answered. 'Non-fat is where it's at for C.W. Jehosaphat'. That's me and it works very well for me."

"I can't really speak for others," he added. "But I will say this: Everyone needs to very carefully consider all the facts. And I do mean all the facts," he stated emphatically, "including the time of year you're scratching your head about which path to take."

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A remarkably well-bred, successful herd to be dispersed

By RENEE TROUTMAN
Special for Farmshine

LEBANON, Pa. — “It’s bittersweet,” reflects Karen Zuck as four decades of the dairy lifestyle she’s shared with her husband, Jeff, and four children comes to a close. Their herd will be dispersed at their farm on Fox Road in Lebanon County on Tuesday, April 2.

Jeff and Karen Zuck knew each other throughout their youth, attending the same church with their families. Eventually, their relationship evolved into more and it revolved around cows. Jeff started working on a local dairy farm when he was 16 and acquired his first dairy animals. Karen was also working on a dairy farm. When they got married in 1986 they kept the herd they were growing on the farms where they worked. A few years later they were able to move their herd to a rented facility and also started their family.

Karen actually lived on their farm on Fox Road during her childhood. Her family had milked cows until she was 8. It was a great disappointment to her when her parents lost the farm to financial distress during the interest rate crisis in the 1980’s. She had envisioned herself having a future on that farm to carry it into the next generation. Karen was a teen and leaving the farm was hard.

Fast forward just enough years. Jeff and Karen needed to vacate the farm they had been renting since early in their marriage just as the farm on Fox Road became available to rent. With two young children, Amanda and Bradley, they moved to the farm where Karen



Jeff, Karen and Travis Zuck are well aware of how God has blessed them. As their sale day approaches, the Zucks have many good memories and contributions to reflect upon.

Photos by Renee Troutman

had lived before. Two more children, Valerie and Travis, came afterward. What had looked like the end at one point was really only a bit of a detour.

Jeff and Karen purchased the farm on Fox Road for themselves in 2002 after seven years of renting. All the while they continued to grow their herd, improve their cows, and expand their facilities, raising their children and farming upwards of 170 acres.

Eventually, Travis began building his own herd and Jeff and Karen transitioned their portion of the herd to him in 2022. Ahead of that change, they built three broiler houses for Bell & Evans to support themselves on the farm with Travis having the cows. Jeff and Karen still assisted Travis with the three times-a-day milking of 110 cows just like Travis helped them when they had the cows.

In that time Travis also started a custom farming business. He would like to expand the baling he’s been doing to include planting, combining, and mowing. The demands of the cows and struggling to find and maintain the outside help they need to keep up with milking is what brought Travis to the conclusion to sell the herd. “I’ll miss the cows but yet I’ll be happy to do some other stuff,” he said.

Travis talks fondly of individual cows and some of the families his parents have built under the Kar-Je prefix that he expanded upon with his own prefix, Zuck. “Travis loves the cows and does a great job with them just like Jeff always did,” Karen said.

There are only a handful of foreign prefixes throughout the barn; the vast majority are homebred with the Kar-Je or Zuck prefix. “That makes me proud, as a farm wife, to see that they have done all of this themselves,” Karen shared. Their BAA is 110.6 with one more classification scoring happening before the sale. Their classification in December re-

turn to page 15

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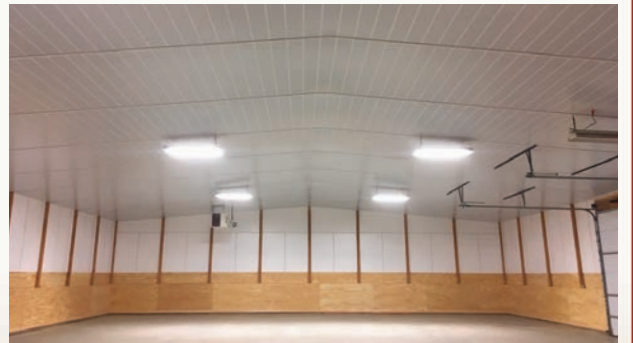
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Remarkable _____ from page 14

sulted in 43 Excellent cows, 59 Very Good, and 17 Good Plus.

A notable cow is Golden Rose Goldrush (EX-94) which Travis purchased from Rusty Herr. Goldrush sells as Lot 1 and dozens of her embryos and descendants follow her on the sale. Travis has been happy with her daughters, especially Zuck Moovin Gail, selling as Lot 8.

Longevity is another impressive feature of their herd. Nearly a dozen cows currently in the barn have lived over a decade including their oldest cow at 14 years of age selling as Lot 44. Blanche and Darlene are some of the bovines that spent many good years at the Zucks' farm and will have descendants selling. Twelve-year-old Orchid (Lot 113) sells along with several Excellent daughters as well as another favorite, 11-year-old Lillie (Lot 81). They've had many cows with over 300,000 pounds of lifetime milk.

There was a time when the Zucks were busy flushing cows and using embryos. "Early on we did a lot of flushing for the type aspect and to build the cow families," Jeff said.

"Flushing got us where we are today," Travis added. "Now we just flush a few to sell embryos. We got to the point where our herd and our heifers were really nice that we didn't need to use embryos."

The Zucks are driven by excellence and doing the best for their cows. They decided to milk three times a day in 2011. "We didn't do it so much to increase milk production, but we did it for the health of the cows," Karen said.

The extra daily milking improved udder health, leg strength, and milk quality drastically.

Many people have suggested that they return to twice-a-day milking to reduce the workload and still continue with the cows, but that isn't a management style that appeals to them since discovering that 3X was the best for their cows. "Milking twice will come with a whole other set of problems that still ties you down," Karen explained.

The Zuck's have proliferated replacements with the help of gendered semen and have typically sold anywhere from 30-70 fresh heifers a year. Each year they also consign several animals to the Brethren Disaster Relief Heifer Auction. A few heifers will be kept over the summer months to support that cause one more time, which is held on the last weekend of



There are only a handful of foreign prefixes throughout the barn; the vast majority are homebred with the Kar-Je or Zuck prefix.

September at the Lebanon Fairgrounds.

They have generously supported local sales like the Showcase Sale and the Spring Promise Calf Sale that benefit their local Holstein club. In 2021 their farm hosted the Lebanon County Holstein field night.

The Zucks are undecided about what to do with the dairy facilities in the future but the barns will likely stand empty. Not only does the milking barn need some repairs but it's difficult to find the equipment necessary for tie-stall barns. Also, without the cows and youngstock, their animal units decrease enough to remove the CAFO status they've had since building the chicken houses. They would be glad to reduce the regulatory burden on their farm.

The family members all have other businesses and interests that will fill the time the cows took. Jeff and Karen have eight grandchildren and they will enjoy the time and energy they can give to their family.

"I'm grateful for how God has blessed us," Jeff said. "I'd like to thank my kids, and especially my wife."

"God has certainly guided and blessed us through the years," Karen added.

As the sale day approaches the Zucks have many good memories and contributions to reflect upon. Well over 300 lots are expected to sell, including embryos, semen, cows both milking and dry, and heifers of all ages, especially a big group of March calves. The sale begins at 9:30 a.m.

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SUNY Morrisville going robotic

MORRISVILLE, N.Y. — SUNY Morrisville's dairy program will be getting new equipment that will help put its ag students on the cutting edge in the industry.

Through the advocacy of Sen. Charles Schumer and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, SUNY Morrisville was awarded \$1.36 million in congressionally directed spending in the appropriations bill signed by President Biden.

These funds will purchase three robotic milkers for the college's Arnold J. Fisher Dairy Complex, a free-stall dairy facility and learning laboratory for students, which houses 185 milking cows, as well as an electronically enhanced milking parlor and a student-managed computer system.

"By integrating robotic milking technology, we are positioning our Arnold J. Fisher Dairy Complex as a leader in innovative and sustainable dairy practices," said Tony Con-

tento, dean of the School of Agriculture, Business & Technology.

SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr. observed: "New York is one of the largest dairy-producing states in the country; that's why it is so critically important for SUNY students to get hands-on experience with the latest agriculture technology."

The project will allow not only faculty and students to train on robotic milkers, but also to develop protocols for the rest of the dairy industry, to train local farmers and to act as a hub of innovation and progress as dairy evolves to meet the needs of today.

"In combination with our new Dairy and Specialty Crops incubator, this will not only benefit our students and faculty, but also contribute to the advancement of the dairy industry as a whole in New York State," Contento concluded.

ANNUAL SPRING AUCTION

ANTIQUE MACHINERY AND TRACTORS

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LAWN AND GARDEN MOWERS

Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.

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REGULAR TRACTORS

JD 4400 Dsl Combine 3093hrs w/ JD213 gr hd; JD 7520 4WD 3pt Duals; 2- IH 1086's 1 is 2 owner 3463 hrs, other 4100 hrs; JD 5400 MFWD w/ Ldr; JD 5500 MFWD w/Ldr; Case 2294 Dsl CAB; JD 4840 Dsl Cab Duals Wts; AC 180 Dsl; Case 2390 Dsl Cab; Ford 4450 dsl 3pt Left hand reverser; JD 6115 D Dsl O.S.; White 2-155 Dsl Cab Wts Duals; JD 6170M MFWD Dual Wts; Ford 8730 Dsl 1 owner 4546 hrs; JD 7800 MFWD Wts Duals; NH TN75 MFWD Cab Ldr; JD 6200 CAB Dsl 2WD; JD 3025 D 21 hrs; IH 986 Dsl Rough; IH 2360 yellow w/ mower; JD 4440 Dsl 5000 hrs; JD 5410 Dsl Cab 4 WD w/ Ldr & B Hoe; JD 6105 M MFWD w/ Ldr; IH 574 Dsl w/ Ldr;

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JD FB Drill w/ Seeder, New Openers; IH 10' Wheel Disk; JD 290 Planter 2x; IH 4x pull plow; NI 7' Sickle Mower; NI Hay Crimper; JD 12' Wheel Disks; 6' Fast Hitch Rear blade; JD 3X16 3pt Mtd plow; AC 3x Mtd plow; Ix FH. plow; Gravity Wagons; Pull 6' Grader; JD Wire Baler; Fanning Mills; JD 494A Planter 4x; Packers of Various Size's; Ferg 3pt 2 Row Cultv; JD 7000 4x30 Dry Fert Planter; JD 7000 6x30 Dry Fert planter; Dunham 10' Mulcher; IH 510 Drill w/ seeder 21x; AC 4 section Pull Rot Hoe; Flatbed Hay Wagons; Buck Rake; Plows 3pt 2x's, 3x's; MH 2x Pull Plow; AC 2x Planter 3pt; AC 10' Wheel Disk; AC Drill w/ seeder 13x; Ac Ha Rake; Maytag Wringer Washer; Pot Belly Stoves; Hand corn Shellers; Tractor Wts; Hyd Cyl's; Tires of all Sizes; JD 12' Mulcher; Ford 4x AR plow; Wood Wheel Wagon; IH 540 pto Manure Spdr; NI 40' Elec Elevator; Oliver 14' Fld Cultv; JD 8' Wheel Disk; NH ground drive Manure Spdr; Case Eagle Statue; Fox 1 Row Forage Chopper; MF33 Grain Drill w/ seeder; Brillion 12' mulcher; IH 10 Drill w/ seeder; JD 1240 4x planter; 3pt disk; JD 2x pull plow; NI 323 Picker 1x; JD 300 Picker w/ 343 head

CONSTRUCTION EQ

White 2- 63 TLB; Yale Forklift; Bobcat 963 Skid Steer; Bobcat 853 Skid Steer; Case 1818 Skid Steer, gas, 1748 hrs; NH L-785 Dsl Skid Steer; Case 1840 Dsl Skid Steer; Bobcat 540 gas Skid Steer; 7' 4 in 1 Bkt off NH 95 TLB; NH 95 B Hoe Unit of outriggers & 24" Bucket; Bobcat 543 Skid Steer; Onan Gen Set, gas, needs work; Ditch Witch A220 Dsl Trencher/ B Hoe

ANNUAL LAWN & GARDEN AUCTION MONDAY 5:00 P.M.

FEATURED LAWN MOWERS

JD 425; JD 445; JD 317 w/ hyd front blade, new engine; JD 2930 Zero Turn; JD 2950A Zero Turn; JD F1145 Front Mtd Mower; JD X775 Lawn Tractor; JD X300, X320, LA175 Riders; JD 4 wheel steer rider; JD XUV 865M Gator, CAB, Pwr Steering, Elec Dump; 2- JD Gators; JD 660 Roto Tiller 3pt; Kubota F3600 Front Mtd. dsl, 4we; Kubota B2400 Dsl 4WD w/ ldr & mower; Kubota F2400 Dsl 4WD w/ Cab, mower & hyd blade; Kubota B7100 Dsl 2wd 3pt pto; Kubota Z724, gas/ Zero Turn; Simplicity Prestige 424 Rid-

ing mower; Simplicity 20 GTH w/ mower, snow blower, cab; Cub Cadet Tank Zero Turn Commercial; Woods FZ22K Front mtd, power lift deck 518 hrs; Ex Mark Lazer Z S Series 60" deck Zero Turn; Ex Mark Lazer Z S Series 52" Deck Zero Turn; Ex Mark Turf Tracker - Stand On; Hustler Super Z Vx4 w/60" Deck Zero Turn; Stihl RZ 560 K Zero Turn 5 hrs (New); 2- Stihl RZ 152 Rear Eng Rider; Jd Front hyd blade; Lawn sprayer; AS is Non Runners sold after running mowers including Harry Ladd Estate of Cub-Cadets.

Note: This is only a partial list of items being sold Monday April 8th. Much more will be added to the auction. Internet bidding available. Trucking Available!

TUESDAY APRIL 9TH REGULAR CONSIGNMENT AUCTION, ABSOLUTE ROWS W/ 4 FARMER CLOSEOUTS

FARMER 1

1984 Ford TW35 MFWD 1199 on Eng OH (6000 Hrs total) excellent rubber Firestone 20.8x38 tires w/ GY axle Duals, 14.9R28 Firestone front tires w/ fenders, 3pt pto 2 hyd w/ pwr beyond, Front wts, clean Tractor; JD 722 soil saver 9x w/ rear leveler; 6- JD 30 series front wts; FMC 6' 3pt Rotary Cutter; Pipper 3 section 15' Spike Drag; 24' hyd fold Harogator; McCurdy Wagon w/ 12' Poly Auger & tarp; Brillion 12' Packer w/ 1-5' pup; Anhyd 3pt tool bar 3x; 2- Pull Dollies; hyd cyl's & hoses;

James Fox, Bryan Ohio

FARMER 2

Farmall 806 Dsl WF; 24' Harogator; 18' Glencoe Fld Cultv; Badger 10' Pull Rotary Cutter; IH 475 Wing Disk 18'; 3- Wagons W/ JD Gears;

Burdell Notziger, Archbold, Ohio

FARMER 3

IH 966 Dsl WF 6524hrs 3pt 2pto 1 hyd 18.4 x 34 Tires; JD 7000 4x36 Dry Fert Planter; 2- JD 12' Wheel Disks; 14' Harogator; IH 720 Forage Chopper w/ 2x chd& hay hd; NI 214 pto Manure Spdr; Kew 9sk 3pt chisel Plow; JD 15' Spike Drag; JD 4 Section Rot Hoe; NI Forage Wagon; 2 150 Bu Wagons; JD FB-B Drill w/ seeder 15x; Bush Hog 4x Dt Cultv 3pt; Gehl 72 Green Chopper; NH 256 Rake; 2- Bale Kicker Wagons Wood Racks 16' & 18'; JD 336 Sq Baler; 2- 40' Elevators;

Larry Stuckey Estate, Stryker Ohio

FARMER 4

1971 JD 4020 Dsl WF 8333 hrs side Console Syncro Range 3pt 2pt 2 hyd top link front wts 16.9 x 38 tires; 1975 JD 4230 Dsl Cab 7706 hrs pwr shift AC/Heat 3pt 2 pto top link 18.4 x 38 tires; JD 7000 6x30" Dry Fert Planter Row Cleaners; Centruy 500 Gal Sprayer 45' Booms pto pump; Case IH 475 Disk 13' 10" Disk 7 1/2" spacing; IH 4500 VS 18 1/2" pull Fld Cultv; Brillion 12' Packer; JD Packer; Packer Pups; JD 400 15' 3pt Rot Hoe;

Richard Waldvogel, Fayette, Ohio

To view the auction go to yoderandfreyfarm.com, online bidding is available through Equipmentfacts.com.



419-445-2080 800-364-2870

Berks County seeks contestants for dairy princess festivities, May 4th

LEESPORT, Pa. — Berks County is searching for the next Berks County Dairy Princess to promote the dairy industry.

Any interested girls in competing for the 2024-2025 Berks County Dairy Princess title must be between the age of 16 by June 1st and up to age 24. She must have a connection to the dairy industry. For example, a daughter or granddaughter to a dairy farmer or someone who works in the dairy industry. She can also work for a dairy farm or own her own dairy cattle. Anyone interested must contact Kristin Reppert at ksjohns00@gmail.com by April 5th.

The new dairy princess will be crowned by the reigning 2023-2024 Berks County Dairy Princess, Sara Haag, who promoted the dairy industry in Berks County this past year. Alexa Davis, 2023-2024 Berks County Alternate Dairy Princess, will also step down.

There will also be a contest to crown the 2024-2025 Berks County Lil' Miss Dairy Princess. All contestants must be between the ages of 4-6. They must also have a connection to the dairy industry. The deadline for contestants is also April 5th to Kristin at ksjohns00@gmail.com.

The new Lil' Miss Dairy Princess will be crowned by the reigning Lil' Miss, Annie Kelchner, who has been helping Sara and Alexa travel across Berks County this past year promoting the dairy industry.

The Berks County Dairy Princess Pageant will be held on Saturday, May 4th at the Mohrsville Church of the Brethren, 1542



From left: Sara Haag, Annie Kelchner and Alexa Davis.

Shoey Road, Mohrsville. The pageant will begin at 1:30 pm. An ice cream social will follow the pageant. No reservations are needed to attend the pageant.

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The touch of the Master's Hand

By ARCHIE KING
Mifflin County, Pa. farmer

I could not believe what I was seeing! A more sad, sorry looking, dilapidated, rusty old tractor I have never seen.

Down on the farm we saw the need for a tractor to pull wagons when we filled silo and bag corn and hay silage. It had to be big enough to pull heavy loads and have a hand clutch to "inch" the loads forward for the bagger. The highest horsepower tractor with a hand clutch would be an Allis Chalmers D19, but they are an old tractor and where do we find one?

A classified ad in a paper found us one in northern Pennsylvania. My brother and I took a pickup and trailer and went to check it out.

The "old timer" had bought it new in 1962, and used it all these year. Then, it was no longer needed or used. The year it was made it was all shiny-new. Six decades later, it was all patched up, rusty and faded.

I took a long hard look at the old tractor and a vision began to form in my mind. I saw an old tractor all fixed up, shiny-new, and useful again. I saw it working on the farm: pulling wagons, tedding, raking and baling hay.

I saw myself, my sons, and grandsons out there working with a nice old tractor ... made with common sense and without common sensors!

But it would take a lot of work, patience, and money to restore and bring new life into the old tractor. It needed the touch of the Master's hand! Am I willing to pay the price?

'DIY' Holstein tour on April 5 features Lebanon County herds

LEBANON, Pa. — The Lebanon County Holstein Association will hold its annual tour on Friday, April 5th. Two things will be different about it from most such tours.

1. It's within Lebanon County and
2. It's do-it-yourself.

Four farm stops are planned:

- Eric and Audrey High and family milk 110 cows with two GEA robots that were installed in August of 2023. Their herd average is 26,076M 1129F and 874P. The family has received the Progressive Breeder award from the Holstein Association for the last 15 years.

- Clifford Oberholtzer and his family, located in northern Lebanon County, purchased the cows in 2020. They milk just shy of 100 cows, averaging more than 83 pounds with 4.2% butterfat and 3.2% protein.

- Diamond Valley Dairy (DVD) is owned by Jacob and Grace Kline and Jesse Kline. At Diamond Valley you will see more than just Holsteins as they milk also 20-25 Jerseys. The herd average for all 60 cows is over 21,000M with 4.7% butterfat and 3.6% protein.

- Glendon Martin and family milk 64 cows twice a day, averaging over 106 pounds percow per day with 4.2% butterfat and 3.3% protein. More than 50% of the herd is classified Very Good or Excellent.

A stop at Wenger Farm, two miles from DVD, is on the schedule for lunch prepared by On-Fire Youth Ministry and to view their new show heifer barn and EX-92 Goldwyn Lucia, the dam of 4x All-American Nominee, Idee Windbrook Lynzi.

Please call or text Justin Ayers 717-480-2254 or Daniel Kitchen 570-394-8539 to provide a rough head count.



New in 1962, the Allis-Chalmers D 19 looked like this after 60 years of work.



Meticulously restored by the hands of masters, what was once old is new again.

We loaded up the old tractor, chained it down, paid for it, and brought it home.

And now the work of restoration began. It took about six months to complete. I must give credit to where credit is due. In this case, the touch of the Master's hand included: Belleville Industries, Peachey's Mower Shop, and me. We got new and used parts wherever we could find them. With the patient, skillful "touch" of these many hands this old working tractor received a brand-new look ... just like new!

So, what was "wrong" with the old D19 and how did we

go about restoring it? We began with the inside and worked outward. All the fluids were changed, we needed to record the radiator, some hydraulic valves were "loosened up," new spark plugs and wires were installed, all the levers needed new rubber tips, all springs needed replaced. The tractor was completely rewired, new sealed beams all around, steering wheel and fenders and toolbox were replaced. Most of the cables and all but one of the instrument gauges were replaced, front and back wheel wrights were purchased, one rear rim was fixed and the other replaced, and last of all the tractor was disassembled, sand blasted, painted and reassembled. Some things were fixed after the painting.

Wow, this project cost me over 4 times the purchase price when completed! There is just something special about taking an old tractor and making it like brand-new and useful again. I think it was well "worth it;" my dear Elsie is not so sure. We'll keep working on that!

You know friends, in some ways mankind is a lot like that old D19 tractor. In the beginning God created us in His image ... beautiful and without sin. But, unlike the old tractor, God made us creatures of choice. When Satan said, "Yea hath God said," man chose to disobey God and ate of the forbidden fruit. Thus, all mankind has been born with the sinful nature.

Sin is ugly. Sin puts a wall between us and God. But God, in His mercy, sent the Lord Jesus to be our Saviour. When we accept His salvation, that wall is removed and fellowship with God is restored again. He gives us a new heart and works on us from the inside to the outside. And what was the "cost" of our redemption, our restoration? The price was the suffering, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Oh, the beauty of restoration! The old D19 looks like "new" and is useful again! Fallen man can be given new life. We can be made new creatures in Christ Jesus. Hallelujah, what a Saviour! All it takes is a "touch from the Master's hand." Have you and I received that special touch of reconciliation and restoration?

Proverbs 3:5,6,7: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the Lord, and depart from evil."

Happy Easter to all!

Three PJHA members awarded scholarships

SCRANTON, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Youth Scholarship Organization recognized three individuals for their work with Holsteins, community involvement, school activities and leadership abilities. Each of these young people was a recipient of a Pennsylvania Holstein Youth Scholarship. The \$1500 scholarship is to be used by each winner to better themselves through a post-secondary educational program. Recipients were:

- **Elise Balmer** of Lititz, Lancaster County, the daughter of Jeff and Jesslyn Balmer. She is a junior at Lebanon Valley College majoring in exercise science.

- **Jordan Anderson** of Centre Hall, Centre County, the

daughter of Don and Angela Anderson. She is a junior at the University of Wyoming majoring in agriculture communications.

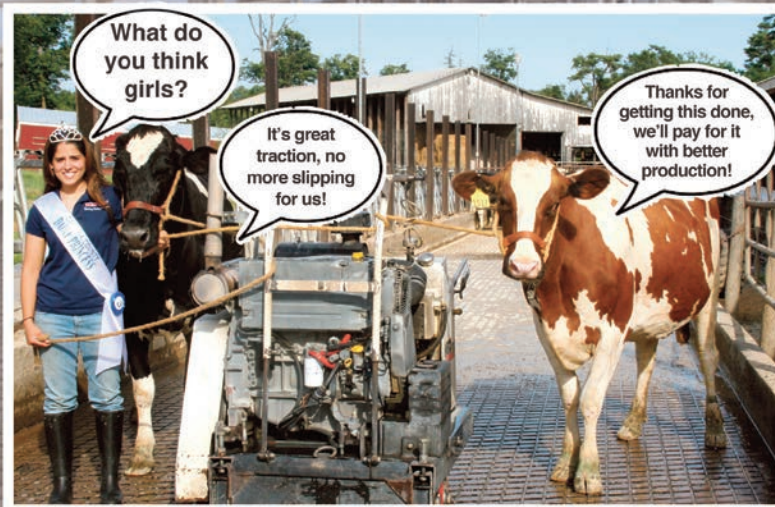
- **Madison Benfer** of Curryville, Blair County, the daughter of Mike and Melissa Benfer. She is a junior at Penn State majoring in animal science.

Each of these young people have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in their chosen fields of study and work. The scholarship fund comes from monies donated to a scholarship fund set up through the Pennsylvania Holstein Youth Scholarship Organization. The Scholarship Program began in 1989 and since that time has presented 124 individual scholarships worth \$137,750.

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Starts: Monday, April 8, 2024, 10:00 A.M.

Ends: Monday, April 15, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

Preview: Saturday, April 13, 2024, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Or By Appointment, Call Dan Park, 814.715.0906

Tractors, Equipment. John Deere 8320, 18 sp PS, duals, 8584 hrs, SN RW8320P002448; John Deere 7520, power quad, 2nd owner, 2,032 original hours, SN RW7520R060328, both Pre Def; John Deere Max Emerge XT 1770NT 12-row liquid, 2630 Greenstar, SN A01770W730197; Mac Don R113 discbine, one owner, flail, 13 ft; E-Z Trail 870 grain cart, like new, 870 bu.; 6 pen calf barn, movable; Cub Cadet pulling tractor, 16 HP

Trucks, Dump Trailer. 2005 Int 9400i, C15 Cat pre Def, twin turbo, 10 sp, 545K, wet line, sleeper, runs good; 2001 Mack, 300 HP Mack, wet line, 9 sp, runs good; 1974 Ti-Brook 26 ft. alum. dump, 700-800 bu.

Auctioneer/Realtor: Russell T. (Rusty) Kiko, Jr., C.A.I., 330-495-0923, rustykiko@kikocompany.com, #AU002727L. Russ Kiko Assoc. #AY000170L. **Auction By Order Of:** Park Acres Farm.

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Group 2 - 37 Reg. and grade Brown Swiss herd reduction sale for Black Walnut Dairy, Elizabethtown, Pa. Herd consists of 18 milking, 3 dry cows, 10 bred heifers and 6 opens. Herd currently averaging 70 lbs. 4.5 3.3. Fresh cows milking 90+ lbs. Cows in good condition but not pushed. 12 cows due April through October. Cows are all A2A2. They are selling all the better, young cows. Reg. cows carry the Windmill prefix. Cows will have individual DHIA test for the sale.

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6 recently fresh milking over 100 lbs. All AI sired and AI bred.
Note: This herd not pushed. No TMR. Heifers bred to Angus.

Consignors: Please send all info with truckers for the catalog.
For more information, contact dairy reps:
Aaron Martin, 717-445-4825 (home); Bill Hough, 973-224-0204 (cell).

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POLLED, RED, A2A2 Risk P son. Maternal brother to Panic PP at Triple-Hil Sires. DOB 2/24/23. \$2000. 717-320-3330. (3/29)

B&W AND R&W POLLED homozygous Holsteins, A2A2. Some genomically tested also. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

WANTED - Reg. Jersey bull, 12-15 mos. old. 856-478-2942.

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HOLSTEIN BULLS ready for free stalls and younger. High genomic tested bulls from contract matings and high type cow families. 610-932-6062. Call between 8:00-8:30 a.m.

BULLS FOR SALE & LEASE - Reg. Holsteins, any age out of dams with records to 30,000M, 1200F. Stump Acres. York Co. Call 717-792-3216.

7 Semen, Embryos

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9 Equipment & Machinery

2012 KRONE 1500 variable pack round baler with knives. 7500 bales, new front and back elevator chains. Excellent condition. Asking \$25,000. 570-727-2322. (4/12)

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10 Feeds

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11 Hay

LARGE SQUARE BALES, 3x4x8 first cutting timothy/orchard grass, bales weigh 1100 pounds, \$45 per bale. Second cutting baleage, 4x5 bales weigh 1200 pounds, \$75 per bale. Delivery available. Sullivan Co., Pa. 570-419-8981. (4/5)

GOOD QUALITY GRASS hay. Small square bales. Wyoming Co., Pa. 717-250-1399. (3/29)

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12 Straw & Bedding

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16 Fencing

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17 Silos

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19 Real Estate

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