

Happy Independence Day!

FARM SHINE

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July 5, 2024



USDA issues draft FMMO decision; industry feedback needed

American Dairy Coalition pleased to see 'higher of' for 'regular' Class I, but questions ESL 'adjuster,' and higher processor 'make allowances'

GREEN BAY, Wis. – USDA issued its draft decision on Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) changes, which will be the Recommended Decision when published in the Federal Register in early July. At that point, industry feedback will be collected during a 60-day public comment period.

“We appreciate the work of the Department through the long hearing process sorting through 21 proposals and seeking to meet the needs of a diverse industry. We are pleased to see the draft includes returning the Class I ‘mover’ to the ‘higher of’ method. This was a key policy priority for the American Dairy Coalition and an area of consensus among dairy farmers, but we do have initial concerns in some of the details as well as other portions of the draft decision,” said Laurie Fischer, ADC CEO.

According to USDA, the 60-day public comment period will be followed by the Department’s evaluation of feedback before publishing a Final Rule. Then producers will vote toward the end of 2024 or beginning of 2025.

“Even though the draft decision appears to be responsive to dairy farmers, it does not treat all Orders fairly and could result in farmers voting “no” to the changes, only to discover that they’ve unintentionally voted out the individual Order in which they vote,” Fischer suggests. “We will take time to fully digest the draft decision and economic impacts and will be working to educate farmers on what the voting process is, who is eligible to vote, and what their vote means.”

A surprise for Class I is the USDA proposes changing back to the ‘higher of’ only for ‘reg-

Emphasis on herd health and nutrition

Pictured on a hillside along Solanco Road near Quarryville in southern Lancaster County, cows graze and gaze, unaware that the photographer was on a nostalgic drive on that recent Sunday evening. Kind of “home ground” you might say. Now owned by an Amish family, the farm was the property of the late Richard P. Maule many years ago and later his son, William R. Maule. No matter who owns the cows or where they are, herd health is paramount and high quality forages hold the key.

Articles within this edition tell more.

Photo by Dieter Krieg



ular’ (fresh) fluid milk. The Class I milk used to make extended shelf life (ESL) products, including shelf-stable milk, would be priced using a 24-month rolling adjuster that incorporates the ‘averaging’ method.

“How will this split pricing within Class I affect competition and ultimately our dairy farmers? We hope to see USDA provide some assessment of this,” Fischer relates.

“We are also disappointed that USDA has

proposed higher make allowance credits for processors, which are – in effect – deductions from farmer milk checks that are embedded within the pricing formulas. The industry does not yet have mandatory, audited cost surveys, and there is no connection between increased processor credits and a transparent, adequate price paid to farmers,” says Fischer, adding that these two elements have been key parts of ADC’s policy priorities since

dropped while proposals to add other bulk products to the pricing survey were excluded from the draft decision,” says Fischer.

To read USDA’s recommended decision, notice to trade, and supplemental documents, including analysis of economic impact, and how to file comments, visit <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/moa/dairy/hearings/national-fmmo-pricing-hearing>

January of 2022.

The brunt of increased make allowances falls upon dairy farmers in Federal Orders that already see their All Milk Price running \$1 or more behind the national average for most of the past 18 months. This has affected the relevance of the Dairy Margin Coverage program for farmers in areas like the Upper Midwest, she explains.

“Increasing the make allowances at this time makes the disparity worse,” Fischer observes. “We are grateful for the proposed updates to milk composition, Class I differentials, and butterfat reconciliation. But these changes have limited positive impact in Class III FMMOs and do not balance out the negative impact of the make allowance increases.”

USDA’s own economic analysis shows the entire package of all proposed changes, combined, would have increased the FMMO pool values -- nationwide -- by an average of 32 cents per hundredweight over the past five years. In contrast, the Upper Midwest would have seen their pool values decline by 10-cents per cwt., 20 cents for California.

On the pricing survey, ADC did not oppose dropping barrel cheese, “but we are disappointed that the barrels were

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Tour to Italy is on PDP calendar plus much more

JUNEAU, Wis. — Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP) has introduced its 2024-25 Educational Programs Calendar with a full schedule of virtual and in-person training opportunities in multiple formats — all focused on the industry's most timely topics.

An exciting addition to the 2024-25 calendar is the PDP International Tour to Italy, set for April 5 - 17, 2025. A detailed itinerary and pricing for this once-in-a-lifetime trip will be announced soon.

The PDP program calendar is developed by the organization's producer-led board of directors with input from PDP members across Wisconsin and other areas of the country based on the educational needs they feel are most urgent. Programs are designed for dairy farm owners, managers, employees and allied industry with a focus on building and strengthening the entire dairy community.



Shelly Mayer

“As the dairy industry changes more quickly than ever before, so must dairy farmers, their teams and professionals that serve them,” said Shelly Mayer, executive director of PDP and dairy farmer from Slinger, Wis. “We are excited to bring a full slate of educational programming to equip the entire dairy community to stay at the leading edge of their businesses.”

Mayer noted that expanding simultaneous Spanish-translation services, forming alliances with other industry stakeholders and providing multiple learning formats are all part of PDP's overarching mission to help dairy producers succeed.

A signature program that PDP will once again facilitate this summer is *Accelerate*.™ Slated on July 24th, it's a one-day workshop for agricultural interns to enhance their summer experience and prepare to enter the workforce.

Details and registration information are available for all programs at www.pdpw.org or by calling PDP at 800-947-7379. Due to the rapidly changing environment in the dairy industry, the PDMP program calendar remains flexible to adjust to member needs.

Professional Dairy Producers (PDP) is the nation's largest dairy producer-led organization of its kind, focusing on producer professionalism, stakeholder engagement and unified outreach to share ideas, solutions, resources and experiences that help dairy producers succeed.

“I don't know what I'd do without it.”

— Amanda Corl



Amanda Corl (left) and Emmalin Pringle with Ko-Klassic DB Joleen VG87 (2y1mo) BREEZY FARMS, home of KO-KLASSIC HOLSTEINS, PENNSYLVANIA FURNACE, PA 4 generations of the Kocher family farm 900 acres and milk 187 registered Holsteins RHA 25,317M 1280F 751P, SCC 175,000

“We use Udder Comfort™ a lot, especially for cows that have just freshened. You can see the swelling recede and the milk pounds go up. You can see the cows are more comfortable,” says Amanda Corl, part of 4 generations of the Kocher family milking 187 cows at Breezy Farms, home to Ko-Klassic Holsteins in Centre County, Pennsylvania.

Her mom June Kocher has given project calves to 4-Hers like Emmalin Pringle, whose Ko-Klassic DB Joleen VG87 was best bred-and-owned and 2nd summer 2-yr-old at the Premier National Junior Red & White Show in Harrisburg in Sept. Her aged cow Ko-Klassic Awesome Justice EX92 93MS is 2023 Junior All-PA. Emmalin started 9 years ago with her dam Ko-Klassic Armani Josie-ET 3E-90. She is still in the herd, bred back for a 10th calf, says June.

“Working with cows you know when they are annoyed,” says Amanda. “When my heifers freshen, I grab Udder Comfort and put it on. It works. It keeps their stress down. They're easier to milk. I don't know what I'd do without it.”

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Juniors' achievements celebrated at Holstein convention

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Three Wisconsin youths topped the Distinguished Junior Member (DJM) list of finalists, followed by Illinois, New York and Vermont with one each.

For Young Distinguished Member (YDJM) honors, eight finalists were named: Three from Wisconsin, two from Pennsylvania, and one each from Maryland, Iowa and California.

DJM finalists:

- Courtney Glenna, Amery, Wis.
- Jacob Harbaugh, Marion, Wis.
- Samuel Mess, Rosendale, Wis.
- Lila Sloan, Davis, Ill.
- Gabriella Taylor, Newark, N.Y.
- Keenan Thygesen, Tunbridge, Vt.

YDJM finalists:

- Katie Brandel, Lake Mills, Wis.
- Lydia Couch, Huntingdon, Pa.
- Makenna Mase, Cochranton, Pa.
- Ethan Palmer, Waukon, Iowa
- Ella Raatz, Colby, Wis.
- Cameron Ryan, Fond du Lac, Wis.
- Atley Shafer, Jefferson, Md.
- Lauren Silveira, Chowchilla, Calif.

The prestigious DJM accolade has celebrated the dedicated efforts of young individuals in the dairy industry and their work with Registered Holsteins® since 1922.

“Being named a DJM finalist is the highest honor bestowed upon a Junior Holstein member and a highlight of the national Holstein convention each year,” said Kelli Dunklee, Holstein Association USA event and program leader. “We look forward to seeing the positive impact this impressive group of young leaders will have on the dairy industry and beyond in the years to come.”

Holstein Association USA named the DJM and YDJM finalists on June 27th, during the National Junior Holstein Convention Awards Banquet.



Distinguished Junior Member finalists are from left to right: Courtney Glenna, Lila Sloan, Samuel Mess, Jacob Harbaugh, Keenan Thygesen and Gabriella Taylor.



Young Distinguished Junior Member finalists left to right: Atley Shafer, Ella Raatz, Makenna Mase, Ethan Palmer, Lydia Couch, Katie Brandel, Lauren Silveira and Cameron Ryan.



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Advances made in animal husbandry have no fences

'A good crop is almost like putting your nutrition program on auto-pilot'

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

COCHRANVILLE, Pa. — Feeding cows a healthy diet is where herd health begins. Digging deeper, it begins in the soil. In between are the forages grown to feed them.

“The key to making milk is quality forage. It leads to healthy cows, good components and ability to pay the bills,” stated Matt Walton of Walton Farms, LLC in an article that appeared in last week’s *Farmshine*. It’s worth repeating.

And so it is. Veterinarians, nutritionists, dairy men and consultants all emphasize the importance of superior forages.

Dr. Bill Braungard, one of the founders and technical advisor with 4-Ward Ag, says: “If dairy farmers feed their cows quality forages, the rest is actually easy. A veterinarian, nutritionist and dairy business consultant by profession, Dr. Braungard states further: “A good crop is almost like putting the nutrition program on auto-pilot.”

Despite his considerable education at Penn State and the University of Tennessee Veterinary School, Dr. Braungard asserts that “my biggest classroom has been the producers.”

“As veterinarians and/or nutritionists, we need to be good



The father-and-son team of Matt and Drew Walton is on top of their game, milking 1400 cows on their farm near Cochranville in southwestern Chester County, Pa. Their focus is on milk solids, aiming for an annual average of 7 pounds per cow per day. Milk quantity is above 90 pounds per cow per day.

Photo by Dieter Krieg

listeners”, he advocates. “We need to be observant and see what the cows are telling us. Good herdsmen like Drew Walton at Walton Farms do that, he pointed out, adding that he himself has learned a lot from the “very bright and interested young man.”

And that’s the way the doctor likes it, who readily admits: “I thought I knew it all when I graduated from vet school, but

considerable competition in this part of Pennsylvania, there’s one thing the feed mills all have in common. Excellence.

“Competition breeds excellence,” Dr. Braungard explained simply. The benefit of having 10 specialists on team shows up when a problem is encountered. “That’s when we all put our heads together to try to figure it out. The bottom line always is that we want to make a positive difference in the producer’s bottom line.

“Feeding dry cows is the big one,” Dr. Braungard responded when questioned about more challenging ration formulations. “You want to be sure you have enough protein and but too much energy.” Also, pay attention to mineral needs.

Back at Walton Farms, which he visits weekly to stay fine-tuned to what the herd is doing, Drew Walton has all of the possible data at his disposal. And, of course, visual inspection of the cows, their environment and feed is also part of the routine.

Aside from quality forages, cow comfort is a huge part of the backbone for top herd health, Matt shared. Constant fresh air is paramount while sand-bedded stalls provide enhanced relaxation and a barrier for bacteria.

Electronic ID collars and tags are on every cow, Drew shared. “We try to monitor and manage that information very closely; things like rumination, milk variations and activity. “Finding issues early is the key because the less money you’re going to spend to get her back on track,” he reminded.

“Every cow is different. You’ve got to read the cow and draw from previous experiences,” the young man continued.

The advice applies to all sizes of herds. “As protocols change in large herds, it trickles down to the smaller ones,” Dr. Braungard pointed out.

The advances being made in animal husbandry have no fences. For further information, Dr. Braungard can be reached at 717-572-6327.

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Pennsylvania Guernsey breeders in national spotlight

By **HOLLY McCARTY**
Special for Farmshine

WISCONSIN DELLS, Wis. — Pennsylvania Guernsey breeders had a very successful week at the national convention held here at the Chula Vista Resort, June 18-22. Following is a summary of honors and winnings among Junior members of the PGBA.

- **Breann Poole**, daughter of Eric and Jennifer Poole of Mount Pleasant, was named National Guernsey Queen and winner of the Max Dawdy Scholarship. What's more, she won first places in the senior divisions of the folding display contest, essay contest, extemporaneous public speaking and prepared public speaking.

- **Landon Poole** placed first in the junior division essay contest.

- **Sara Stoltzfus** won first place in the senior division of the visual presentation contest.

- **Haylee Blausler** placed third in the junior division in prepared public speaking.

- **Audrey Poole** was third in the intermediate division for prepared public speaking.

- **Abigail Bryan** placed third in the senior division, prepared public speaking contest.

- **Larson Swan** topped all contestants in

the intermediate division of the extemporaneous speaking contest.

- The state's gold, senior division team of the quiz bowl contest placed second with team members Larsen Swan, Breann Poole, Renee Ealy and Evan Espenshade.

- Pennsylvania Juniors earned first, second and third places in the junior folding display contest: 1. Landon Poole, 2. Elijah McCarty, 3. Andrew Bryan.

Adult awards:

- Dan and Sherry Ealy were honored with the Max Dawdy Young Sire Award for their bull, Paradise Acres Built Dusty.

- Kevin and Dina Stoltzfus of Warwick Manor Farm were recognized as Gold Star Breeders. They also received recognition for being 5th highest in the nation for milk, 2nd for butterfat, and 6th for protein, (26 records, 19,773M 5.68% 1120F 3.39% 666P) and No. 4 overall for BAA (107.1%).

- In the Guernsey products competition, Naturally Golden Family Farms won gold, silver and bronze with hard cheese, gold with soft cheese, chocolate milk, cream and yogurt and best in show with Cheddar.



Being named National Guernsey Queen was the best of numerous honors earned by Breann Poole, pictured here with National Guernsey Princess Julie Heading of Ohio.



Dan Ealy, pictured with his wife, Sherry, won the Max Dawdy Young Sire Award.



Claire and Victoria Baker of Naturally Golden Family Farms won numerous prizes.



Pictured is Pennsylvania's Gold second place senior quiz bowl team with Coach Cassie Rassau, left, then Larson Swan, Breann Poole, Renee Ealy and Evan Espenshade.



Success in the junior division of the folding display contest was found by Elijah McCarty, Landon Poole and Andrew Bryan.

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Dairyman's Datebook

JULY 3-6, National Brown Swiss Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 333 Main Street, Green Bay, Wis.

JULY 6, Pennsylvania Holstein Picnic, McWilliams Farm, 288 Sechler Road, Somerset.

JULY 12, 10 a.m. Virginia Dairy Expo, Shenandoah Valley Produce Auction, 2839 Lumber Mill Road, Dayton.

JULY 13, 10:30 a.m. Ohio Holstein Association Breeder Tour hosted by the Schlauch Family of Velvet-View Farms, 6887 TR505, Big Prairie.

JULY 13, noon, Hoof Trimmer Chicken BBQ, hosted by Paul Neer, 43 Starlight Lane, Belleville, Pa. RSVP by July 5th.

JULY 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. New York State Holstein Picnic, hosted by George Farm, 320 Genesee Road, Arcade.

JULY 16, 9 a.m. Lancaster County Holstein Show, Solanco Fairgrounds, Quarryville, Pa. Deadline for entries is July 1. Call Bob Wenger, 717-471-3790 for additional information.

JULY 16, 6:30 p.m. Centre/Clinnton County Holstein Association picnic at the farm of DJ and Thelma Glick, 200 Zeigler Road, Howard, Pa.

JULY 20, 10:45 a.m. New Jersey Holstein Picnic, Myerwood Farm LLC, 1415 Route 40, Pilesgrove. RSVP to Melanie (609-420-3491)

by July 14.

JULY 24-26, Young Cooperator Summer Break, Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Harrisburg Northeast-Hershey, 8000 Jonestown Road, Harrisburg, Pa.

JULY 26, 9 a.m. rain or shine, Dairy Industry Golf Outing, Hales Mills Country Club, 146 Steele Road, Johnstown, N.Y. Register by July 10 to N.Y. Holstein Association.

AUGUST 1, 9 a.m. Penn State Lancaster County Extension Farming for Success Day at the Penn State Research Farm, 1446 Auction Road Manheim, Pa. Pre-registration is \$10.00 at extension.psu.edu/farming-for-success. Walk-in's \$15.00

AUGUST 8, 6 p.m. Lancaster County Holstein Field Night, at Jonathan Glick's farm, 1148 East Oregon Road, Lititz, Pa.

AUGUST 16 - 24, The 150th Centre County Grange Fair, Centre Hall, Pa.

AUGUST 21, 9:30 a.m. New Jersey State Holstein Show, Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta.

OCTOBER 1-4, World Dairy Exposition, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wis.

OCTOBER 17-20, Pennsylvania State Grange Session, Pittsburgh Marriott North, 100 Cranberry Drive, Cranberry Township, Pa.

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Auction Guide

JULY 6, 11:30 a.m. PHA Summer Sensation Sale & Picnic, Somerset, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

JULY 8, 6:30 p.m. Maryland Holstein Association Maryland State Sale, Union Bridge, Md. Sale managed by MD Hillbrook.

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

JULY 11, 6:30 p.m. Special 19th Anniversary Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

JULY 12, 10 a.m. Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

JULY 12, 11:30 a.m. Summer Production All Breed Sale, Hosking Sales, New Berlin, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

JULY 12, 7 p.m. Willye Holsteins Complete Reg. Herd Dispersal, Fraley Complex, Muncy, Pa. Sale managed by Fraley Auction Company.

JULY 18, 7:15 p.m. Special Mid-Summer Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

JULY 19, 4 p.m. Special Driving & Draft Horse Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

AUG. 22, 7:15 p.m. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

CDE conference call slated for July 10

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Center for Dairy Excellence will host the next Dairy Industry Conference Call on Wednesday, July 10 at 1 p.m. EST to provide updates on the rapidly evolving health situation with highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) affecting dairy cattle in the United States. The conference calls are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. EST.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) is encouraging all Pennsylvania dairies to enroll in a voluntary Lactating Dairy Cow Health Monitoring Program. This program will provide critical data on the health status of dairy cattle in Pennsylvania to ensure that the state remains free of HPAI. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) also announced that they will begin accepting applications on Monday, July 1 through its updated Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to provide financial assistance to eligible dairy producers who incur milk losses due to HPAI in their dairy herds. During the conference call on July 10, panelists from the Dept. of Agriculture and other state/federal organizations will answer

questions about these programs and share additional updates on the health situation, Pennsylvania's response, and what it means for farms.

The following individuals will join the discussion:

- Dr. Alex Hamberg, PDA State Veterinarian. He will provide an update on HPAI in dairy and discuss the surveillance program that PDA is encouraging farms to participate in.
- Dr. Michael Kornreich, USDA Veterinarian. He will provide information from USDA on how it is responding and what the epidemiology of the disease looks like.
- Dr. Kellie Hough, District Emergency Coordinator for PA and WV. She will share how farms can enroll in the Emergency Preparedness database.
- Cynthia Walters, USDA Farm Service Agency Dairy Programs Manager for Pennsylvania. She will talk through the USDA assistance available through FSA.
- Dr. Ernest Hovingh, PADLS and Penn State. He will discuss the testing process and protocols and share important biosecurity reminders on the farm.

Individuals who join the conference call will be able to ask real-time questions to each panelist. To ensure as many questions can be addressed as possible, questions can be submitted in advance of the call. Text 717-585-0766 to submit questions or email ctrdairyexcellence@gmail.com.

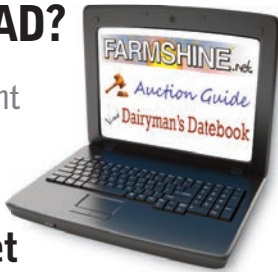
Learn more about how to join the conference call on July 10:

- **How to join:**
Dial +1 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 841 2794 6647
Passcode: 833183
- To submit questions in advance: email ctrdairyexcellence@gmail.com or text 717-585-0766.

LOOKING AHEAD?

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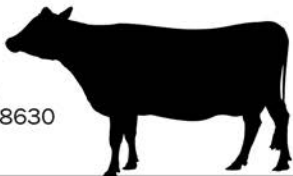
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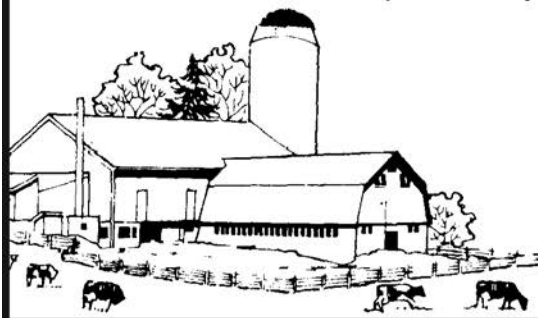
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Professional Dairy Producers to address FMMO reforms

JUNEAU, Wis. — The United States Department of Agriculture has released recommendations for reforms to the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO). A special two-part series of *The Dairy Signal* presented by Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP) will provide dairy producers the opportunity to learn about the FMMO reform framework and pro-

posals, and ask questions of the presenters.

Two one-hour episodes will air live at 1 p.m. Eastern time on separate July Wednesdays; the first will air Weds., July 10, with the second to air Weds., July 24 at www.pdpw.org. Dairy economists Mark Stephenson, Chris Wolf and Chuck Nicholson will discuss the proposed changes to the FMMO based on testi-

mony during a lengthy hearing last year. The two-part series will cover items the proposal changes and items remaining unchanged, as well as the next steps in moving to a producer vote on these changes later in 2024.

The Dairy Signal® is a weekly series of educational episodes offering practical insights and resources for dairy farmers and food-sys-

tem professionals across the value chain. Episodes air live at 1 p.m. Eastern time each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Live sessions offer attendees the opportunity to engage in open Q&A with the speakers; recorded sessions are available shortly after episodes are aired. Access all previously broadcasted sessions at www.pdpw.org.

Ohio Holstein breeders' picnic set for July 13 at Velvet-View Farms

WOOSTER, Ohio — The Ohio Holstein Association Summer Breeder Tour will be held at Velvet-View Farms, 6887 TR505, Big Prairie, on Saturday, July 13. The Schlauch Family will host as per the following schedule:

10:30 a.m. — Cattle and facilities open for viewing.

Noon — Lunch.

1 p.m. — Speaker: Emily Mullen of Mullen Dairy and Creamery; sharing ideas on value added and agritourism

2 p.m. — Cattle and facilities viewing.

The Schlauch Family milks 30 high type Registered Holsteins with a current BAA of 113.3. The herd is housed in large comfort stalls and milked in a step-up, walk through

parlor. In 2010, the Schlauchs began processing their milk into yogurt and have recently added ice cream. Currently, 70% of their milk is used to produce their own products. Those products are sold throughout Ohio from a

self-serve area on the farm to a local ice cream parlor to the food service industry in colleges and universities.

The Schlauchs recently also opened an IVF satellite facility for Gen Ovations.

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Nine students begin on-farm internships on progressive dairy farms

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Nine college students who are pursuing careers in dairy production recently began on-farm summer internships on progressive dairy farms in Pennsylvania and New York. The Dairy Excellence Foundation, the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Dairywomen's Association created the program more than 10 years ago to provide hands-on, farm-based learning experiences to the next generation of dairy managers, producers, and professionals in Pennsylvania and beyond.

"This year's on-farm internships are exposing college students

to all aspects of dairy production and processing. We worked hard to match the interns with dairy farms that align with their interests and career goals, push them out of their comfort zones, and give them hands-on experience in specific areas of dairy production and processing," said Michelle Shearer, Workforce Development Manager at the Dairy Excellence Foundation. "Through projects and relationships with their host farms, these interns are making direct impacts at the farm level and building connections within agriculture that will last a lifetime."

For 10 to 12 weeks throughout the summer, on-farm in-

terns gain hands-on experience and participate in virtual discussions with one another to network and share their experiences. The internships are designed to give students a full understanding of what it takes to run a successful dairy operation and provides dairy farms with the chance to mentor the next generation of dairy.

"When the internship program started over 15 years ago, we saw the need to have students get out onto progressive dairy farms and apply the classroom skills they

turn to page 23

FSA election nominations due August 1

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nominations are now being accepted for farmers and ranchers to serve on local U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees. These committees make important decisions about how federal farm programs are administered

locally. All nomination forms for the 2024 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA office by Thursday, August 1, 2024.

Producers should contact their local FSA office to register and find out how to get involved in their county's election.

Grant applications due

WASHINGTON, D.C. — USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. It is anticipated that a total of up to \$225,000 will be available to fund multiple one- to three-year projects. Single projects may be eligible to receive \$5000 to \$75,000 in funding. Proposals are due by July 31, 2024.

CIG is a voluntary program to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies in conjunction with agricultural production. Proposed projects should augment existing NRCS technical tools (planning, assessment/delivery) to better facilitate conservation on farms.

CIG projects are expected to lead to the transfer of conservation technologies, management systems, and innovative approaches to agricultural producers, into NRCS technical manuals and guides, or to the private sector. CIG generally funds pilot projects, field demonstrations, and innovative ways to transfer conservation methods from one geographic area or ag sector to another.

NRCS is prioritizing proposals that address the following on-farm resource concerns:

- Carbon Sequestration • Legacy Sediment • Soil Health • Water Quality • Urban Farming • Non-Industrial Private Forestland

Applicants are encouraged to explore the complete announcement to better match their proposals to these needs. Contact Ashley Lenig at ashley.lenig@usda.gov for additional information or to apply. Or call 717-237-2204.

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Risk education manager and an intern join the team

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Center for Dairy Excellence has named Valerie Mason-Faith as the risk education program manager to help Pennsylvania’s dairy farm families better understand the risks that can affect their business and what they can do to protect their operation against those risks.

The Center also named Hannah Hoover, a rising senior at Delaware Valley University, as the 2024 education and communications intern. They join a team of employees who provide resources and support to Pennsylvania dairy farms and develop dairy education programming for students of all ages.

Valerie graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural science and technology and a master’s degree in business management. She brings 5+ years of experience in agricultural program coordination and management, previously working at both Lanco-Pennland Dairy Cooperative and Washington County, Maryland Farm Service Agency



Hannah Hoover



Valerie Mason-Faith

“Valerie brings a deep understanding of risk management to her position, having managed dairy programs, including

the Dairy Margin Coverage Program, for the Washington County Farm Service Agency office,” said Jayne Sebright, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence. “She also has a passion for continual learning and for helping dairy farm families thrive which will be beneficial in her role with the Center.”

The new hiree said: “I am incredibly passionate about doing meaningful and impactful work that truly makes a difference in the agricultural community. Joining the Center’s dedicated team to serve Pennsylvania dairy farmers aligns perfectly with my values. I am excited to be part of this purpose-driven organization and help provide valuable resources and programming to the dairy industry.”

Hannah Hoover is a rising senior at Delaware Valley University where she studies dairy science. She began working at Delaware Valley University’s dairy farm her freshman year and is an active member of Dairy Society, A-Day, Farm Bureau, and Dairy Challenge at DVU. She will graduate in December and currently also works on a dairy farm in Bucks County, Pa.

“Hannah has great ideas, tremendous energy, and a passion for problem solving that she brings to this intern experience,” Sebright said. “These attributes along with her understanding and background in dairy make her a great addition to the team this summer.”

Hoover shared: “I am incredibly excited for the opportunity to intern at the Center this summer. Having the opportunity to learn from professionals in the industry and build connections over the course of the summer is amazing. This is my first job in the industry off the farm, and I am excited to learn new skills from this team. They are so knowledgeable about what they do and how they contribute to the industry.”

World Dairy Expo podcast always available

MADISON, Wis. – *The Dairy Show*, World Dairy Expo’s podcast, is available on Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, iHeart Radio, Spotify and online at worlddairyexpo.com

New episodes of *The Dairy Show* are released on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Expo’s podcast features a new guest on every episode discussing topics related to the global dairy industry.

“As the digital meeting place of the global dairy industry, Expo’s podcast gives listeners a taste of Expo year-round,”

shares Katie Schmitt, host of *The Dairy Show*. “The Dairy Show focuses on a variety of topics ranging from cows to the colored shavings to cutting-edge technology while introducing different guests to provide unique perspectives.”

Listeners span the globe, representing over 110 countries, all 50 U.S. states, and 12 Canadian provinces and territories. Some of *The Dairy Show*’s most popular episodes include “Judging on the Colored Shavings”, “Fitting and Grooming Dairy Cattle”, “Just Talking Cows” and interviews with Expo Recognition Award winners.

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Goals for the transition period are a hot topic on dairy farms

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

EAST EARL, Pa. — Goals for the transition period are a hot topic on dairy farms. ‘Making a big difference with small decisions’ was the theme of a winter meeting hosted by Wenger and Hooper Feeds here at Shady Maple Smorgasbord with over 100 dairy producers attending.

Dairies “are really doubling down on this,” said Dr. Tom Overton, professor and chair director of Cornell PRO-Dairy. He shared the latest research on feeding and managing the transition cow.

It starts with setting goals and measuring toward them, he said, listing high milk production, maintenance of body condition score, low incidence of metabolic disorders, decreased days to first ovulation, and having healthy calves with a low stillborn rate.

According to Overton, high performing dairies achieve all of these things by “just doing things a little bit better today than they did last week or last month... to see those gains in milk and repro.”

Interestingly, as he went through the drill, everything came back to diets and the external factors affecting what cows actually consume in that period.

For example, he said, a big factor in low blood calcium is feed intake, itself.

“Cows that are persistent or delayed are eating less after calving,” Overton said, suggesting ketone monitoring at the herd level, by days 3 and 15, as a barometer, and sampling a subset of cows at day 4 to show what percentage are still low-calcium at that point.

For cows that are not bouncing back and showing delays in repro performance, but otherwise presenting normally, blood sampling may be needed.

Calcium administration at or after calving is generally a treatment, not a preventative,

he cautioned, describing a California study of three groups – cows left alone, cow given two calcium boluses 12 hours apart, and cows given a bottle of 500 ml calcium gluconate. Some spike at calving after the IV but then go hypoglycemic, Overton related.

“All I’m saying here is just to be careful with rapidly available calcium in cows that may not actually need it,” he explained. “Be careful with routine bottling of cows. Boluses are not going to see extreme spikes.”

He encouraged targeting high-risk cows and keeping this away from the heifers by delaying the bolus a day (48 and 72 hours), and going after those cows that are still sluggish at 3 to 4 days in milk.

The bottom line for prevention comes back to diet. In studies, the more aggressive DCAD groups made more milk, and there was a colostrum production response as well.

“This is really the most effective way of preventing hypoglycemia,” Overton explained. “Through a variety of mechanisms, DCAD will prime the cow to respond. The key with DCAD is consistency, day in and day out.”

For two-group dry cow programs, Overton advised keeping energy levels down with mature hay crop silage and mature hay.

“If we overfeed energy, we’re going to see sluggish intakes after calving,” he said, stressing the importance of minimizing sorting of mature forage. “It’s better to err on the finer side than being too coarse, so they don’t sort it out. When that happens, you have cows eating a different diet.”

A chop length study showed transition cows that were fed the shorter chop length maintained higher intakes going into calving.



Dr. Tom Overton is professor and chair director of Cornell PRO-Dairy.

A second study showed the addition of water improved intake pre-calving.

“It’s pretty common to see acidosis in post-fresh cows, but these cows (with water added) maintained meaningfully higher rumen pH,” Overton shared.

He went over some recent studies and the interesting differences in cow responses.

“It’s important to know how much forage fiber is being fed (and consumed) to balance that rumen. Fresh cows may benefit from a little bit more fiber, but don’t put them on that for too long. In our own research experience, we held them back that way, which induced ketosis,” he shared.

Bunk management is also crucial here, to reduce variability, so cows consume the diet, as offered. This includes stocking densities.

“The closer we can get to 30 inches of bunk space per cow, the better we’re going

to be,” he said, advising separation of cows and heifers, and if that’s not possible, then double-down to avoid overcrowding.

According to Overton, mitigating mycotoxin risk is also very important when feeding dry and transition cows because these cows may have more gut permeability.

He discussed metabolizable protein and amino acids as an area that has not received a lot of attention. Highlighting a study in Denmark, where cows either received water as the control or casein directly to the abomasum to eliminate or prevent a protein deficit, researchers started backing this down as the cows’ intakes came up.

They got about 16 pounds of milk with that in the first 21 days after calving, and the cows that were low, but then went high, had a really strong response. Also, a carryover response was seen with no effect on colostrum yield or quality, Overton observed.

“Feeding a little more rumen undegradable protein (RUP)... to immediate post-fresh cows for 18 to 21 days, there’s probably milk there for you,” he said. “We’re now looking at metabolizable protein feeding both before and after calving.”

Red & White breeders invited

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Red & White Dairy Cattle Association (RWDCA) will host a Red & White Show in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Holstein Association’s Central Pennsylvania Championship Show on July 27. This RWDCA-approved show is open to Red & White enthusiasts and association members from any state. Specific rules for the Red & White Show can be found on the RWDCA website.

Red & White exhibitors who are members of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and are Pennsylvania residents are welcome

to show in the Central Pennsylvania Championship black-and-white Holstein show as well. Please note, the Red & White animals must be registered as Red & White Holsteins.

Entries are now being accepted for the show, which will be held at the Centre County Grange Fairgrounds in Centre Hall, Pa. Entries are due by July 10; late entries will be accepted July 11 to July 28. See more details and entry information on the Showman App. If you have additional questions, contact Patricia Kitchen at (570) 441-0949.

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Junior champions of the youth show were exhibited by Dylan Klossner, Kourtney Bell, and Katelyn Taylor.



The best heifers of the open show were preseted by, from left: Jen Hill, Katelyn Taylor and Deanna Bendig.

Junior exhibitor Amelia Somers from Walton, N.Y. tops them all

128 head shown at Mid Atlantic Brown Swiss Invitational Show

FREDERICK, Md. — Despite a heat dome with over 100-degree temperatures hanging over the region, the Mid Atlantic Brown Swiss Invitational Show was successfully held on Saturday, June 22, at the Frederick Fairgrounds. Seven states were represented among the 100 heifers and 28 cows going through the ring. Much credit goes to the ex-

hibitors, including 40 Juniors, who persevered and brought their animals out looking great!

Tammy Voegeli from Arlington, Wis. was the judge of the type show. “I would like to say congratulations to the Maryland Brown Swiss Association on being such a force, and so instrumental in putting on a high-quality

show with excellent animals and exhibitors,” she stated before placing any classes.

Amelia Somers from Walton, N.Y. was the top winner in both the open and youth show with her aged cow, Greystone Kingpin Gitanani who was named senior and grand champion twice. In addition to their class and champion awards, Amelia and Gitana walked

away with \$1250 in cash awards.

The reserve grand champion of the open show was A-Joy D Sundae, the first-place senior 3-year-old, owned by Peter Vail of New York. The honorable mention grand was A-Joy Braid Crown Royal OCS, the first-place Component Merit cow, owned by Andrew

turn to page 12



From left to right, Emily Yeiser Stepp, judge; Bailey Myers, Dairy Miss; Avery Kaufman, Brynlee Deeter, Brandon Deeter, Katelyn Taylor and Kiley Little, Dairy Miss.

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A-Joy Swiss, represented by Abbie Evans was named Premier Breeder. Brian Sparling represented Peter Vail of Mile

High Genetics who was named Premier Exhibitor.

Photos courtesy of Cowsmopolitan



From left: Dylan Klossner, Ellie Widerman, Amelia Somers, Judge Tammy Voegeli and Jeff McKissick, best bred & owned cow sponsor.

Brown Swiss show from page 11

and Abbie Evans, from Pennsylvania. "I love to see the older cows as they have proven themselves, calving each year, and maintaining a high level of production and type," commented Judge Voegeli.

Premier Breeder was A-Joy Swiss, Abbie and Andrew Evans.

Premier Exhibitor was Peter Vail, Mile High Genetics headed up by Dale Bendig.

The reserve grand champion of the youth show was Champion View DD Harmony ETV, a senior 2-year-old shown by Ellie Widerman from Pennsylvania. Harmony was also the best bred and owned cow of the youth show. Honorable mention grand champion was Dare2Dream Famous Peaches, the first-place 5-year-old owned by Dylan Klossner of Pa.

The intermediate champion of the open show was A-Joy D Sundae, the first-place senior 3-year-old from Peter Vail's show string. The reserve title went to Knapp Woody Pamela, the first-place junior 3-year-old, also owned by Peter Vail. Honorable Mention was La Rainbow Sweet Sangria ETV, the first-place summer junior 2-year old exhibited by Cynthia Warner of Md.

In the youth show, Champion View DD Harmony, a senior 2-year-old shown by Ellie Widerman, Pa., was named intermediate champion while the reserve title went to Kourlyn Mi Te Star, a senior 3-year-old shown by Katelyn Bell. Honorable mention was Heilinger Starr Calzone, a junior 2-year-old shown by Madeline Branch of North Carolina.

Named junior champion in the open show was Mile High Phantom Snow Globe, the first-place summer yearling in a strong class of 18, exhibited by Peter Vail of N.Y. Snow Globe was also named the open show's best bred-and-owned heifer.

Named reserve junior champion was Blessing Garbro F Whitney, a fall yearling who sold through the Maryland Calf Sale in 2023 and was a winner last year as a fall calf for Katelyn Taylor from Pennsylvania. Honorable mention was Brothers Three TV Wynona ETV, beating out 18 strong winter calves. Wynona Syndicate, exhibited her. "What a beautiful class of winter calves and the top three were close in their placings," noted Judge Voegeli.

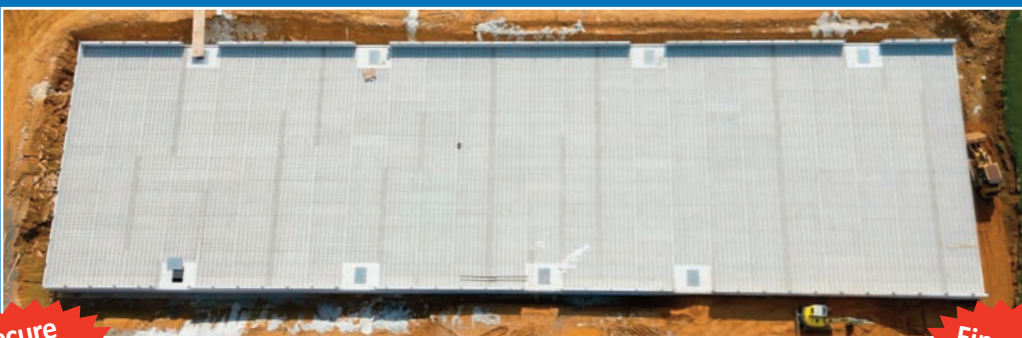
Named junior champion in the youth division was Blessing Garbro F Whitney, a fall yearling shown by Katelyn Taylor. The reserve title went to Kourlyn Rampage Santeria, a spring turn to page 15

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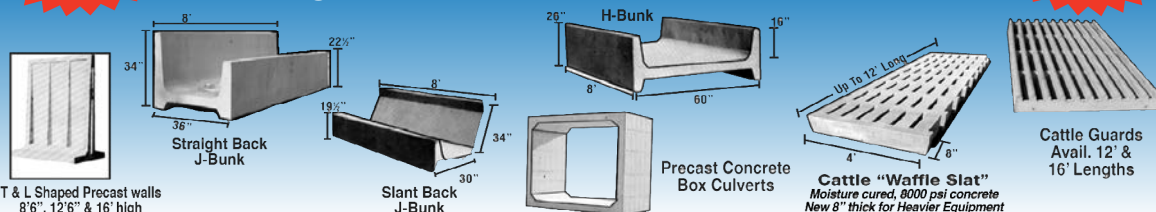
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USDA recommends price formula changes

USDA issued a 332-page recommended decision for changes to pricing formulas in all 11 Federal Milk Marketing Orders. The bottom line is a mixed bag of positives, negatives, and questions requiring further study. USDA AMS staff did yeoman's work with the 5 months of hearing proceedings on 21 proposals, yielding 500 exhibits, more than 1200 pages of transcripts and over 30 post hearing briefs. Once this is officially published in the *Federal Register* in the coming weeks, the 60-day public comment period begins, followed by 60 days of USDA evaluation of the feedback, followed by a final rule, followed by a producer referendum.

According to USDA, only producers who are pooled in the selected representative month in each Federal Order will be eligible to vote. Each of the 11 Orders votes separately. If two-thirds of the farmers with pooled milk OR two-thirds of the pooled volume represented by those farmers in an Order vote "yes," then that Order continues, as amended. If neither two-thirds threshold is met, then that Order is terminated. Here's what's in the package:

1) Milk Composition Factors: USDA recommends updating the factors to 3.3% true protein, 6.0% other solids, and 9.3% nonfat solids. This would mainly affect Class I in all Orders and the other Class prices in the fat/skim priced Orders.

2) Surveyed Commodity Products: The recommendation here is to remove the 500-pound barrel cheese prices from the Dairy Product Mandatory Reporting Program survey and rely solely on the 40-pound block cheddar cheese price to determine the monthly average cheese price used in the Class III and protein formulas. NMPF proposed this and IDFA opposed it. Other proposals from American Farm Bureau and California Dairy Campaign to add other bulk products to the survey were not included.

3) Class III and Class IV Formula Factors: USDA chose to recommend make allowance increases that fall in between the lower increase proposed by NMPF and the higher increase proposed by IDFA and Wisconsin Cheesemakers. The recommendation is to raise these manufacturing allowances from current levels to these new levels: Cheese: \$0.2504; Butter: \$0.2257; NFDM: \$0.2268; and Dry Whey: \$0.2653. The Recommended Decision also proposes updating the butterfat recovery factor to 91%.

AFBF economist Danny Munch was interviewed by Brownfield Ag on July 2, where he noted the increase is 5 to 7 cents per pound, which translates to a roughly 75 to 87 cents per hundredweight reduction in farm-level milk prices as these make allowances, based currently on voluntary surveys, are



embedded in the class and component pricing formulas.

4) Class I differentials: USDA recommends updating Class I differential values to reflect the increased cost of servicing the Class I market. The base differential for all counties stays at \$1.60 and the county-specific Class I differentials are specified at higher levels in the decision, but by less than NMPF's proposed increases.

5) Base Class I Skim Milk Price: USDA recommends going back to the higher-of the advanced Class III or Class IV skim milk prices to set the Class I mover for the month. However, the Department did not go with Farm Bureau's request to do this on an emergency expedited basis. And, here's where it gets tricky, the 'higher of' method only applies to fresh fluid milk. USDA included in this part of the decision the adoption of a rolling monthly Class I adjuster for milk that is used to make extended shelf life (ESL) fluid products.

This means ESL milk would be priced differently from conventional fresh fluid milk within the same Class I category. A simple averaging method would be used as part of a special ESL adjuster, which would incorporate a 24-month rolling average (with a 12-month lag) of the difference between the 'average of' and 'higher of.' This adjuster could be either a positive or negative number. (More on this feature of the decision next week.) In its 'notice to trade,' USDA says the ESL adjuster was developed to "provide for better price equity for ESL products whose marketing characteristics are distinct from other Class I products."

During the national hearing in Carmel, Indiana, representatives from companies like Nestle, who make ESL milk products, said their sales increased once the 'averaging' method was implemented in May 2019 as they could provide 9 to 12 month pricing on shelf-stable products to foodservice and convenience stores. They lamented that losing this would hurt sales. Representatives for fairlife testified that forward pricing of their ESL products was critical to their ability to grow sales.

Milk futures swap trends: Cl. IV up, III down

Class III milk futures moved lower this week especially on August and Sept. 2024 contracts; while Class IV milk futures were higher on 2024 contracts, steady to firm for 2025. On Tues., July 2, Class III milk futures for the next 12 months averaged \$19.28, down cents from the previous Wednesday.

The 12-month lass IV milk futures average was \$21.19, up 14 cents. This put the spread between Class IV over III at nearly \$2.00 per cwt.

Block cheese, whey higher

Pre-holiday trade was firm to higher with little volume moved on most products. But nonfat dry milk lost ground, and the 500-lb barrel cheese trade was active at lower prices.

The 40-lb block Cheddar price was pegged at \$1.90/lb on Tues., July 2, up 2 cents from the previous Wednesday, with just 2 loads trading the first 2 days. The 500-lb barrel cheese market lost 2 cents, pegged at \$1.88/lb Tuesday with 12 loads trading the first two days. Dry whey gained a half-penny on the week at 49 cents/lb; one load traded.

Butter higher, powder weak

The butter market saw no trades the first two days this week. By Tues., July 2, the daily CME spot price was pegged nearly a nickel higher at \$3.1375/lb. Grade A nonfat dry milk lost a penny and a half at \$1.17/lb Tuesday with 4 loads changing hands.

May All-Milk \$22.00, DMC margin \$10.52

USDA announced the All-Milk price for May at \$22.00, up \$1.50 from April and \$2.90 higher than a year ago. The national average fat test was 4.17, up 0.02 from the previous month and up 0.11 from a year ago. The Pennsylvania All-Milk price for May, at \$22.50, was just 70 cents higher than for April, and fat test fell by 0.10 from April to May.

USDA announced the May Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) margin at \$10.52/cwt, up 92 cents from April and up a whopping \$5.69 per cwt from the May margin a year ago. This is the third consecutive month in which no DMC margin payments were triggered as the margin remains above the highest coverage level of \$9.50/cwt. The \$1.50/cwt gain in the national average All-Milk price in May outpaced the 58 cents/cwt increase in feed cost.

H5N1 detections fall to 56 in just 7 states

As of July 2, 2024, the current confirmed cases of H5N1 in dairy cows decreased to 56 herds in 7 states as South Dakota moved past the 30-day window. Colorado has the most detections at 21 in the past 30 days, 27 cumulatively since April 25. This has created some questions as it represents 20 to 25% of the 13th largest milk-producing state's total 110 dairy herds. Colorado is followed by Iowa (12) and Idaho (10) detections in the past 30 days. Minnesota dropped to 6, Texas to 5, and Michigan dropped to one, while Wyoming still has one.

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Schedule of Events:

Monday, July 22 - "Meeting of the Minds"
6 p.m. Dinner & Open Discussion

Tuesday, July 23 - Field Day
8 a.m. Registration opens; View exhibits
8:45 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
9 a.m. **Keynote:** What We Have Learned in 40 Years at Dakota Lakes, *Dwayne Beck*
10 a.m. Integrated Pest Management, *Pesticide Credits
11 a.m. Drone Cover Crop Seeding Demo, then break into stations: Cover Crop Plots, Rainfall Simulator
12 p.m. Lunch and View Exhibits (Optional Nutrient Stratification/Earthworm Session)
1 p.m. Sponsor & Secretary Redding Comments
1:30 p.m. Adapting Ag to Changing Weather Patterns
2 p.m. **Keynote (Part 2):** What Challenges Lie Ahead, *Dwayne Beck*
2:45 p.m. Planting Untreated Seeds, *Farmer Panel*
3:30 p.m. Q&A and Closing Remarks

Submit pre-registrations to:
• jhowes@pennag.com
• scan the QR code

Wednesday, July 24 - "Meeting of the Minds"
6 p.m. Dinner & Discussion

Thursday, July 25 - Field Day
8 a.m. Registration opens; View exhibits
8:45 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
9 a.m. **Keynote:** What We Have Learned in 40 Years at Dakota Lakes, *Dwayne Beck*
10 a.m. Adapting Agriculture to a Changing Climate, *Eric Finkenbinder, ABC 27 TV*
10:30 a.m. Drone Cover Crop Seeding Demo, then break into rotating stations: Cover Crop Plots, Riparian Buffer Tour, Rainfall Simulator
12 p.m. Lunch and View Exhibits & Rainfall Simulator
1 p.m. Sponsor & Secretary Redding Comments
1:30 p.m. Integrated Pest Management, *Pesticide Credits
2:15 p.m. **Keynote (Part 2):** What Challenges Lie Ahead, *Dwayne Beck*
3 p.m. Planting Untreated Seeds, *Farmer Panel*
4 p.m. PANTA Annual Meeting, All Members Welcome

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___ **Meeting of the Minds Dinner, Mon., July 22**
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___ **Field Day (Western PA), Tues., July 23**
(Free for PANTA Members; \$20 for Non-Members)

___ **Meeting of the Minds Dinner, Wed., July 24**
(Free for PANTA Members; \$20 for Non-Members)

___ **Field Day (Eastern PA), Thurs., July 25**
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Brown Swiss show from page 12

yearling shown by Kourtney Bel of Md. Santeria was also named the youth show's best bred an-owned heifer. A-Joy TapDance, a summer yearling shown by Dylan Klossner of Pa. was honorable mention.

Premier Breeder of heifer show was A-Joy Swiss while Premier Exhibitor distinction went to Peter Vail.

The showmanship classes were judged by Emily Yeiser Stepp from Leesburg, Va. Thirty-two youths competed coming out on top were:

- Novices: Avery Kaufman, Berlin, Pa.
- Juniors: Brynlee Deeter, Cochran, Pa.
- Intermediates: Brandon Deeter
- Senior: Katelyn Taylor, Allenwood, Pa.

Repeating her winning ways from 2023, Katelyn Taylor was named the overall champion showman while the reserve honor went to Brandon Deeter.

These class winners received embroidered blankets and the overall showman also re-

ceived an embroidered directors chair. The 2nd – 5th place showmen also received products donated by local businesses.

Gratitude was expressed for the Maddie Johnson Memorial Fund and the Deeter Family of Cochran, Pa. for sponsoring the showmanship contest and awards as well as the colored youth T-Shirts again this year. Maddie was an active 4-H'er who loved showing her dairy cows, especially her Brown Swiss. To keep her memory alive, her family and friends have been using the money raised for her Memorial Fund to benefit youth just like her and to show their appreciation to all who have supported them. "This was one of Maddie's favorite shows to exhibit at and she especially loved showmanship" said Maddie's mother, Holly Deeter Johnson.

Judge Tammy Voegeli expressed her appreciation of the youth that day, on their motivation, passion, and respect for the judge

Farm Success Field Day set near Lancaster

LANCASTER, Pa. — Penn State Lancaster County Extension will hold its annual Farming for Success Day on Thursday, August 1, at the Penn State Research Farm (SEAREC), 1446 Auction Road Manheim, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Preregistration is \$10 at: extension.psu.edu/farming-for-success

Walk-in's will be charged \$15. Participants of this workshop will have the opportunity to hear two keynote addresses from Penn State Extension and other agriculturalists. Topics will include PFAS found in manure, the latest developments on HPAI in cows, and the most recent updates on the weather. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet with sponsors from the chemical and seed industries, local equipment dealers, agricultural lenders, and crop production professionals.

• Tour Track 1: Exploring New Horizons with Summer Cover Crops, Pennsylvania On-

farm Soybean Testing Update, and 2-Pass Herbicide Programs: Pros and Cons.

• Tour Track 2: Plant Parasitic Nematodes and their Impact on Plants, Nitrogen Fertilization and Molasses Application on Grass Hay Production, and Deploying Only the Pesticides You Need: The Value of IPM

• Tour Track 3: Precision Ag: It Doesn't Have to be New to be Advanced, Cover Crop Management Impacts on Soil-applied PRE-Herbicides, and Conservation Cost Share Programs: Understanding and Making them Work for You.

There will be four Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) credits; 2.0 PA Nutrient Management credits, 2.0 PA Manure Hauler Broker credits, and 2.0 PA Pesticide Category Points available. Please contact the Penn State Lancaster Extension office for more information at 717-394-6851.

throughout the show. "It was a pleasure to work with such hard working Juniors," she said, reminded them to thank their parents, grandparents, fitters, and all people who help them at the show and at home.

Miles Branch, an exhibitor from North Carolina, was loading up to head home when he said: "You really have to come to this show to see great competition and to know how far you can take them in the show arena; that's why we make the 7-hour trip to Maryland, and it is so worth it!"

Class placings follow; Junior entries are indicated in parentheses (1):

Spring calves (14): 1. (1)Blake Spatola, Pa. with A Joy DT Cher; 2. Dylan Fry, Md. Edge View Sonny's Silhouette; 3. Kayla Brody, Md. Breeze Ridge Dusty Summer; 4. (2) Braxton Lasley, Md. Breeze Ridge Juke SinderElla; 5. Billie Jo Rhodes, Va. Edge View D Wicked.

Winter calves (18): 1. Wynona Syndicate, Jen Hill, Cindy Warner, Kathy Whitman, Billie Jo Rhodes, Md. with Brothers Three TV Wynona ETV; 2. Alexis Sherry, Pa. A Joy WW Shake It Off; 3. JoBo, Terri Packard, Ernie Kueffner, Md. – Kruses ACC Norwin Jiffy ET; 4. Jermey Daubert, Va. JBR Daredevil Tapioca; 5. Jenna Lenhart, Md. Peach Kist In Brazil.

Fall calves (18): 1. Justin and Ashley Kaufman, Pa. with All Glo FirstChoice Paloma ET; 2. Davin Reinke, Texas, Peach Kist W Balenciaga ET; 3. Leslie and Linda Bruchey, Md., Stylin N Puddin ET; 4. Billie Jo Rhodes, Edge View Ferris ETV; 5. (1) Madeline Branch, N.C. Brittcos Whiskey Time.

Summer yearlings (18): - 1. Peter Vail with Mile High Phantom Snow Globe; 2. (1) Dylan Klossner, Pa. A Joy D TapDance; 3. (2) Shaylin Reichard, Pa., Reich- Dale H Winners Circle; 4. Dylan Fry, Md. Empire Diego Lilly ETV; Billie Jo Rhodes, with Apex Carter Glory.

Spring yearlings (11): 1. Billie Jo Rhodes with Edge View Rasta Roxie ETV; 2. Peter Vail with Kruses Foremost Molly ETV; 3. (1) Kourtney Bell, Kourlyn Rampage Santeria; 4. (2) Hannah Balthaser, Pa., Northkill Creek Grandslam-Twin; 5. Dale and Deanna Bendig, Pa., Stylin

R Villain

Winter yearlings (13): 1. Andrea and Brett Haines and Brothers Three with Brothers Three DLX Wiley ETV; 2. (1) Kourtney Bell, with Kourlyn Shooting Star ET; 3. (2) Dylan Klossner, Dare2Dream Drake Shine; 4. (3) Alexis Sherry, Pa., DocHaven Famous Wynonna; 5. Justin and Ashley Kaufman, with All Glo MRD Parcel ET.

Fall yearlings (8): -1. (1) Katelyn Taylor with Blessing Garbro F Whitney; 2. Cynthia Warner, Way Lyn Famous Paris. 3. Billie Jo Rhodes, Edge View D Whip It ETV; 4. Cynthia Warner, Round Hill Formo Wrigley; 5. Allen Bassler and Jamie Long, Va. Old Mill S Lady Mae.

Jr. best 3 females: 1. Andrew and Abbie Evans, 2. Justin and Ashley Kaufman, 3. Kourtney Bell.

Summer 2-year-olds: 1. Cynthia Warner, with La Rainbow Sweet Sangria ETV

Jr. 2 year olds (5): 1. Abbie Evans, A Joy D Carrier; 2. (1) Madeline Branch, N.C., Heilinger Starr Calzone OCS; 3. Josh and Hannah Skipton, Md., Jenlar FC Wardrobe; 4. Eleanor Harrison, Va., Brookfield FChoice Sunbeam; 5. (2) Maggie Toothman, Va., JBR Fast and Furious Gypsy

Sr. 2-year-olds (6): 1. Peter Vail with Winsomes DD Wish; 2. Dylan Fry, Jenlar ACC Dare To Wish ETV; 3. (1) Ellie Widerman, Champion View DD Harmony; 4. Peter Vail, Fairdale Daredevil Talia ETV; 5. Greg Harrison, Brookfield D Gingerbread.

Jr. 3-year-olds (2): 1. Peter Vail, with Knapp Woody Pamela; 2. Abbie Evans with A Joy GW Clique.

Senior 3-year-olds (4): 1. Peter Vail, with A Joy D Sunda; 2. Michala Kuhlman with A Joy T Barbados ET OCS; 3. (1) Katelyn Bell, Kourlyn Mi Te Star 4. (2) Brandon Deeter, Way Lyn Pedro Wonder Woman.

4-year olds (5): 1. Lukas Foote, N.Y. with Top Acres Famous Winzer; 2. Lindsey Rucks and Peter Vail, Arethusa Phantom Axel; 3. Andrew and Abbie Evans, A Joy Crown Reserve ETV; 4. Walter Mays, KGKS Toby Ana Pixie; 5. (1) Rachel, Allie, Brock & Olivia Champluvier Pwith Top Acres GW Wispit ETV

5-year olds: (1) Dylan Klossner, with Dare2 Dream Famous Peaches

Aged cows (2): 1. (1) Amelia Somers with Greystone Kingpin Gitana; 2. Peter Vail, A Joy T Snowfall

Component Merit Cow (2): 1. Abbie Evans, A Joy Braid Crown Royal OCS; 2. Jenna Lenhart, Peach Kist T Brinkley.

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MADISON, Wis. — Preventive measures are key to keeping your herd healthy and profitable. But when unforeseen factors like environment, weather or disease outbreaks disrupt your preventative health program, quick and calculated interventions improve your cow care and your bottom line.

“With the right herd management tool, you can be alerted to and intervene in health issues early. Using your data can help prevent those challenges in the future by adjusting management practices,” says Melissa Freitas, farm performance consultant team leader at VAS. “It’s easier to make the best health-related decisions when you have all the information you need at your fingertips.”

Using a herd management tool with health-focused features, you can gain insights into your herd’s health, compare your data with peer performance, evaluate the cost of health events and stay in the know with real-time alerts. Get started

with the following tips:

Monitor health events in real-time

Setting up alerts within your herd management software keeps you one step ahead of health issues. Set your threshold tolerance for health events to match your management goals. If a specific event, such as mastitis, trends near your threshold, you will receive a text or email alert.

“The beauty of alerts is once they are set up, they run in the background of your daily tasks. It’s not another thing you must remember to do daily,” says Freitas. “Easily set it up and reap the benefits.”

Without alerts, you may only notice an issue through weekly reporting and team status meetings. By then, the issue is seven days old and more significant than if you

caught it immediately.

Set up your alerts to send to your team. If your trends are near your threshold, everyone on your team with access can also be alerted with a real-time text or email. This timely response improves hospital treatments, creates higher-quality fresh cow care and leads to faster recovery for your cows. Not to mention the cost savings achieved through early intervention.

“Communication is a big deal on the farm and alerts help bring everyone together at one moment,” says Freitas. “By alerting the herd manager, maternity manager, veterinarian and other important team members, everyone is on the same page, improving overall response time to health issues.”

Manage animal health and costs

How much is medicine costing you? How much is a dip in milk production due to a health event impacting your business? Are your cows comfortable? Health-focused herd management software uses data to help you answer these questions and evaluate the profitability of your herd on an individual cow level.

For example, HealthVAL an insight tool available to DairyComp and MyDC on PULSE users, assigns each animal a Health Index value, which is calculated based on age and total cost of their health events. Customizing thresholds for the Health Index helps you identify the animals that fail to meet your expectations. You can then use this data to evaluate which animals pose the highest risk to your bottom line and select candidates to leave the herd.

Benchmark your success

Benchmarking against industry averages is a great way to check your herd health performance. However, seasonality and region-specific factors impact what happens on your farm and alter your expectations for herd performance.

Using dynamic benchmarking, HealthVAL allows you to compare your performance to your peers filtering by state, breed, herd size and more.

“It is a nice way to see how our trends compare to those in similar situations,” says Dave Friesen, cow manager of a 4,000-cow dairy in Iowa. “Without calling your neighbors, you can look at specific benchmarks and ask yourself, is this normal?”

The dairy recently used this data to change its nutrition plan for close-up dry cows. After noticing they were trending above the benchmark for metritis in their area, Friesen decided to try a DCAD diet. The farm plans to track the results of this change with their data management program and see how it trends with benchmarks of other local farms.

Customize health reports

“Customization is a must when it comes to herd management tools,” says Freitas. “Your data reporting should match your individual needs. Build reports that matter to you and group things that make the most sense for your dairy.”

Dive into what is happening on your dairy by analyzing case counts and occurrences for standard health events like mastitis, ketosis, metritis and pneumonia. Customize the health events you want to manage closely, how you view events and filter results based on your top interests.

“Having a tool that brings all your health data into one place allows you to quickly analyze and evaluate your herd’s health trends and make smart management decisions that help your bottom line,” concludes Freitas.

VAS has been the operating system of choice for the most innovative dairies for 40 years. VAS’ software and information solutions help collect and connect a farm’s data — from herd management to feed performance, tracking and more. These insights are a source of truth, empowering producers and their trusted advisors to make profit-driven and sustainable management decisions.

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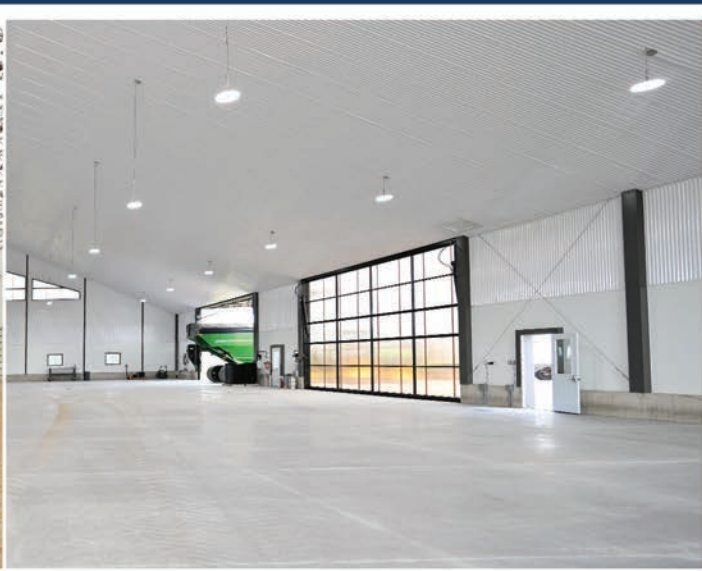
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Select Sires names Cow Manager® award winners

PLAIN CITY, Ohio — CowManager® announced the winners of three awards handed out at Select Sires Trusted Advisors Conference, including the CowManager Specialist of the Year, CowManager Success Story of the Year and the Dr. Ray Nebel Legacy Award.

“We’re thrilled to highlight success stories from this past year and honor those exceeding expectations,” said Gerard Griffoen, CowManager founder. “We truly value our partnership with Select Sires. It was a special day to participate in the conference and recognize these award winners.”

• **Dr. Fernando Alvarez** took home the 2024 CowManager Specialist of the Year Award, an honor bestowed annually to a

specialist who went above and beyond with exceptional knowledge of the CowManager system, expansive installation experience and expert counsel about system integration. Dr. Alvarez, the director of Select Sires Member Cooperative—Mexico and a Select Sires team member since 2002, has been instrumental in launching CowManager in Mexico and meeting customer needs. He had a stellar year helping install thousands of CowManager ear sensors into several large herds and educating producers on the value the system brings to each operation.

• **Stephen Mast** from D & M Ag was the recipient of the CowManager Success Story of the Year Award. He has been using CowManager for more than a year at his Cali-

fornia dairy, and he gives praise to the time and labor savings his farm team has already experienced as a result. His favorite feature of the cow monitoring system is the ability to know what to expect from his cows before he even arrives at the dairy in the morning, whether it’s a list of potential sick cows or fresh cows to keep an eye on or cows to breed.

• **Stef Booijink** received the Dr. Ray Nebel Legacy Award. This award is dedicated in honor of Ray Nebel, Ph.D., retired vice president of technical services and a driving force behind Select Sires’ involve-

ment with CowManager. Booijink, a 7-year CowManager employee, received the award for the impact he has had on the cow monitoring industry and his significant contributions to building CowManager’s success in the U.S. As a sales and support specialist, Booijink has helped countless CowManager Specialists and dairy producer customers maximize the monitoring system and help keep cows healthy and more profitable.

For more information on CowManager, contact your CowManager specialist at Select Sires or visit CowManager.com.

How to get more out of your herd

Cornell QMPS has proven you can get more from your herd – more staph aureus and more beef. They started with 30 cows and 5 confirmed cases of staph aureus and then milked the 15 cows with no staph with a GEA system and milked 15 cows with 5 cases of staph using CoPulsation™. When they finished the GEA group created 16 new cases while only one new case with CoPulsation™. Cornell reported a few cows died along the way – something many who milk with conventional systems experience routinely. Now Cornell and your dealer tell you our technology doesn’t work – if staph aureus is your goal it most certainly does not work. They will try to sell you a vaccine to compensate for your milking system however that works about as well as the covid vax. *McDonald’s needs dairy beef – how many of your good cows do you want to become a Big Mac?*

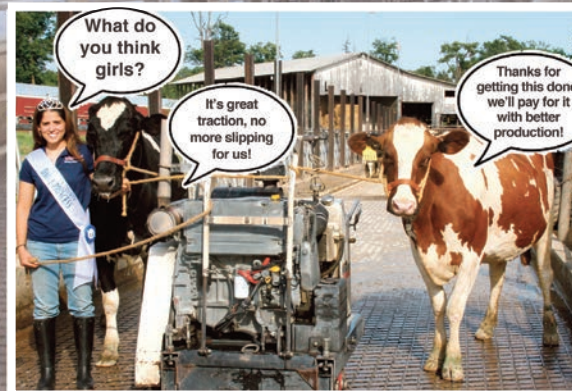
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40 head bred Jerseys and Jersey crosses.
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Mature fresh cows milking 100+ lbs. with low SCC are wanted.
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SALE HELD AT FISHER'S QUALITY DAIRY SALES
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THURSDAY, JULY 11 • 6:30 P.M.

Including two herd dispersals

Free ice cream for all dairy farmers

Herd #1 - Lancaster County tie stall herd consists of 32 milking age and 2 bred heifers. Herd currently averaging 76 lbs. 4.3 3.1 SCC 141,000. 10 milking 90-112 lbs. 10 fresh April thru June, 20 due July thru October, 11 dry cows. Cows go out for exercise.

Herd #2 - 25-30 cows picked from a 44 cow herd and 36 heifers from calves to springers. Cattle mostly home raised and AI sired. This is a nice group of young cows with lots of potential. Cows milked in tie stall and housed in freestalls.

Approx. 150 head sell

Heifers sell at 6:30. Cows approx. 7:15

Also selling a group of good, young, fresh cows and heifers, *including:*

- Reg. 2 yr. Stantons Chief-ET, fresh 5-15, 76 lbs. 4.8 3.2. She is the right kind! Dam EX-94 2-11 365 37,060 3.6 1335, goes back to Rock Mountain Pal EX-95.
- Reg. VG-88, 4 yr. Jordy-Red, fresh 6-5, 3-05 365 29,185 3.7 1083 3.3 964. 2nd dam EX-91 Awesome-Red 4-03 365 30,000 4.1 1261 2.9 883. 3rd dam EX-90 9-02 361 30,650 4.4 1341 3.2 976.
- Reg. 3 yr. Addiction-P-Red, fresh 5-25. Dam EX-91 Redburst-Red 5-00 365 35,130 4.0 1399 2.7 959. 2nd dam 4-04 365 37,710 3.8 1419 2.9 1112. Next 3 dams EX. The above 2 cows are from Cedar Crest breeding.
- Reg. 4 yr. Mogul Hyatt-ET, fresh June, 3-11 302 28,328 4.0 1127 2.9 813. Dam VG-85 4-11 297 25,930 4.4 1147 3.0 766. 2nd dam VG-86.
- 5 good, fresh 2 yrs. from one farm with 28,000 lbs. RHA, milking up to 90 lbs.
- Several top, young, fresh cows from one 26,000 lbs. herd.

Plus many more good, fresh cows with lots of milk!
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JUST FRESH, 1ST LACTATION Reg. Holstein cows. Good quality, well grown animals. 3-4 generally available each month. Call 570-297-5118.

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SERVICE AGE JERSEY BULL Reg., Amp x 11 year old cow. Nearly white polled Milking Shorthorn bull, one year, Outlaw, Guernsey milk cow, 2 Jerseys, Indiana. 724-549-6314 (text), Box 231, Marion Center, Pa. 15759.

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7 Semen, Embryos

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Welcome Classtopper A2/A2 aAa 213645
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F 82 +.18	2.59 UDC	3rd dam 90 Doorman
P 43 +.07	2.20 FLC	4th dam 95 Damion Camomile
Sire Hanans		5th dam 90 Goldwyn
Dam 86 @ 3-7 Hancock		6th dam 93 Triumphant

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55 MILKING, 10 DRY, 15 SPRINGING HEIFERS
35 - 1st CALF, 17 - 2nd CALF BAA 108.9

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Thursday, July 18 @ 7:15 P.M.
Special Mid-Summer Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale

- ★ We are expecting a great selection of good, young, fresh, dairy cows with top udders! Many on DHIA test, A.I. sired and several Registered cows. Out of local, overstocked, freestall and tiestall set ups.
- ★ Brandt-View sends 10 fresh and fancy cows w/ deep pedigrees & genomics, and milking well!!
- ★ We are hoping for a nice selection of heifers, ranging from milk calves to close springers!
- ★ 6-10 bulls sell with EX pedigrees and tons of milk in the family!!
- ★ 16 mon. Reg. Brown Swiss bull sired by Tornado! Dam milking 90 lbs. 5.0F 3.3P!
- ★ Good semen tank sells.
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PREMIUM ALFALFA AND soybean baleage for wildlife hunting clubs. \$90. Cooks Wildlife Buffet on facebook. 1105 State Highway 72, Potsdam, N.Y. 315-265-6788. Reserve your order.

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HAYBUSTERS - Dairy and beef quality alfalfa, low K hay and straw. Large and small squares. Call Mark at 800-371-7928, or visit www.haybusters.com.

12 Straw & Bedding

RYE STRAW, BALED sound and dry. No chemicals. East Earl, Pa. area. \$4/bale. 717-368-2826. (7/5)

CHOPPED STRAW in 3x3x6 bales. Good for bedding or TMR mixers. Available now. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

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USE BALED SHAVING in your dairy barn. You'll love this very fine pine bedding. \$5.50/ 40 lb. bag. 610-273-3602.

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15 Vehicles & Trailers

TRAILER PARTS, TOWING accessories, trailer hitches, and cushion hitches. UPS to your door. Weaver Distributing. 800-Weaver-D. Save!

16 Fencing

TIMELESS FENCING - The post is the insulator. Versatile design is self-insulating and easy to install for sheep, goats, cattle & horses. Allegheny Meadows. 814-285-1541.

17 Silos

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SILO DEMOLITION. Contact Beiler Silos. Call 570-745-3574.

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25 Miscellaneous

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SUMMER PRODUCTION ALL BREED SALE

Friday, July 12, 2024 • 11:30 A.M. Sale to be held at Hosking Sales Facility

Directions: 6096 NYS Route 8, New Berlin, NY 13411. 30 miles South of Utica on Route 8, 6 miles North of New Berlin

Due to the demand to sell from some overstocked dairies, we will be selling 125 head of Registered & Grade All Breed Dairy Cattle. Featuring fancy, young, milking age and bred heifers with pedigrees to back them! You will find in this sale Holsteins, Jerseys, Ayrshires and Milking Shorthorns. Selling a Holstein Service bull. This lineup will not disappoint. The pedigrees and quality will be here - high productions - show potentials for 2024 - something here for everyone. Also selling a semen tank -Worthington A124 (like new!) and some Wagyu semen. Look for last week's ad for other highlights.



Scientific Rubirae Socks-ET
Selling from this family a R&W Potential 9th Gen. EX x Aristocrat fresh a month and looks great - will show as a Sr. 2Y for this fall. Back to the Roxy 4E-97. John Roberts, N.Y.



Nipponia EDR RD Grace-ET
2E-94 6Y EEEEE
5-11 365 44,640 3.9 1737 3.0 1321
Selling her gr'dtr. just fresh Diamondback who is potential 5th gen., D: 3E-94 10Y EEEEE, Int. Champ Jr. 3Y, Jr. Show NE Fall Nat'l 2016 back to the 2E-96 Georgette Family. Beth Roberts, N.Y.



Woodmansees Ljet Pewter-ET
2E-93 6Y EEEEE
Selling an EX-91 @ 3Y Helix fresh a couple months that was 1st at NE Spring Nat'l 2Y 2022 and looks good. Liddleholme, N.Y.

More to watch for:

- * 2Y x Cadillac fresh in March & on service to Sexed Alpha milking 115# /day back to the Gold Barbara Family. - Ohandy, N.Y.
- * Morrill Dairy, N.H. has a load of Fresh cows and heifers all milking well from solid Pedigrees- some R&W's. Their highlight on the load is a Summer Jr. 2yr x Analyst back to Tri-Day Ashlyn.
- * Maple-Dream Farm sends a load of Registered & Grade Milking age with some R&W's from EX & High VG dams. A couple go back to Maple-Dream Rub Blossom-Red EX-93. Another fresh Handsome from the C Stewarhaven TT Fallon EX-94. This group is used to tiestall & freestall.
- * A group of Milking Shorthorns from Wild Springs. Bred heifers and milking age. Selling an EX-90 Raider who is just fresh from Green Acres Titan Mascara 3E-90, 7-09 352 35,350 3.0 1049 2.8 987 - 2015 Cow of the Year & 3X Nat'l Production Cow (3 sell from this great foundation family). The rest of the group all from VG & EX dams.
- * Jerseys - Group of Milking age & bred heifers from Lew-Lin breeding with several that go back to Lew-Lin Valor Kooky-P EX-95. And several more from EX dams.

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Nine students

from page 8

were acquiring. We also thought it would be a great way to enhance the labor pool for future employees we would need on our farms," said Walt Moore of Walmoore Holsteins, a PDMP member and Dairy Excellence Foundation Board member who is hosting an on-farm intern this summer. "Through the program, the interns infuse a sense of enthusiasm to their host farms, and they bring their own unique interests and skills as well."

During the internship, students will also conduct a research project that connects to their career interests and benefits their dairy farm's operation. After researching and analyzing various topics, they will present their findings in August at the conclusion of the program.

Congratulations to the following interns who are participating in the program:

- **Paige Abruzzese** – interning at Musser Run Jerseys in McVeytown, Pa.

"I choose to do this internship because I really liked that it's on the farm and being able to learn new skills. I'm hoping to learn the all-around skills that are needed on a dairy farm during a typical day and the different tasks that you need to do."

- **Kelly Bliss** – interning at Wellwyn Farm & God's Country Creamery, Ulysses, Pa.

"I chose to pursue this on-farm internship because I knew it would be a great way to gain experience on an operation that is different from my family's farm as well as apply the knowledge from my classes to hands-on applications. I hope to gain a better understanding of the function of an on-farm creamery, develop skills in digital farm data management, and gain knowledge about conservation practices such as rotational grazing."

- **Gavin Brophy** – interning at Walmoore Holsteins, West Grove, Pa.

"I wanted an immersive, hands-on experience within the commercial dairy industry. The countless opportunities involved with this internship support my passion for dairy farming and will build upon my agricultural knowledge. I hope to connect and network with other peers who intend on supporting the future of dairy in Pennsylvania. I want to build upon my problem solving, teamwork, and time management skills in a professional setting."

- **Lillian Corbett** – interning at Canon Dairy Farm, West Middlesex, Pa.

"I decided to do this internship to get hands-on experience working in the dairy industry and to see the day-to-day activities that happen on a farm. Dairy has always been a passion of mine, but because I come from a non-agricultural area, I never had the opportunity to get exposure to it prior to attending Penn State. I'm hoping to understand the benefits and struggles that dairy farmers undergo, so I can spread awareness and promote the industry in the most positive way possible."

- **Alexander Coursen** – interning at Hemdale Farms, Seneca Castle, N.Y.

"I chose this internship to gain more experience from other farms and see how other

people in the industry do things. I'm hoping to learn how to better use information that the robotic milkers give and to learn how to work on them."

- **Calvin Dechow** – interning at Furnace Hill Holsteins in Lebanon, Pa.

"I decided to do the internship because I wanted to gain more on-farm experience. I hope to learn more about what it's like to not only work on a working dairy farm but also experience the management practices that are involved in running a farm."

- **Darcy Heltzel** – interning at Vale Wood Farms, Loretto, Pa.

"I'm looking for experience that relates to my

passions of food and animal science. This on-farm internship provides me with the perfect opportunity to explore my interests and gain real industry experience. Having worked on my family's dairy farm for most of my life, I am looking forward to a different environment to help me gain new perspectives about the dairy industry. Additionally, I hope to learn more about how I can integrate my love of dairy foods and animal science together."

- **Isabella Johnson** – interning at Schrack Farms, Loganton, Pa.

"I wanted to be hands on and have a different experience than last summer while still being able to breed cows and do reproductive work every day. I'm hoping to gain reproductive management skills that pertain to working on a large dairy."

- **Adria Russell** – interning at Kulp Family Farm, Martinsburg, Pa.

"This seemed like the perfect opportunity to venture out of my comfort zone into the production side of the dairy industry. I'm hoping to gain knowledge that will help me solidify my future plans and wisdom to take back to my own farm."

Students who are accepted into the program must attend a Pennsylvania university, be a Pennsylvania resident attending an out-of-state school, or be a recently graduated Pennsylvania resident with an interest in dairy production. Host farms may be located within or outside of Pennsylvania, but producers must agree to provide the intern with exposure to all aspects of a successful, progressive dairy operation.



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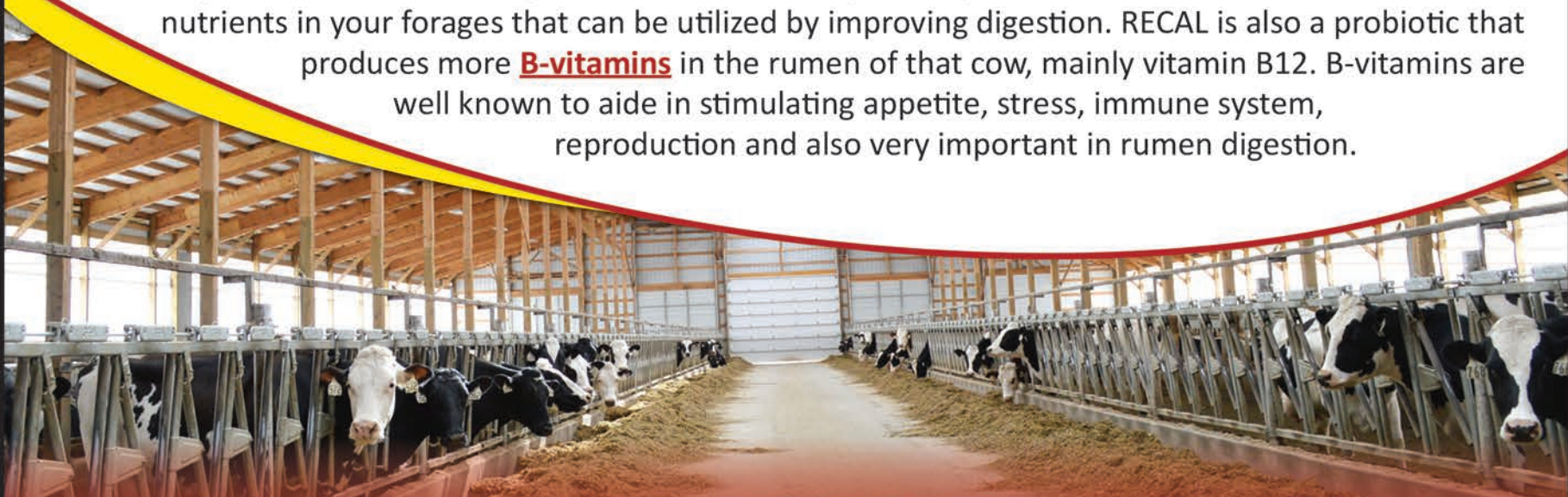


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