

Merry Christmas

# FARM SHINE

We rise every week to cover farmers and agribusinesses



Farmshine • Volume 46, Number 17 • \$20 one year

Mailed the day before →

December 20, 2024



Milk volunteers from 97 Milk, namely GN Hursh (left) and Nelson Martin (not visible), along with supporter Mike Sensenig (right) enjoyed many conversations with visitors throughout the evening.

Photos by Sherry Bunting

## Christmas with cows shared with the public at milking time

By SHERRY BUNTING  
Special for Farmshine

RONKS, Pa. – What better place to be on a chilly evening 12 days before Christmas than in a stable with cows as a family goes about their evening milking and feeding?

How fitting to remind the public not just about where their milk comes from, but also the way the Lord Jesus entered this world as a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger in a stable, with cattle lowing His lullaby.

The second annual Christmas with the Cows at the Melvin Stoltzfoos farm was a big hit, drawing double the attendance of 380 people from six states to the 50-cow dairy near Ronks in Lancaster County.

While many visitors came from all around Lancaster and nearby counties, many also came from other parts of the state as well as New Jersey; Long Island, New York; a few from Delaware and Maine; and an over-the-road trucker brought his family from Houston, Texas after seeing the signs.

Local attendees like Bridgette Zell of Nottingham said they

saw the event posted on Facebook. She brought her two young boys to see what it was all about. Bridgette had the quote of the night as she stopped by the 97 MILK table, where GN Hursh of Ephrata and Nelson Martin of Robesonia were the volunteers handing out stickers, 6x6 cards, small magnets, and other informative goodies.

**“I get so tired of people saying milk is not for humans,” she said. “When I was growing up, if any of us didn’t feel well or had something wrong, my mother would tell us: ‘Drink a glass of milk see how you feel!’”**

One of her boys, Dylan, was thrilled to pet his first cow. He quickly learned the Jerseys were more curious to bring their noses right up to his hand. “This one must give chocolate milk!” he said about the brown cows, flashing a great big smile.

“Well, they are more curious than their black-and-white

herd mates,” I responded while capturing his photo, “and their milk is richer in fat and protein, but we still have to add the chocolate.”

The whole event is a leisurely walk around the barn during chore time, culminating at a table with whole milk, chocolate milk and homemade Christmas cookies.

This was not a fancy event, but rather a time to simply take in the serenity while the Stoltzfoos family – from the lit-tlest on up -- shared the blessing of their stable routines with the public.

“People ask me what do we get out of it? It’s really just seeing people have fun. Seeing people have fun with the cows is what we get out of it. Everyone I talked to was happy and in a good mood. People were tickled to have the opportunity to just be in a barn,” said Melvin.

And along the way, they learn something too. Upon entering, visitors are given a paper with fun facts about agriculture and the nutrition of delicious whole milk, along with a welcome note with facts about the farm -- names of the draft

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### PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

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## PHA convention slated; tickets and room reservations due January 16

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) members of the South Central District invite breeders, friends, supporters and other enthusiasts to their convention. It will be held at the Wyndham in Gettysburg, starting on Friday, February 7, with the PHA Board and annual meeting as well as many Junior contests. A good group of commercial exhibitors is expected and the traditional Dairy Bar will also be a part of it.

The award dinner is set for Friday evening and will honor Hall of Fame Award winner(s), the Distinguished Supporter Award recipient, Pioneer Award recipient, and the Distinguished Young Breeder Award winner.

Prior to dinner, the Junior speech winners will give their winning speech. Line dancing lessons and a Junior gathering is on the schedule for the youths on Friday evening. There will also be a fun auction with items donated by Holstein breeders and businesses from across the state. The proceeds benefit Pennsylvania Junior Holstein activities.

Saturday, February 8, will be "contest day" for Junior members. Contests include: Dairy Bowl, Extemporaneous Speech and the "On the Street." There will also be an opportunity for youths to go bowling in the afternoon.

Farm tours on Saturday include stops at Jobo Holsteins, Walk-Le Farm, Peace & Plenty Farm and Pheasant Echos, the latter two in neighboring Maryland. The day will conclude with the annual convention sale which will be a multi-media video and picture sale, with no live cattle at the sale venue. Consignments are being finalized, and sale information will be highlighted on PHA's Facebook page. Juniors will conclude the evening with the always popular Saturday night dance.

Sunday, February 9, will feature the awards breakfast, where many Junior members will be recognized for their achievements and accomplishments over the past year. In addition, All-Pennsylvania and Junior All-Pennsylvania winners will be recognized.

Room reservations are due by January 16 and can be made by contacting the Wyndham, Gettysburg at 717-339-0020.

Room reservation information and ticket order forms are also available on line at [www.paholsteins.com](http://www.paholsteins.com)

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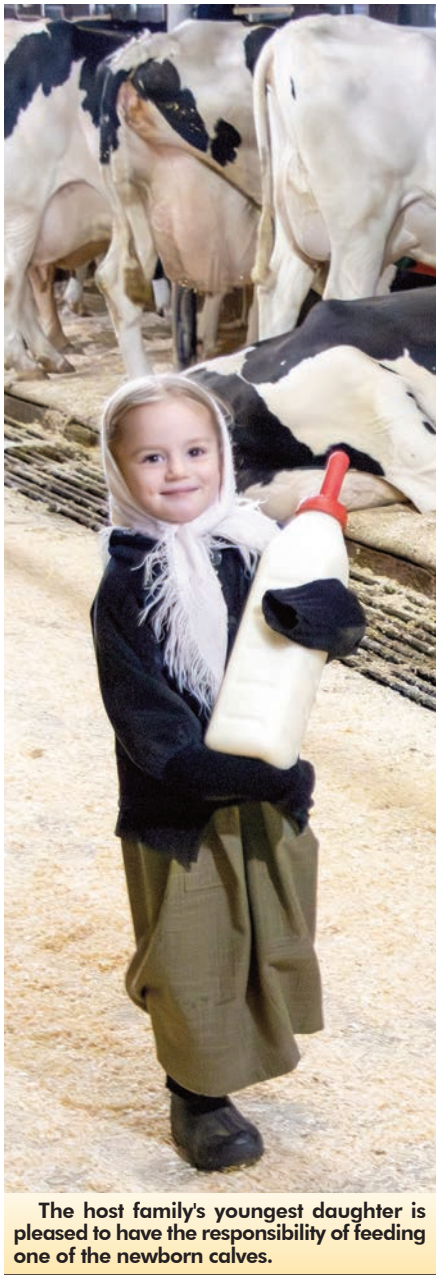
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The host family's youngest daughter is pleased to have the responsibility of feeding one of the newborn calves.

# Christmas

from page 1

horses, facts about Holsteins and Jerseys in the herd, fun facts about cows and what they eat. Visitors also receive a thank you card with the Christmas story as told in Luke 2:11-16 and the Reason for the season as told in John 3:16-17.

Melvin and his family truly love doing this. They are already thinking about next year's Christmas with the Cows, marked on the calendar for Dec. 12, 2025.

Feeling blessed to be dairying, Melvin and his family want to share this gift with others -- the quiet rhythms of milkers pulsating and cows munching, the soft sounds of their lowing, the nickers from the horse stalls, the rustling of calves at feeding time, the sight of clean, contented, cows in their stalls, placidly chewing their cud as the family moves the milkers down the row, amid casual conversations answering any questions the visitors may have.

"It's not about us," says Melvin. "It's about the cows. It's about people having the opportunity to see the cows."

The largest crowd came early, lined up right at the start of the evening milking at 4:30 p.m. Visitors continued to flow in steadily right up until the advertised ending time of 7:30 p.m. The family rented portable toilets and tower lights, placed outside. They



Dylan Zell of Nottingham attended the event with his mom and brother, flashing a big smile as he made contact with his first cow.

cleaned and emptied the loafing pen to make way for the 97 MILK table and refreshments.

Half a dozen people from Sensenig's Feed Mill in New Holland volunteered their time too. Nancy Sensenig manned the registration table, drawing people in with her ready smile and outgoing nature, while dairy nutritionists Kyle Sensenig, Steve Morris and Justin Brenneman answered questions about dairy cows and what they eat.

Other volunteers guided traffic to parking, and Mike Sensenig was encourager-in-chief -- walking around all smiles throughout the evening, talking with visitors.

"Melvin does a really good job here, and we support this because it's grassroots," said Kyle. "We like to get behind grassroots efforts that are an outreach to our community and consumers."

He observed a few repeat families who came out last year, but mostly, he shared: "We saw a lot of new faces tonight."

When asked what tough questions he may have encountered, he says it was really a relaxed evening, people were here out of genuine curiosity to experience something new that dairy farmers see and do every day.

He did get questions about grass-fed dairies and took the opportunity to broaden that discussion to recognize not all feeding systems are the same. He shared that these cows were getting grasses in their feedstuffs, and that cows are superheroes, able to utilize a wide variety of feedstuffs to make nutrient dense milk.

"The important thing is we want to have healthy and content cows, and that's really what drives every dairy farmer," he related.

As I walked through with a group of visitors from southern Lancaster and Chester counties, the conversation turned to A2 milk. Melvin talked about his own progress

toward a herd now 75% A2 through the bulls he selects for breeding. In his quiet manner, he demonstrated the reassuring message about how dairy farmers are always looking to improve and put their best quality forward.



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# Dairy promotion done right!



Nobody promotes milk like these people. At left, that's Susan Gilchrist, sister of Duane Spaulding, standing in the truck, right, whose dedicated efforts are near legendary. Ditto for Ann Dieffendorf, who is standing in the opposite corner. The occasion was the Christmas Parade in Cobleskill, N.Y. "If the cow suit fits me, I'll wear it," said Duane, and off they went. The beauty of it was, Duane reported, that the kids, as well as their parents were shouting "Bring whole milk back into our schools!" The momentum keeps building and with Vilsack and Stabenow on their way out, the Whole Milk in Schools campaign may be able to declare victory in early 2025. Oh! Did you notice the license plate on Duane's truck?

Photos submitted



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According to demandsage.com, \$1.3 Trillion was spent on Christmas 2023

We love Christmas. The traditions, the colored lights to brighten the much early darkness. The food and family & friends bring smiles. Yet, what is Christmas? "For GOD so loved the World (you) He gave (sent) his one and only Son the LORD JESUS CHRIST (John 3:16) to die on the CROSS for all sins as a gift to you on 'Good Friday.'" Then he rose from the dead 3 days later (1st Corinthians 15:3-4). Is he yours?

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*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!*

## Sausage casserole

Sausage casserole is on the menu in Washington as backroom cooking produced a Continuing Resolution (CR) that is 1500 pages full of last minute everything. In the same document as the \$100 billion in much needed disaster recovery funds and \$10 billion in economic relief for farmers and ranchers, along with basic funding of the federal government for essentials like national defense and medicare, there is also a lot of pork, including the funding of the Global Engagement Center under the State Department that had a budget of over \$75 million and is accused of censorship and furthering foreign propaganda. Why, at this point in time, would we not take care of the essential needs and let everything else off the table until a new Congress and new Administration take over. Why do we not take one item at a time and debate and vote? Disaster relief is needed. A farm bill extension is needed. National defense is needed. Funding of medicare for our seniors is needed.

Washington likes to bake all kinds of things together in one pan to get votes to the table. The trouble with that is we end up with something that might look good and even taste good going down, until we find out what's in it.

We can only hope our fellow Americans recovering from disasters are not collateral damage as conservatives rail against the sausage casserole menu. Meanwhile, President Biden throws around \$billions\$ in climate candy on his way out the door.

## DGA farce

The Scientific Report by the 2025-30 Dietary Guidelines Advisory (DGA) Committee was officially released last week with recommendations for USDA and HHS. The dairy industry is voicing gratitude that dairy still has its special spot on 'My Plate'. But that spot is still required to be low-fat or fat-free as the Committee weighed only the evidence USDA screened into their deliberations.

Even some of the DGAC members remarked about giving second looks on the role of milkfat, questioning its demonization. But, alas, they reasoned that their task did not ask them to consider childhood brain development, and even though some of the research that was allowed into their deliberations showed the benefits of milkfat, this 5-year DGA deal has an anti-fat, anti-animal narrative -- and they are sticking with it. In fact, they are reducing protein requirements, flipping the script to emphasize plant-based incomplete protein over animal-sourced complete protein. Why? Because of the saturated fat, they say. But we know the anti-animal agenda runs much deeper. The DGA cycles are deeply flawed. GT Thompson's House farm bill would have corrected this.

USDA and HHS will have a virtual meeting on Jan. 16 to hear public comment -- conveniently squeezed in before the Trump Administration comes to town. The good news is that the law requires a 60-day public comment period on the DGAC Scientific Report before the Secretaries of USDA and HHS issue the final 2025-30 Guidelines. That comment period ends Feb. 10, 2025 at the Federal Register at this link <https://www.regulations.gov/document/HHS-OASH-2024-0017-0001>

It's worth commenting because new Secretaries of USDA and HHS will be reading the comments this time. Secretary Vilsack is finally on his way out the door.

By the way, Republican House Ag Committee Chairman Congressman GT Thompson of Pennsylvania will have his annual listening session at the PA Farm Show on Sat., Jan. 4, and word is that Senate Democrat John Fetterman and Trump's Ag Secretary-designate Brooke Rollins may be there. Meanwhile, Senator Amy Klobuchar



(D-Minn.) was named top Democrat on the Senate Ag Committee next year as Ranking Member to the Republican Chairman John Boozman of Arkansas. Klobuchar and Fetterman (chair of nutrition subcommittee) both cosponsored Whole Milk for Healthy Kids!

## Milk futures drop, dairy product prices mixed

On Wed., Dec. 18, Class III milk future averaged \$19.10 for the next 12 months, down 4 cents/cwt compared to a week ago. Class IV milk futures averaged \$20.49, down 20 cents.

The daily CME spot market for dry whey was firm at last week's red-hot 75-cents/lb with 17 loads trading across 5 days. Meanwhile, the whey price in the USDA AMS weekly National Dairy Product Sales Report (NDPSR) edged only a fraction of a cent higher at 62 1/2 cents/lb for the week ending Dec. 14 -- not yet even reaching the mid-60s hit on the spot market over two months ago, not

to mention the rise to 70 to 75 cents we've seen over the past four weeks. The price that is actually used in the Federal Milk Marketing Order formula is the NDPSR price. The CME spot cheese market gained more than a dime this week. The 40-lb block cheddar price was pegged at \$1.86/lb, up 11 cents with 19 loads trading over 5 days. Pegged at \$1.7850/lb, the 500-lb barrel cheese price was also 11 cents higher, with 12 loads trading. At these levels, the U.S. CME spot cheese price on Dec. 18 is still 26 to 36 cents/lb below the Global Dairy Trade index price for industrial bulk cheddar at \$2.12/lb Dec. 17. Spot butter prices trimmed nearly 2 cents this week, pegged at \$2.51/lb Wednesday with 20 loads trading over 5 days. Grade A nonfat dry milk was off a penny from a week ago at \$1.3725/lb, with 24 loads trading.

## Jan. Class I mover drops \$1.05 at \$20.38

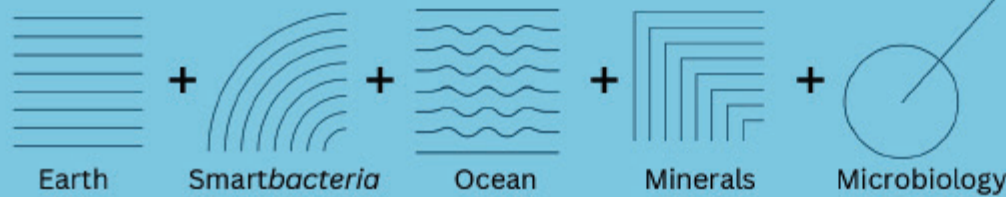
The Jan. advance Class I base price mover was announced at \$20.38 on Dec. 18, down \$1.05 per cwt below December's, but up \$1.90 from a year ago. This is 44 cents lower than it would have been if the 'higher of' method was used to calculate Class I skim.

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## Dairyman's Datebook

**DECEMBER 21**, 11 a.m. Northwest District of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association meeting, Hoss's Steak & Sea House, 1948 Leesburg-Grove City Road, Grove City.

**JANUARY 7-9**, PDP Managers Academy at the Marriot Quorum Dallas Addison in Dallas, Texas.

**JANUARY 17-18**, New York Holstein Senior Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, 6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse.

**JANUARY 18-19** New York Holstein Junior Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, 6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse.

**JANUARY 22**, 9:30 a.m. Calf management discussion, Lancaster Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pa.

**JANUARY 20**, 9:30 a.m. Georgia Dairy Conference, Marriott Savannah Riverfront, 100 General McIntosh Boulevard, Savannah, Ga.

**JANUARY 30**, 9 a.m. Allied Milk Producers Cooperative meeting, Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, Pa.

**FEBRUARY 5-6**, Pennsylvania Dairy Summit, Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, 215 Innovation Boulevard, State College.

**FEBRUARY 12**, 9 a.m. Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland (PFGC) annual conference, West Overton Village & Museum, 109 West Overton Road, Scottsdale, Pa.

**FEBRUARY 17**, 1 p.m. Dairy Old Timers Luncheon, O'Brien's Irish Pub, 701 West Lumsden Road, Tampa, Fla.

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## Auction Guide

**DEC. 31**, 10 a.m. Special Dairy Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

**JAN. 8**, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

**FEB. 8**, Pa. Holstein Convention Sale, Gettysburg, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

**MARCH 7**, Pa. Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

### Q & A time for HPAI slated at Keystone

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Center for Dairy Excellence will host a HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center at the Keystone Farm Show in York, Pennsylvania from January 7-9.

Staff from the Center for Dairy Excellence, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and Penn State Extension will be available for walk-ins from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at the Resource Center. No appointments are needed. Dairy producers who visit the HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center can:

- Start creating a biosecurity plan for their operation.
- Ask candid questions and sign up for voluntary testing.
- Get free biosecurity material such as: "No Trespassing Signs"; Lysol concentrate; scrub brushes; wash tubs; PPE samples like boot covers, gloves, masks, coveralls and more.

"With the large number of dairy herds and poultry flocks in Pennsylvania, and their close proximity to each other, early detection is important to controlling the spread in the event of a positive HPAI case. It's clear that biosecurity is important to Pennsylvania agriculture, but our goal with this Resource Center is to make it less intimidating for producers," said Valerie Mason-Faith, risk education program manager at the Center for Dairy Excellence. "We have a large inventory of signage and free PPE equipment, including wash kits, to share with producers who drop in to the Resource Center. We'll also have staff available to give honest answers to your questions and help you take the first steps to creating your biosecurity plan."

### 2025 PREMIER SELECT SIRES CUSTOMER APPRECIATION MEETING

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We are inviting Premier Select Sires member-customers to join us for a meal and a brief program at Shady Maple Smorgasbord. Attendees can enjoy cooperative updates, door prizes, and more.

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An RSVP is appreciated by January 15, 2025. Please call (855) 209-0388 and tell us your name and the number of guests who will be in attendance.

This toll-free number will also serve as an update line in the event of inclement weather.

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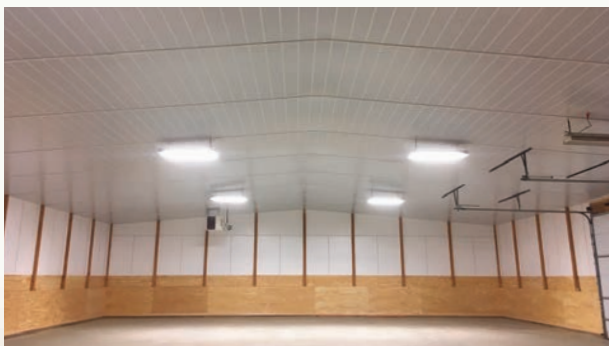
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# Federal Milk Marketing Order Referendum ends Dec. 31

By SHERRY BUNTING  
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Eligible dairy producers who had milk pooled on any Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) in January 2024 have received ballots for the Producer Referendum. — except for those who are members of cooperatives that bloc vote for their eligible members. No ballots for them.

Only ballots that are postmarked by Dec. 31, 2024, and are received by USDA by Jan. 15, 2025 will be counted.

A 'yes' vote means accepting the changes to the formulas that were announced on Nov. 12, and keeping a Federal Order in your area. A 'no' vote simply means you want the Federal Order in your area to be terminated.

## What does this mean for the milk check?

Whether voting 'yes' or 'no', it is important to realize a few things about these changes that will make it hard to see the true impacts, which will vary across the 11 FMMOs based mainly on Class I utilization. FMMOs with more Class I will see more net positive benefit, while those with less Class I will see neutral to negative impact.

Processors testified that with the larger 'make allowances,' the discounts producers have been seeing will wane and premiums could return.

All FMMOs are likely to see more stability as a result of some of the changes, such as returning the Class I base price mover to the 'higher of' method, although the second

mover for extended shelf life (ESL) milk could create some disparities down the road.

According to John Guess, author of the Milk Price blog at [milkprice.blogspot.com](http://milkprice.blogspot.com), the changes impact many parts of the formulas, not just the 'make allowance' credits for processors. Comparisons to past index data will be impossible, he says.

"Protein and 'other solids' levels are increasing, but the butterfat component level is not being changed in the formulas. The percentage of nonfat solids is also being increased. The reasoning behind these changes in the index formulas is confusing," Guess writes. Component yield changes to the index for-

mulas will not be implemented until six months after the other changes, and these index changes primarily impact Class I skim milk, which is paid on standardized solids non-fat. The butterfat is already paid on actual pounds shipped.

The impact of these formula changes on the published manufacturing class index prices will not necessarily reflect the impact on a dairy producer's actual revenue.

**The changes to the pricing formulas include:**

1) larger make allowance credits being deducted for the four commodities that are

turn to page 16



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## NOVEMBER 2024

### Adams

ROUND HILL DAIRY	105 HO	25862	1110	842
BER CRK	253 HO	25184	1045	809

### Bedford

BRENT HELSEL	112 HO	29127	1208	970
ADAM NOLT	90 HO	29053	1215	946
BOWMAN BROTHERS	201 HO	28058	1178	902
SINGING BROOK FARMS	312 HO	27777	1103	900
MARLIN D. HEISEY	141 HO	27203	1124	863
JOHN W. BECHTEL	63 HO	27560	1010	860
ANDREW & CHELSEY RITCHEY	83 HO	25458	1115	848
BRIAN & BARRY WOY	391 HO	26762	1039	839
HERSHBERGER FARM LLC.	183 HO	25100	1063	779
MERVIN RISSLER	67 HO	23456	957	762
SNIDER HOMESTEAD	29 HO	24167	930	756
NATALI BROTHERS	78 XX	23591	977	727
MIKE DIVELY	80 HO	21064	853	674
RYAN CARBAUGH	43 HO	17566	713	560
SNIDER HOMESTEAD	47 GU	16462	731	541
BETH CLARK & CHRIS REICHA	20 GU	15615	667	505

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

BRENT HELSEL	HO	34	112
ADAM NOLT	HO	74	90
JOHN W. BECHTEL	HO	78	63
ANDREW & CHELSEY RITCHEY	HO	80	83
BOWMAN BROTHERS	HO	85	201
MERVIN RISSLER	HO	96	67
SINGING BROOK FARMS	HO	112	312
MARLIN D. HEISEY	HO	140	141
BETH CLARK & CHRIS REICHA	GU	150	20
BRIAN & BARRY WOY	HO	180	391
KEITH FISHER	MS	182	28
SNIDER HOMESTEAD	GU	195	47
GLENN & MATT MOYER	XX	197	630

### Berks

SUMMIT LEVEL FARM	121 HO	34099	1403	1058
KURT LAND FARMS	318 HO	30827	1231	958
DEWDROP-MEDO HOLSTEINS	120 HO	30959	1234	948
ZAHNCROFT DAIRY LLC.	280 HO	29828	1225	938
LEONARD HORST	71 HO	29700	1163	933
BRUBAKER FAMILY FARM	117 HO	27590	1206	918
NEVIN BRUBAKER	115 HO	28764	1241	915
LAMAR GOCKLEY	121 HO	28680	1270	914
MOUNTAIN VIEW HOLSTEINS	136 HO	28272	1143	911
WOODEN BRIDGE FARM	63 HO	28274	1139	907
TULPACANAL FARM	159 HO	27869	1080	891
DARRYL OBERHOLTZER	95 HO	28509	1121	890
MEADOWVIEW DAIRY	114 HO	28617	1021	887
LEROY H. HOOVER	94 HO	27344	1066	884
SHELDON HURST	81 HO	28326	1093	874
KYLE GOOD	121 HO	27605	1107	866
GERALD HOOVER	73 HO	27160	1023	866
EVERETT NEWSWANGER	53 HO	26765	1053	852
CROSSKILL CREEK FARM	88 HO	25957	1023	849
LARRY BRUBAKER	102 HO	27297	1069	846
PHILIP NEWSWANGER	78 HO	26431	1018	835

LEON S. LAUVER	88 HO	26675	1044	830
FLOYD KURTZ	66 HO	26702	992	826
MATTHEW BENNETCH	140 HO	25099	1052	826
DERLYN EBERLY	100 HO	25402	1011	824
TODD SCHROEDER	164 HO	25662	1032	806
KY-ANNE-FARMS	135 HO	25087	1006	794
RONALD KELCHNER	142 HO	24651	957	793
NEIL BURKHOLDER	58 HO	25493	963	793
JACOB WEAVER	53 HO	24307	1013	779
BRIAN MARTIN	137 JE	20720	1061	777
KEVIN & JANICE BURKHOLDER	56 HO	24023	999	761
OAK GROVE HOLSTEINS	38 HO	23340	869	758
DUANE BURKHOLDER	80 JE	20634	1121	752
WOODEN BRIDGE FARM	20 JE	19393	1036	739
MARLIN S. LAUVER	69 HO	23246	936	731
AARON BURKHOLDER	137 JE	19763	1048	723
MATT HOUP	51 HO	20041	853	651
WILLIAM HOOVER	59 JE	17381	857	631

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

WOODEN BRIDGE FARM	HO	49	63
PHILIP NEWSWANGER	HO	51	78
NEVIN BRUBAKER	HO	64	115
LEONARD HORST	HO	93	71
SUMMIT LEVEL FARM	HO	97	121
WOODEN BRIDGE FARM	JE	104	20
GERALD HOOVER	HO	104	73
BRUBAKER FAMILY FARM	HO	109	117
KY-ANNE-FARMS	HO	124	135
TULPACANAL FARM	HO	131	159
KYLE GOOD	HO	131	121
EVERETT NEWSWANGER	HO	138	53
DARRYL OBERHOLTZER	HO	139	95
KEVIN & JANICE BURKHOLDER	HO	140	56
MEADOWVIEW DAIRY	HO	141	114
MARLIN S. LAUVER	HO	148	69
LAMAR GOCKLEY	HO	150	121
SHELDON HURST	HO	153	81
JACOB WEAVER	HO	158	53
MOUNTAIN VIEW HOLSTEINS	HO	164	136
LARRY BRUBAKER	HO	172	102
DUANE BURKHOLDER	JE	181	80
ZAHNCROFT DAIRY LLC.	HO	195	280
DEWDROP-MEDO HOLSTEINS	HO	196	120

### Blair

MILL HILL FARMS	493 HO	31936	1342	1029
SMITH HOLLOW FARMS	440 HO	30666	1233	999
KENSINGER FARMS	124 HO	29663	1160	981
PENN ENGLAND LLC.	2065 HO	28838	1227	967
ANDREW & JEN HELTZEL	141 HO	26989	1233	936
SMITH HOLLOW FARMS	17 BS	26280	1062	904
MERLE & PRISCILLA FOX	120 HO	26921	1111	888
COVE VIEW FARM	175 HO	26669	1174	880
JAMES BAKER	128 HO	26300	1079	876
RYAN JEN CLARK	295 JE	20506	1112	845
BURKET FALLS FARM	99 HO	25648	1077	828
STONEY HOLLOW JERSEYS	64 JE	17899	878	658
BAILEY FARM	85 HO	19841	827	645

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

MERLE & PRISCILLA FOX	HO	61	120
ANDREW & JEN HELTZEL	HO	85	141
KENSINGER FARMS	HO	86	124
RYAN JEN CLARK	JE	98	295

SMITH HOLLOW FARMS	HO	111	440
MILL HILL FARMS	HO	118	493
BURKET FALLS FARM	HO	122	99
COVE VIEW FARM	HO	151	175
PENN ENGLAND LLC.	HO	170	2065
BAILEY FARM	HO	193	85

### Bradford

JAY GOOD & BEN & KARLA	721 HO	29806	1190	949
SOUTHMONT FARMS	388 HO	27307	1166	877
KIM, DORTHY & LESLIE KINS	84 HO	25051	932	766
BRUCE KING JR.	90 HO	24021	954	765
STEVE GROFF	117 HO	22234	928	728
LISA SCHUCKER	64 JE	18073	960	709
SOUTHMONT FARMS	146 JE	19000	1007	699
NOBLEDALE FARM	85 JE	17252	841	645

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

JAY GOOD & BEN & KARLA MULL	HO	97	721
STEVE GROFF	HO	161	117
SOUTHMONT FARMS	HO	179	388
KIM, DORTHY & LESLIE KINSMAN	HO	186	84

### Bucks

CROOKED ACRES DAIRY	53 HO	28985	1066	898
DELAWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY	31 HO	26143	1127	854
TANNERS BROS. DAIRY	232 HO	24139	869	716
GALEN & RANDY LEATHE	53 HO	18345	763	581

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

CROOKED ACRES DAIRY	HO	169	53
DELAWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY	HO	182	31

### Cb/Cmn/Crb

THOUSAND HILL DAIRY	218 HO	23774	887	715
THOUSAND HILL DAIRY	16 HO	22544	834	689

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

THOUSAND HILL DAIRY	HO	138	218
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### Chester

DAN & PENNY ULMER	249 HO	25518	1090	774
ASPEN HOLLOW	45 HO	24299	1007	729
DANIEL E. SMUCKER	51 HO	22516	960	703
PENN VIEW	49 HO	22579	886	692
MICHAEL K. KING	42 HO	21736	888	678

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

MICHAEL K. KING	HO	84	42
PENN VIEW	HO	84	49
JEFFERY BIDDLE	HO	155	83
DANIEL E. SMUCKER	HO	156	51
DAN & PENNY ULMER	HO	158	249
ASPEN HOLLOW	HO	196	45

LEON KING	65 HO	27688	1047	840
DAVID K. KING	83 HO	26047	1128	838
AMOS S. LAPP JR.	45 HO	26677	1048	837
AARON K. MILLER	67 HO	27432	1089	835
PEI-VALLEY	238 HO	24239	1047	835
JOHN S. BLANK, JR.	66 HO	27112	1051	827
CHRIST KAUFFMAN	54 HO	26065	1051	815
WILMER E. KING	60 HO	25488	1061	797
NOAH H. MARTIN	69 HO	25509	1094	796
BEN K. FISHER	89 HO	25166	1038	787
ELVIN E. KAUFFMAN	75 HO	25584	981	759
SAMUEL E. BLANK	60 HO	23835	914	745
AMOS LAPP	63 HO	24601	907	743
BENJAMIN & SADIE GLICK	54 HO	24286	973	742
DELMAR SENSENIG	126 HO	22753	918	738
SAMUEL E. STOLTZFUS	53 HO	24109	1010	732
BENJEL M. KAUFFMAN, JR.	51 HO	23258	886	724
JONAS L. FISHER	68 HO	24011	909	720
DAVID S. & MARY STOLTZFUS	43 HO	23853	1018	718
ELMER S. KING	57 HO	21682	899	713
ISAAC FISHER	43 HO	21672	926	678
STEVEN M. FISHER	40 HO	21034	861	633
J. DAVID LAIR	62 HO	19426	803	616
DON & PAUL GABLE	108 AY	18413	785	609
JOHN B. FISHER	54 HO	20648	801	605
DAVID S. STOLTZFUS	44 HO	18354	733	581
MIKE S. ZOOK	65 AY	16916	679	541
DANIEL E. STOLTZFUS	39 HO	18013	773	539

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

THE FARM AT DOE RUN	JE	75	13
NOAH H. MARTIN	HO	97	69
JOE & KRISTEN LUSBY	HO	105	63
BENJAMIN & SADIE GLICK	HO	115	54
LEON KING	HO	116	65
BRIAN D. NEWSWANGER	HO	116	95
J. DAVID LAIR	HO	123	62
J & M DAIRY	HO	128	252
JOEL M. KAUFFMAN	HO	132	74
IRVIN ZIMMERMAN	HO	144	40
STEPHEN BEILER	HO	147	69
JOHN S. BLANK, JR.	HO	151	66
CHRIST KAUFFMAN	HO	152	54
DON & PAUL GABLE	AY	153	108
BENJEL M. KAUFFMAN, JR.	HO	154	51
AMOS S. LAPP JR.	HO	161	45
AARON K. MILLER	HO	163	67
DAVID S. & MARY STOLTZFUS	HO	164	43
ELMER S. KING	HO	167	57
SAMUEL E. STOLTZFUS	HO	168	53
WILMER E. KING	HO	170	60
ELVIN E. KAUFFMAN	HO	175	75
AMOS LAPP	HO	179	63
DELMAR SENSENIG	HO	190	126
MIKE S. ZOOK	AY	192	65
DAVID S. STOLTZFUS	HO	198	44

#### HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000



# CoBank predicts \$8 billion in new dairy processing plants

DENVER, Colo. — The U.S. economy continues to outpace earlier expectations, but rural industries are disproportionately exposed to federal policy and face downside risks in the coming year. So says a report issued on December 12th by CoBank, the backbone of the Farm Credit System.

On the subject of Dairy, CoBank predicts that record investment will continue to grow the category. Specifically:

The U.S. will see an unprecedented \$8 billion in new dairy processing investment through 2026. Some of the new plants are poised to come online in 2025, with about half of the investment in the cheese category. The expected surge in cheese and whey output will likely put downward pressure on dairy product prices in the second half of the year. Sourcing additional milk supplies to fill new plant capacity is a looming question.

The years 2023 and 2024 will go down as the first back-to-back years since the late 1960s that U.S. milk production took a downturn. On the flip side, higher component levels in farmgate milk, largely butterfat and protein, have lifted finished product yields.

The U.S. continues to benefit from solid economic growth, low unemployment and moderating inflation. From today's vantage point, the U.S. economy seems likely to continue on that trajectory into 2025. However, the outlook for the rural economy is more volatile and uncertain. Rural industries are disproportionately exposed to federal policy, and the outcome of the 2024 election cycle promises to bring significant changes in the federal government's approach to everything from international trade and immigration to energy exploration and rural economic development.

According to a comprehensive year-ahead outlook report from CoBank's Knowledge Exchange, the high level of policy uncertainty facing rural industries adds to their already long list of headwinds and challenges.

"The environment we enter in 2025 hasn't fully defined itself yet, but many of the policies proposed by the incoming administration would likely have a negative impact on U.S. agriculture," said Rob Fox, director of CoBank's Knowledge Exchange. "Open access to export markets and labor availability are critically important for agricultural producers and processors. Depending on how policy plays out, those two areas could be big chal-

lenges in 2025 and beyond."

Most economists are forecasting 2025 U.S. GDP growth around 2.5%-3.0%, essentially the same as today. However, those forecasts are based on rather mild assumptions on forthcoming policy changes. When taken in isolation, President-elect Trump's proposed policies — tax cuts, decreased labor supply and tariffs on imported goods — are all inflationary. Consequently, longer-term interest

rates have already edged higher, and the market has downshifted expectations for further Fed rate cuts in 2025. There is a good chance the proposed tariffs and the crack-down on undocumented immigrants will be more disruptive than markets have priced in, particularly in industries like construction and agriculture.

Congress is expected to wrap up the lame turn to page 13

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## Georgia Dairy Conference begins January 20th

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The Georgia Dairy Conference in January is open for all farmers and guests. It will be preceded again in 2025 by the GDC Pre-Conference Symposium. The 2-hour informal session will take place on Monday, January 20, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Sponsored by Balchem, smaXtec, and Church & Dwight, the pre-conference symposium will focus on new technology and services that are driving Georgia's dairy industry

forward. Producers and related dairy industry professionals are invited to stop by the symposium to hear from an outstanding lineup of speakers.

The Georgia Dairy Conference is a 3-day event, to be held from Monday, January 20, to Wednesday, January 22, at the Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, 100 General McIntosh Boulevard, Savannah, Ga.

## Premier Select Sires Scholarships available

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa. — Premier Select Sires will award up to \$20,000 to students within the Premier territory through the 2025 Premier Future Ag Leaders Scholarship Program. Two exemplary students will receive \$2500 scholarships through either the Johnny Daniel Memorial Scholarship or the Wayne Dudley Scholarship. Several other students will receive scholarships of \$750 to \$1000 in value. Completed scholarship applications are due January 31, 2025.

Scholarship application forms are available under the "News" tab of [www.premierselectsires.com](http://www.premierselectsires.com), by calling (570) 836-3168, or by emailing [office@premierselect.com](mailto:office@premierselect.com).

Eligible students include high school seniors through college seniors presently enrolled or planning to enroll in an undergraduate agriculture-related major. The

student or his/her parent or guardian must reside in the Premier membership area and must be an active Premier customer in good standing. Previous scholarship winners remain eligible during subsequent award years; however, a student can only receive a \$2500 scholarship once in his/her school career.

The Premier Future Ag Leaders Scholarship Program provides financial support to eligible college undergraduates in agricultural majors. The program provides additional return to the cooperative's member-owners by supporting the next generation of young people desiring to study and work in the agriculture industry. The Premier Select Sires, Inc. Board of Directors has made a commitment to providing money to support this scholarship program on an ongoing annual basis.

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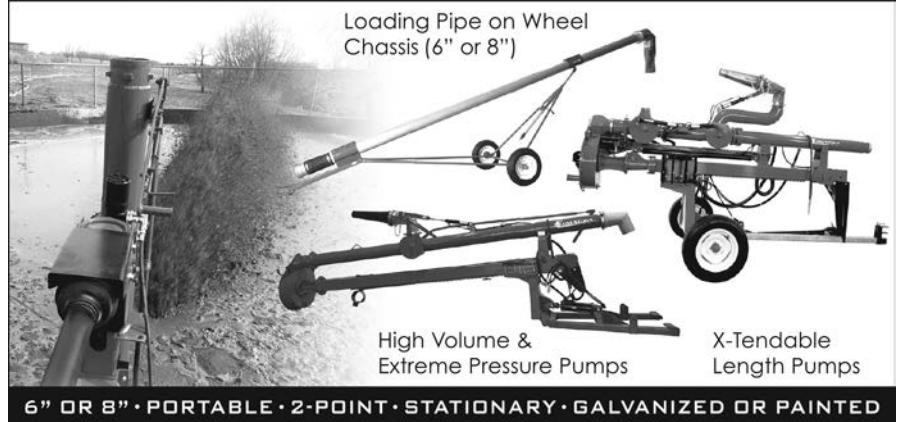
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# CoBank from page 9

duck session of the 118th Congress by Dec. 19, hopefully addressing important pieces of unfinished business. A one-year extension of the 2018 Farm Bill is increasingly likely. President-elect Trump is expected to pursue an ambitious first-100 days of executive orders and other legislative activity that will likely include many of his campaign promises. These may include significant deportation efforts and immigration reform, implementation of tariffs, extending the 2017 tax cuts and providing regulatory relief rolling back the Biden administration's initiatives. The 119th Congress will have a long and challenging to-do list when members return to Washington on Jan. 3.

The short-lived commodity boom precipitated by global droughts, the war in Ukraine

and COVID-19 supply issues is now a distant memory. Row crop prices are down nearly 50% from their 2022 highs. But production costs have remained elevated, and profitability has plunged to decade-plus lows. The silver lining is that dairy and livestock producers are generally profitable due to low feed costs and resilient consumer demand.

A strengthening U.S. dollar, combined with the potential for trade disputes and record-large South American crops, weigh heavily on the outlook for grain and oilseed prices in 2025. U.S. farmers are widely expected to struggle with further margin compression as weaker commodity prices test farmers' ability to lower production costs. Crop input decisions will be evaluated much more closely with a focus on inputs that provide the greatest return on investment. The bearish outlook for oil prices diminishes the demand picture for ethanol, biodiesel and re-

newable diesel. Uncertainty over U.S. biofuel policy under the new administration also clouds the demand outlook for biofuels.

The headline news for food, beverage and consumer packaged goods in 2025 is President-elect Trump's nomination of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to lead the Department of Health and Human Services. Kennedy's purported goals include eliminating ingredients banned in other countries and "getting the chemicals

out" of America's food supply.

Meanwhile, consumers' renewed focus on their health and the popularity of GLP-1 weight-loss drugs are showing signs of impacting food manufacturers. GLP-1 users purchase around 8% less food compared with average consumers, according to J.P. Morgan research. Food and beverage manufacturers' concerns about volume attrition are likely to continue well into 2025.



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*Triple-Hil Sires nears 15 years of providing sought-after genetics*

# Challenger-Red, Radix-P and Lithium merit attention

SMITHSBURG, Md. — Triple-Hil Sires will celebrate 15 years of business next month. As 2024 comes to a close, and the December Sire Summaries are on breeders' minds, here are a few updates and highlights of their program.

• 525HO138 Challenger-Red \*CV is a Done Right son of the legendary 'Apple' and is looking like the real deal, reports Jared Martin. Although he doesn't have enough classified daughters to receive a type proof at the time the most recent catalog was printed, there are enough of them in the milking string across the country.

"Our vision with this mating was to compliment Apple's amazing qualities. So far, we are observing the Challenger

daughters to be just that," says Jared. "They exhibit Done Right's balanced, moderate sized frames and wide front ends, with beautiful 'Apple' udders tucked underneath. As expected from his pedigree, Challenger debuted his first milk proof with an impressive +.27% butterfat.

"The bull himself is developing in a graceful manner, exhibiting wonderful balance throughout and travels on an excellent set of feet and legs. We think Challenger-Red can serve a purpose for all dairymen, including Red & White, show-oriented breeders who are looking for something different to compliment their mainstream bloodlines."

• 525HO135 Radix P \*RC is a Rex-PP-Red son and hails from

a "hidden gem" cow family in southwestern Pennsylvania. "He is a beautiful blend of the round traits of his sire and the incredible dairyness and angularity of his dam," Jared observed. "Now with proven status, Radix looks to be a very consistent transmitter, who can be depended on to bring some specific qualities to a mating.

"Radix, as a 5-year old mature bull and has developed into quite a tank," Jared continued. He has loads of smooth quality and he is transmitting the same. As you will notice, his aAa numbers have been updated slightly by an official analyzer committee to 5-6-1-4-2-3.

"The Radix daughters are quite consistent in their form. They are generally shorter in stature, wide through the front end, with great spring to the rib. From the rear, they consistently have those tight Rex udders and great feet and legs. Protect him on stature and openness of rib.

"Although their smooth condition may belie the fact, the Radix daughters are good milkers; a group that we pictured at a farm in Pennsylvania are averaging over 90 lbs./day," Jared reported.

• 525HO134 Lithium is a Jonah son from the heart of Mt-Glen's 'L' family. He is now proven, with already over 160 milking daughters in his proof. His classified daughters average a respectable 80.9 with an age-adjusted score of 83.7

"Lithium carries a rare aAa code of 4-6-5, and we are observing him to be transmitting these qualities well," Jared stated. "The Lithium daughters exhibit wide, rugged frames with deep chests and good bone substance. They usually have a significant slope from hips to pins. Their udders are solid and functional. The oldest daughters at Mt-Glen are already classified Very Good in their second lactation.

"Lithium himself is one incredible individual, with an impressive upstanding front end, tremendous capacity, and excellent feet and legs.

"If you're looking for a bull who can add a high dose of strength and substance to your tall, narrow, cattle, Lithium is your bull," Jared concluded.


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**REMINDER: No Farmshine on Dec. 27. Monday deadline for Jan. 3 issue.**

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<p style="text-align: center;">Specializing in construction &amp; renovation of agricultural buildings</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Dairy Facilities • Pole Barns • Free Stall Barns Concrete Work • Reroofing • Horse Barns</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>E&amp;F Ag Systems</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ag Construction &amp; Equipment</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New freestall &amp; heifer barns. Freestall barn renovations. We specialize in all types of dairy curtains.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2812 Old Phila. Pk. (717) 768-0304 Bird in Hand, PA 17505</p>		
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 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>King Construction Co., LLC</b> 525 Hollander Rd. New Holland, PA 17557</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office: (717) 354-4740 Cell: (717) 304-4993 dhoover619@comcast.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Livestock Buying Stations are OPEN:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: small;"> <tr> <td>7195 Molly Pitcher Hwy Greencastle, PA 17225 Monday &amp; Wednesday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td> <td>503 School Rd Denver, PA 17517 Tuesday &amp; Thursday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Contact Doug Musser: (267) 371-9824</p>	7195 Molly Pitcher Hwy Greencastle, PA 17225 Monday & Wednesday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	503 School Rd Denver, PA 17517 Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
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## PHA seeks award nominations by Jan. 1

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) is inviting nominations for three prestigious awards that will be presented at their annual convention in Gettysburg on Friday evening, February 7. The coveted recognitions include the Hall of Fame, Pioneer, and Distinguished Supporter awards. Nominations are due by January 1.

More about the awards:

**Hall of Fame:** The award is presented annually to a member(s) of PHA recognizing an individual or couple for their achievements and contributions to the Holstein industry as well as involvement and leadership in other agricultural and community activities. This could be an individual(s) that is an accomplished Registered Holstein breeder or has significantly contributed in leadership and involvement to the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, or both.

**Pioneer:** The Pioneer Memorial Award posthumously recognizes an individual, not already in the Pennsylvania Holstein Association Hall of Fame, for their contributions to the

Holstein industry at the local, state and national levels. This award will be selected by the Hall of Fame Committee and be awarded to no more than one person per year. Nominations can be made on behalf of former Pennsylvania Holstein members who worked for the improvement of the Holstein breed and its members in Pennsylvania.

**Distinguished Supporter:** Award. The award will be presented annually to recognize an individual or company (not a current dairy farmer/producer) who through their work has supported and enhanced the work and goals of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association. If an individual is nominated, they must be living at the time of the nomination.

**More information** about any of these awards can be obtained by contacting:

Pennsylvania Holstein Association  
839 Benner Pike  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone (814) 234-0364  
e-mail: contact@paholsteins.com  
Website: www.paholsteins.com

Applications can be found on the PHA website and should be returned to PHA by January 1, 2025.

## Consignments invited for PHA Convention Sale

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Top-shelf Holstein genetics are sought for the 2025 Convention Sale which will be held on February 8th in Gettysburg. Selection criteria to meet are:

Fancy, full pedigree, marketing appeal, and high genomics. Since it's a multi-media event sale PHA will favor traditional choices, embryo packages, IVF sessions, the pick of cows from a top group of your herd, a pick of a show calf from your calf inventory per class, stellar individuals, and donor cows.

Chairman Josh Sanders and his team of selectors ask that you share your possibilities with them by Dec. 28th. Contact Sanders at 732-406-4949 or David J. Lentz 717-329-9202.

This multi-media sale hopes to connect Holstein breeders with the most significant cow families available today.

Thank you for reading  
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Pictured: Aubree Kenyon,  
1st Place Winner at PA Junior Dairy Show



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**Federal** \_\_\_\_\_ from page 7

used to price milk components;

2) small increase in the butterfat recovery calculation within the protein formula;

3) removal of the 500-lb barrel cheese price to use only 40-lb block Cheddar cheese prices in the formulas;

4) changes to the percentage of component levels as used

in the AMS announced "index prices" for the four classes of milk;

5) changes that establish the Class I skim base price using the 'higher of' Class III or IV advance skim prices, except for the use of a separate rolling 'average of' adjuster for Extended Shelf Life (ESL) milk; and

6) increases in most location differentials by varying amounts across the pricing surface map for Class I milk.

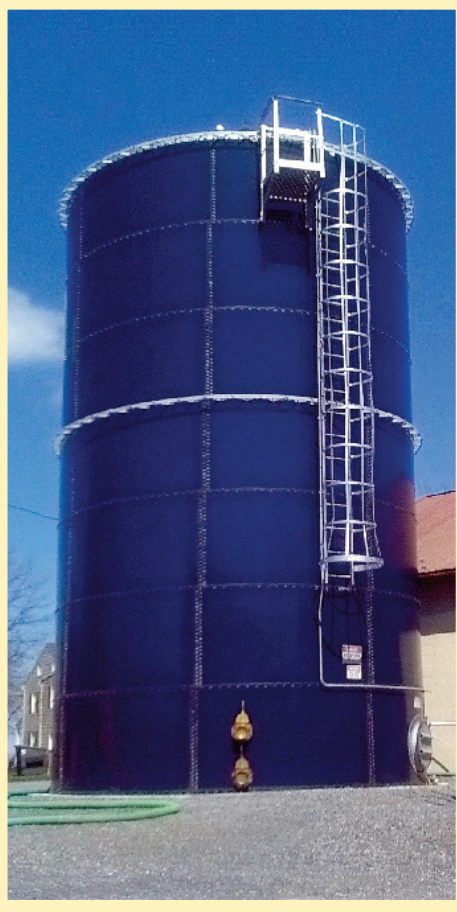
Be aware that USDA AMS publishes monthly prices for the

different classes of milk. You see them reported in Market Moos every month or get them in your mailbox from the Market Administrator or USDA email bulletins.

USDA expects to implement the full package of changes by June 2025, if two-thirds of producers in each FMMO approve continuation of their FMMOs. However, the standardized component percentage changes will be implemented six months later, and will mask some of the negative impact of the make allowance deduction as reflected in announced 'index' prices.

All this really means is that the parts of the package that affect manufacturing milk prices mainly will change the announced index price formulations, but producers will continue to be paid for actual components on most of the milk, anyway, so some of that value moves from a producer's basis to the announced index price.

We'll dig into what this can mean in terms of risk management, net impact, and market trend comparability as the process unfolds in 2025.



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# Select Sires announces their latest sire graduations

PLAIN CITY, Ohio – Select Sires graduated eight Holstein, four Jersey and one Brown Swiss sire to daughter-proven line-ups following the December sire summary. The newly proven sires are designed to deliver the most important traits linked to economic success, including standouts for the Herd Health Profit Dollars® (HHP\$®) index.

**Holstein highlights:**

• Leading the graduating class with elite HHP\$ values are 7HO15624 Superb (+1056), 7HO15778 Beethoven (+1056) and 7HO15821 Frost Bite (+1032).

• Fertility forward sires include 7HO15640 Moonraker (+3.1 FI), Frost Bite (+2.2 FI) and Superb (+1.3 FI).

• Halo-PP, a son of Limelight, has earned the Mastitis ResistantPRO® designation (+907 HHP\$, 107 Z MAST).

• 7HO15839 Magnum, a son of Alphabet (+2143 PTAM, +1005 HHP\$, +1.2 H LIV, +0.5 FI, 106 Zoetis Calf Livability).

• Moonraker, Beethoven, Frost Bite, Magnum, Mashak and Halo PP have all qualify for the RobotPRO® designation.

• 7HO15634 CADILLAC combines elite conformation (+2.18 UDC, +1.08 FLC) with production power (+1083 PTAM).

• With Udder Composite values above +2.00, Halo-PP (+2.19), Cadillac (+2.18) and Mashak (+2.12) are expected to improve mammary systems.

**Jersey highlights:**

• 7JE1933 JX ELS ranks within the breed's top-5 sires for JPI™ (+164) and offers excellent milk production and components (+1108 PTAM, +121 CFP). He's A2A2 beta-casein and BB kappa-casein along with strong HHP\$ (+711) and DWPS® (+823).

• 7JE1965 Blizzard is the first 7JE1699 JX Pine son to graduate and boasts a DWPS (+1088) and WTS® (+151) values and a CWS™ (+151). He adds strength and dairy character with strong udder attachments.

• Jerseyland Sires graduate, 7JE1980 Kamakazi, hails from a deep pedigree and offers a pleasing linear chart. He's A2A2 beta-casein and BB kappa-casein and transmits important conformation traits without sacrificing milk yield (+1.6 PTAT, +18.9 JUI™, +1279 PTAM)

• 14JE2002 Volant is +157 CWS\$ and 113 for Zoetis' Calf

Scours trait.

• Each of the new Jersey graduates is available with gender SELECTED™ semen.

**Brown Swiss highlight**

• 9BS924 Tank offers a combination of high production and

elite Type (+1023 PTAM, +77 CFP, +0.9 PTAT). He hails from a long line of Excellent dams going back to the 2012 Wisconsin Cow of the Year, Cozy Nook Pronto Twilight "4E92 4E93MS" SBC. Tank is expected to improve mammary systems in the next generation (+1.03 UDC, +1.20 RUW).

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**REMINDER: No Farmshine on Dec. 27.**  
 Monday deadline for Jan. 3 issue.

# Merry Christmas!

*"For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*  
**Isaiah 9:6**

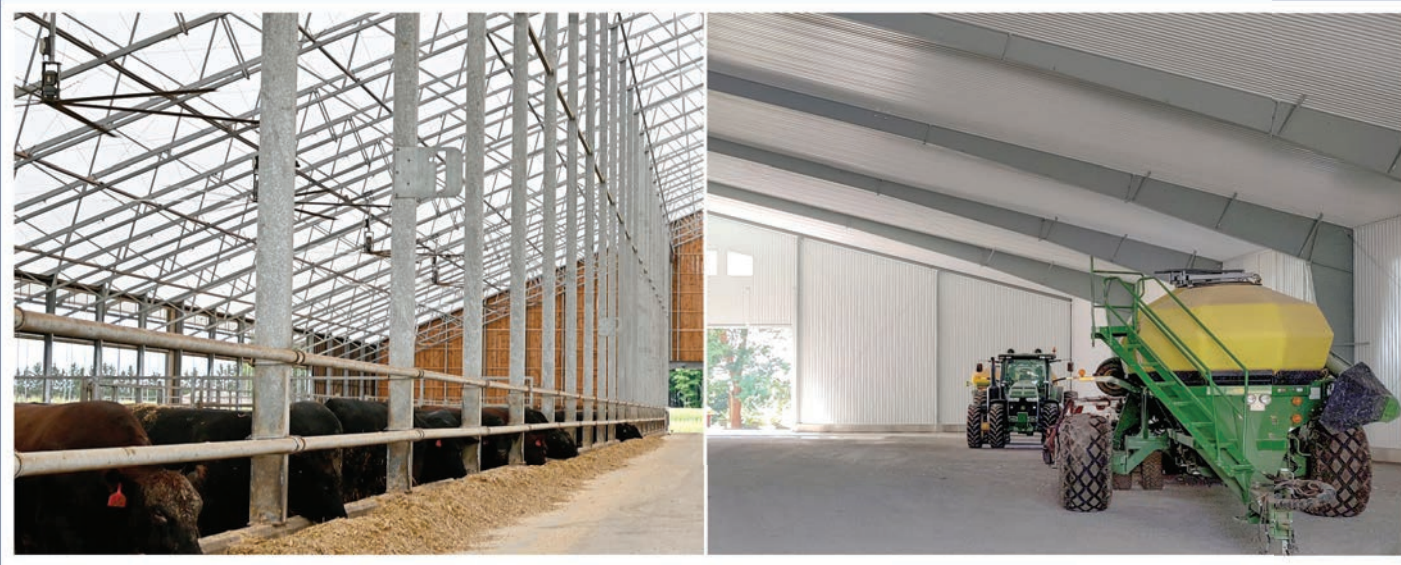


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## Votes are in for who will sing at the Farm Show

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The performers who will sing the National Anthem daily and at special events during the 2025 Pennsylvania Farm Show have been selected. Finalist 9-year-old Cadence Kline from Barnesville, Schuylkill County, got the most social media fan-votes in the Pennsylvania Farm Show National Anthem contest, Oh, Say Can You Sing? She will sing live to kick off the 109th Pennsylvania Farm Show at 8 a.m. on Saturday January 4th.

"Our reliance on agriculture and our pride in the 'Star-Spangled Banner' unite us, regardless of our differences. Cadence and talented singers from across Pennsylvania will set a tone of unity and pride in our heritage and our bright future together as we begin each day at the 2025 Pennsylvania Farm Show," said State Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding.

A panel of judges selected 20 finalists from among 40 qualified entries. Finalists' videos were posted on Facebook for fan voting to determine those who will sing live throughout the week.

A contest winner will sing in the GIANT Expo Hall of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex and Expo Hall at 8 a.m. each day of the show, from January 4-11.

Winners, and the dates they will sing, are listed below:

- Friday, Jan. 3 at 5:30 p.m. at PA Preferred Reception – Hannah Weaver from York
- Saturday, Jan. 4 at 8 a.m. – Cadence Kline, from Barnesville, Schuylkill County.
- Saturday, Jan. 4 at 10 a.m. at opening ceremony – Alona Buzey, Newmansstown, Lebanon County.
- Sunday, Jan. 5 at 8 a.m. – Shellenberger Siblings, Mount Joy, Lancaster County
- Monday, Jan. 6 at 8 a.m. – East Stroudsburg North High School Chorus, Dingman's Ferry, Pike County.
- Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 8 a.m. – Biglerville High School Select Chorus, Biglerville, Adams County.
- Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 10 a.m. at Junior Livestock Sale – Alexandra "Ally" Bet, Barnesville, Schuylkill County.
- Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 8 a.m. – Alyssa Horton, Robertson, Huntingdon County.
- Thursday, Jan. 9 at 8 a.m. – Crystalyn Gureckis, York.
- Thursday, Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. at Army-Navy Cookoff – Brayden Cressman, Perkasia, Bucks County.
- Friday, Jan. 10 at 8 a.m. – Camp Hill High School RoaR, Camp Hill, Cumberland County.
- Saturday, Jan. 11 at 8 a.m. – Penelope Shaw, Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County.



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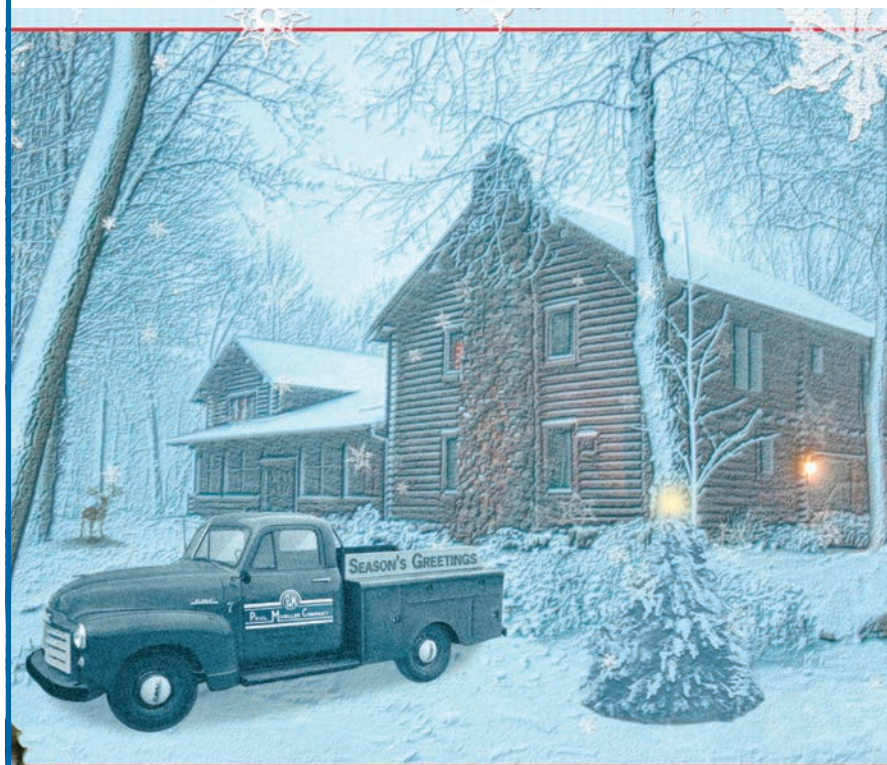
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