

FARMSHINE

We rise every week to cover farmers and agribusinesses

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April 25, 2025

Chobani's founder promises far more than yogurt

Ground broken for second plant in N.Y. State; community and country are at the heart of it

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

ROME, N.Y. — When Chobani came on the dairy scene renovating the former Kraft plant in South Edmeston in 2005 to make Greek yogurt, it revitalized the yogurt category with a dense, high protein product and commitment to using only natural ingredients.

Twenty years later on April 22, 2025, founder Hamdi Ulukaya joined New York Governor Kathy Hochul in Rome to celebrate the groundbreaking for the company's second New York State dairy plant.

The plans for the \$1.2 billion 1.4 million square foot facility in New York's Mohawk Valley came on the heels of Chobani's March announcement for a \$500 million expansion of its Twin Falls, Idaho facility.

This second New York Chobani plant "is the largest natural food manufacturing investment in American history, bringing 1000 good-paying jobs to Oneida County," said Gov. Hochul, noting it will be built on 150 acres at Griffiss Business and Technology Park, which was once home to the Griffiss Airforce Base. The site was awarded more than \$23 million from FAST NY last year to complete infrastructure and transportation improvements.

Chobani's founder and CEO Hamdi Ulukaya and Gov. Kathy Hochul celebrate the groundbreaking for the yogurt-maker's second New York State plant.

Photo by Darren McGee,
Office of Governor
Kathy Hochul



Expected to be completed in 2026, the new plant will process over 12 million pounds of milk per day into over one billion pounds of dairy products per year when at capacity. Chobani has innovated its Greek yogurt offerings over the years, with more innovations in store. In addition to yogurt and related products, Chobani makes a ready-to-drink coffee beverages with its 2023 acquisition of La Colombe.

"New York is where Chobani's journey began," said Ulukaya. "It was the perfect spot to start Chobani 20 years ago, and it's the perfect place to continue our story. Working with dedicated dairy farmers and the resilient community, we built something truly special — something bigger than the food we make. We ignited a movement toward better food made with heart, passion, and only the highest-quality ingredients."

"With our new plant in Rome and our original home in South Edmeston, we're entering a new dimension, partnering with hard-working people across the heartland of New York to build an ecosystem of natural food production and nourish families throughout the country. When you invest in people, in local communities, you're not just building a business — you're building a future," the Chobani founder continued.

He struck a chord for the future that he envisions here. He took the groundbreaking audience through his journey, recognizing his team and the original team from all parts

turn to page 11

PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

Another 'gold' for 'GT'	3
Book review	21
Calf raising advice	12, 13
Call for commonsense	2
CDE introduces new directors	23
Dairy Shrine honors Thorbahn	7
Dairy women step up	15
Editorial	4

Farmer's Daughter column	10
FMMO revisions to start	16-17
Market Moos	14
Midwest Dairy Challenge	19
NAIDC and Penn State	20
Scholarship winners	22
T-shirts for sale	24
Whole milk not on their radar	5

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Reasonable U.S. waters definition requested

WASHINGTON, D.C – The American Farm Bureau Federation is asking for changes to the “Waters of the United States” rule to bring it in line with the Sackett v. EPA Supreme Court ruling, which called for more clarity in water regulations. AFBF submitted comments recently in response to the Environmental Protection Agency’s request for recommendations.

“Considering drains, ditches, stock ponds, impoundments, irrigation ditches, and low spots in farm fields and pastures as jurisdictional ‘waters’ opens the door to regulation of ordinary farming activities that move dirt or apply products to the land on those lands,” AFBF stated in its comments.

“Everyday activities such as plowing, planting, or fence building in or near ephemeral drainages, impoundments, ditches, or low spots could result in enforcement action triggering the (Clean Waters Act’s) harsh civil and criminal penalties unless a permit was obtained first. Bear in mind that permitting under CWA requires the investment of significant amounts of time and money. Most farmers and ranchers have neither of those in abundance.”

Farm Bureau’s recommendations include:

- Creating a definition of the ‘relatively permanent standard,’ which guides agencies in determining whether a body of water falls under federal jurisdiction;

- Regulating wetlands only when they are indistinguishable from and have a continuous surface connection to WOTUS waterways; and

- Providing clear exemptions and exclusions so farmers and ranchers can use their land without the risk of severe penalties.

“America’s farmers and ranchers are committed to doing the right thing by protecting the resources they’ve been entrusted with. We need clear regulations to reach those goals, however. The Supreme Court ruled that the previous administration overstepped its authority with WOTUS. We appreciate EPA taking steps to bring WOTUS in line with the Sackett ruling by providing clarity that respects the high court’s decision and farmers’ efforts to preserve the environment as they grow the food and fiber America’s families rely on,” AFBF President Zippy Duvall concluded.

High quality milk with low SCC? “We spray all fresh cows with Udder Comfort.”

— Jared Daubert



JA-LA-DA DAIRY, MILLMONT, PENNSYLVANIA
Jared and Laura Daubert
125 Brown Swiss, Holsteins, and Red & Whites
RHA 25,500M and 70,000 SCC

With somatic cell counts averaging 70,000 and earning milk quality awards through their co-op, we wanted to know what the Dauberts do to produce high quality milk. “We spray all fresh cows with Udder Comfort™ to get edema out when they calve in. We also use it on any mastitis, and we focus on cleanliness and strict milking protocols,” says 4th generation dairyman Jared Daubert.

Jared grew up in central Pennsylvania, steeped in Brown Swiss genetics, earned his animal science degree at Penn State and worked for several large farms before he and Laura and their 4 children began milking 125 Brown Swiss, Holsteins and Red & Whites on their first-generation JA LA DA Dairy near Millmont, Pa. He loves seeing genetic improvement and seeing his kids grow up learning to take care of things.

“I have used Udder Comfort quite a long time, getting it on fresh cows as fast as we can, and on some pre-calving heifers. We see a lower mastitis incidence when we are consistent on this,” he reports.

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‘GT’ Thompson honored with second Golden Plow Award

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) presented House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn ‘GT’ Thompson (R-PA) with AFBF’s Golden Plow award on Tuesday, April 22.

The Golden Plow is the highest honor the organization gives to sitting members of Congress. This is the second Golden Plow award for Chairman Thompson. He was previously honored in 2014.

“From the moment he took office, Chairman Thompson has worked tirelessly on issues impacting farmers, ranchers and rural communities,” said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. “His unwavering support for hardworking farm families has earned him the Friend of Farm Bureau award for eight consecutive sessions, so presenting him with the Golden Plow award seems only natural.

“Chairman Thompson’s dedication to rural America is needed now more than ever, and his character is the epitome of



U.S. House Ag Committee Chairman, Representative for Pennsylvania’s 15th District, and Whole Milk Champion Glenn ‘GT’ Thompson (center) was awarded the prestigious Golden Plow Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation on Tuesday, April 22. Celebrating the honor with him are (l-r)

Pennsylvania Ag Secretary Russell Redding, Dr. Troy Ott, dean of Penn State University’s College of Ag Sciences; AFBF President Zippy Duvall and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman.

Photo courtesy PFB

what a Golden Plow recipient should be.” The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau nominated Thompson for the award in honor of his work in advancing a new and modernized farm bill, making disaster and economic assistance available to farmers, support of the dairy in-

dustry, and his work to solve the agricultural labor crisis. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman said: “It has been an honor to have Congressman Thompson as the chair of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee and in turn

a philosophy or record that demonstrates a commitment to sound agricultural policies supported by Farm Bureau, the private enterprise system, fiscal conservatism and reduced federal regulation of businesses and individuals.

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By Dieter Krieg
Farmshine Editor

Farmshine Editorials



“The greatest tyrannies are always perpetuated in the name of the noblest of causes.”

— Thomas Paine

Please support truth instead of brainwashing

DMI’s claim to be “undeniably dairy” is an outrageous lie

America’s supply of farm-fresh milk is a nutritious, precious and sought-after commodity. Many in the industry would be eager and proud to tell you it’s the envy of the world, adding that it is produced with the highest standards for animal care, cleanliness, quality and more.

America’s dairy farmers have worked hard to meet the higher standards for the FARM program, somatic cell counts, roadside appeal and more. But why bother?

Considering the “ultra-fooled-with” milk that’s being pushed by industry “leaders” these days, we might as well import raw milk from places like India and process the life out of it to make the ultra-processed, re-invented beverages that outside-of-the-barn and out-of-touch fools have in mind.

It wasn’t all that many years ago that the buzz words for increased dairy sales included local, fresh, nutritious, delicious and wholesome. Sadly, those words are obsolete today as “the industry” is focused more on manufacturing, shelf life and — quite frankly — brainwashing.

Brainwashing defined: The process of pressuring someone into adopting radically different beliefs by using systematic and often forcible means.

Dairy Management, Inc. (DMI) has openly admitted to using such methods to convince the public — which includes you, the producer — that what they’ve got in the ultra-processing pipeline is better than what you’re shipping.

From our point of view, that’s an insult to the cow, all of the people who work with her and ultimately God, who formulated the original recipe.

The journey away from local, fresh, nutritious, delicious and wholesome began with ultra-high temperature (UHT) processing and extended shelf life (ESL) milk distribution. Admittedly, these processing technologies have their place. Even in America. But only where refrigeration or a cool stream aren’t available.

There is a simple one-word reason for the nonsense we’re seeing in today’s milk marketing. That one word is “consolidation.” In hindsight, it was a mistake.

We have far fewer but much larger farms today and the marketing and distribution of milk and dairy products is largely in the hands of a couple of giants in the industry.

We’re shipping milk hundreds of miles to processors and in some cases processors are shipping products to retail outlets thousands of miles away. How can it be economically and environmentally justifiable, for example, that an Arizona-based dairy company sends milk to the Newark Airport on the East Coast when Tuscan Dairies is right across the highway!

Such nonsense that’s causing the waste of fuel and other resources wasn’t happening back in “the old days” when local meant local, fresh meant fresh and milk was

minimally processed compared to today.

So why bother?

Well, the good news is that proper consumer education will allow consumers to know the difference and make choices based on truth instead of brainwashing.

Our best hope for truth overcoming DMI’s brazenly treasonous brainwashing resides within the organizations that focus their attention and resources on real milk and real dairy products.

In our region of the country, we can name 97 MILK and Allied Milk Producers Cooperative. They are the ONLY ones who do milk education and promotion justifiably correct.

DMI’s claim to be “undeniably dairy” is an outrageous lie.

Faith Builders Christian School slates benefit auction, May 2

GUYS MILLS, Pa. — Faith Builders Christian School has announced that its 24th Annual Benefit Auction — with dinner and a bake sale included — will be held on Friday, May 2, starting at 4 p.m. Located 10 miles east of Meadville in Crawford County, the address is 28527 Guys Mills Road, Guys Mills.

Auction organizers note: “Educating our children is important for the long-term good and health of any community. Local businesses and individuals are coming together to support Faith Builders Christian School by envisioning a family-friendly event in which to show their support of the community’s young people. Many people are donating quality items and gift certificates.

Plenty of food will be available, including chicken dinners and sausage sandwiches. Everyone is invited to join in this fun time of interaction with the rest of the community. There is something for everyone at this auction. We can work together to build our community!

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Part II – ESL milk panel at Pennsylvania Dairy Summit

‘If we focus on whole milk, we miss these market optimizers’

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. – Food-as-medicine, food-and-medicine, fun-and-portable, young kids talking about pre-aging, on-the-go snack and beverage convenience, the quest for guilt-free ways to unwind with fewer calories than wine, the growing double-income-no-kids (DINK) consumer landscape that is focused on wellness, consumer shifts from coffees to teas, the surge in protein demand, and the growth in sales of lactose-free milk...

These are some emerging trends mentioned during a panel about extended shelf life (ESL) milk as the gateway to dairy checkoff’s Milk Molecules Initiative during the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit last month.

In the Feb. 21st Farmshine, we brought you part one, a panel overview in this three-part series. In this second installment, we dig into what Dairy Management Inc (DMI) is doing with protein in the fluid milk space, and the technologies they are working on to separate molecules.

This public launch of the Milk Molecules Initiative (MMI) comes after 10 to 15 years of work through the pre-competitive industry collaboration vehicle – The Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, a 501c6 established by DMI in 2008.

What we’ve learned is that MMI – as a fluid milk strategy – began even before the formation of DMI’s Fluid Milk Innovation Task Force seven years ago. It goes all the way back to 2010, right about the time whole milk choice was abolished in schools.

This strategy has been developed to discover, strip out, and repurpose the “functional benefits” of specific bioactive compounds, or molecules, in milk. The concept goes back to the early alliance between Fonterra and DMI, with headquarters less than three miles apart in the suburbs of Chicago around O’Hare Airport.

This strategy has been under development via research grants from USDA, NIH, and the National Dairy Council to the Dairy Research Institutes at four university locations, including the Barile Lab at the University of California-Davis. There, researchers have worked on isolating compounds from both human and bovine milk, and more recently, student researchers have been working on a DMI project “building a digital ecosystem and platform for these milk compounds.”

The Feb. 2022 memorandum of understanding between DMI and Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, is tying-in the human health linkages to specific bioactive compounds in milk, and the Feb. 2024 DMI partnership with PIPA, an artificial intelligence (AI) platform, is accelerating the knowledge gain in how to break down milk’s so-called “bioactive family tree” to leverage functional

milk products with new health benefits. “We are finding the molecules in the whole milk matrix and picking things that are on the ‘whey stream’ as one area of focus, such as stripping out the lactoferrin,” said Dairy Summit panelist Paul Ziemnisky, head of wellness, innovation and business development for Dairy Management Inc. (DMI), who has spearheaded the work of the Fluid Milk Innovation Task Force. “We have partners talking about building a lactoferrin plant centered on just one of thousands of molecules in milk. We are look-

ing at how to protect this molecule so it doesn’t lose its bioavailability, so we can put it back into dairy (post-processing),” he said. Ziemnisky observed how past checkoff messaging has touted things like: “chocolate milk as a recovery beverage.” Today, he said, “We’re going beyond that. We’re looking at ways to add milk to milk and to use these concepts to give it a different look and to capture huge value potential.” How does DMI plan to partner with industry to capture this value? By linking milk and technology to create new products.

According to Ziemnisky, the MMI is looking aggressively at encapsulation and separation technologies as well as drying technologies that can be patented while testing the concepts with consumers to “learn how to talk about it.” “If we focus on whole milk, we miss these market optimizers,” Ziemnisky declared. “Whole milk is for the 17% of traditionalists. We must innovate this category. We’re giving consumers a reason to understand what they need.” He says MMI and ESL are pathways to get

turn to page 18

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Auction Guide

APRIL 26, 9 a.m. 41st Annual Gospel Express Ministries Benefit Auction, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by Gospel Express Ministries.

APRIL 26, 10:30 a.m. Pa. Ayrshire & Milking Shorthorn Sale, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by the Pa. Ayrshire Breeders Association.

APRIL 26, 11 a.m. Pennsylvania Guernsey Blue Halter Sale, Bedford, Pa. Sale managed by the Pa. Guernsey Breeders Association.

APRIL 26, 11:30 a.m. Deer Hill Farm Machinery Inventory Reduction Sale, Cazenovia, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

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

MAY 1, 7 p.m. Special Dairy Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

MAY 1, 7:15 p.m. Annual Heifer Turn-Out Sale, Brubacker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubacker's Quality Dairy Sales.

MAY 2, 6 p.m. Special Feeder Cattle Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

MAY 2, 7 p.m. Lebanon County Spring Promise All-Breed Calf Sale, Lebanon, Pa. Sale managed by Daniel Brandt Pedigrees.

MAY 3, 10:30 a.m. Bradford County Calf & Heifer Sale, Troy, Pa. Sale managed by Pepper's Auction Service.

MAY 7, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

MAY 9, 6 p.m. Horse Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

MAY 15, Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

MAY 16, 7 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

MAY 31, 9:05 a.m. Clocker Real Estate Auction, Shickshinny, Pa. Sale managed by Ray H. Knecht.

JUNE 14, 12 p.m. Cheers To Thirty Years Of Hosking Sales, Hosking Sales, New Berlin, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

JUNE 20, 7 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

JULY 11, 6 p.m. Horse Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

JULY 18, 7 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

AUG. 15, 7 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

SEPT. 12, 6 p.m. Horse Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

SEPT. 19, 7 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

OCT. 17, 1 p.m. Monthly Dairy Sale, Kish Valley Dairy Sales, Belleville, Pa. Sale managed by Kish Valley Dairy Sales.

Dairyman's Datebook

APRIL 25-26, Pennsylvania Ayrshire Breeders' meeting, show and sale, Shippensburg Fairgrounds, 10131 Possom Hollow Road, Shippensburg.

APRIL 25, 6 p.m. Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders annual awards banquet, American Legion, 3721 Business Route 220, Bedford. RSVP to Holly McCarthy: 813-523-1168

APRIL 26, Ohio Dairy Palooza, Canfield Fairgrounds, 7265 Columbian-Canfield Rd., Canfield.

MAY 2, 4 p.m. Annual benefit auction hosted by Faith Builders Christian School, 28527 Guys Mills Road, Guys Mills, Pa. Dinner and bake sale included.

MAY 20, 8:45 a.m - 5 p.m. "Herds and Her": Empowering Women in Dairy" event hosted by Penn State Extension at Fantasyland Holsteins, 27 Valley Farm Lane, Robesonia, Pa.

JUNE 12, 6 p.m. A 'Toast to Dairy' event, Melhorn Manor, 977 West Main Street, Mount Joy, Pa.

JUNE 20, 10 a.m. Virginia Dairy Expo, Shenandoah Valley Produce Auction, 2839 Lumber Mill Road, Dayton.

JUNE 23-26, National Holstein Convention, Union Station Hotel, 1820 Market Street, St. Louis, Mo.

JUNE 24-27, National Brown Swiss Convention, Lebanon Valley Exposition Center & Fairgrounds, 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, Pa.

JUNE 25-28, Annual meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ) at the Embassy Suites-UK Coldstream, 1801 Newtown Pike, Lexington, Ky.

JULY 1-5, National Ayrshire Convention, Double Tree Hotel, 870 Williston Road, South Burlington, Vt.

JULY 8-11, National Guernsey Convention, Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham Hotel & Conference Center, 714 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, Wash.

JULY 15-21, XII World Brown Swiss Conference, Bogota, Colombia.

AUGUST 12-14 Ag Progress Days, 2710 West Pine Grove Road (Rt. 45) Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa.

Advertiser's Index

Agri-King.....	32	LB Manufacturing	23
Agri-Trac.....	9	Levi's Concrete Grooving	8
Alpha Genetics (Immu-Pro)	4	Martin's Roofing	20
Apex Ag-Tek Solutions.....	16	Meyer, Dick Company	6
Bargain Page.....	23	Morrissey Insurance	18
Beiler Industries.....	28	Nelson & Sons Concrete Gr.....	18
Beitzel Spraying.....	6	New Holland Sales Stables ...	27
Bio-Vet	8	Patz	12
Bradford County Calf Sale ...	31	Power Systems Electric	10
Brandt, Daniel Pedigrees.....	30	Precast Systems	29
Brubacker's Dairy Sales	30	Priority IAC	5
Brubaker, Rufus Refrgeration..	6	R&J Dairy Consulting	13
Building Directory	10	Recal Microbials.....	15
Cedar Crest Equipment.....	25	Rissler Conveyors.....	29
CFK Construction.....	22	Rissler, I.H. Manufacturing	4
Coburn Company.....	15	River Nutrition	19
DBC Ag	17	Russellville Hoop Buildings....	11
Esch Hay Equipment	13	Shady Lane Curtains.....	3
Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales ..	27	Sollenberger Silos.....	29
Gehm, L.R.	13	Sonco.....	20
Horst Grain Roasting	29	Sturdy Built Manufacturing.....	7
JBS	6	Triple M Farms.....	28
JBZ Dairy Advantage ...	9,29,30	Udder Comfort	2
JRS Ag Assemblies	22	Useful Farm Products	22
Keystone Concrete Products..	11	Vive Crop Protection	21
King's AgriSeeds.....	20	Weaver's Toasted Grains.....	12
Knecht, Ray H. Auctioneer.....	28	We Cover Structures	14
Kolb's Dairy Sales	27	Zimmermans Glass Strg.....	28
Lancaster DHIA	18		

'A Toast to Dairy' tickets are discounted until May 11

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Dairy Excellence Foundation will host its annual farm-to-fork celebration, “A Toast to Dairy,” on Thursday, June 12, 2025 from 6-9 p.m. at Melhorn Manor, 977 West Main Street, Mount Joy, Pa.

The cost is \$85 per person. Individuals who purchase tickets by May 1 will receive \$10 off each ticket. Additional discounts are available for group purchases of eight or more tickets.

The event includes meal stations sourced with Pennsylvania Preferred ingredients, a selection of artisan cheeses, locally crafted wines and brews, and other networking activities. Individuals who purchase tickets by May 1 will receive an early-bird discount with \$10 off each ticket.

The event will feature guided, interactive cheese tastings paired with chocolate-themed food and beverages, a dessert bar, and samples from local wineries, breweries and distilleries. Attendees will receive a tasting passport to enjoy samples at each stop. The event will also include raffles, live music

hour, a caricature artist, an outdoor courtyard, and opportunities to network with individuals from the dairy community and beyond.

To purchase tickets: Visit centerfordairyexcellence.org/toasttodairy or call the Foundation at 717-346-0849.

To sponsor the event, email Jayne Sebright at jsebright@centerfordairyexcellence.org or call 717-346-0849.




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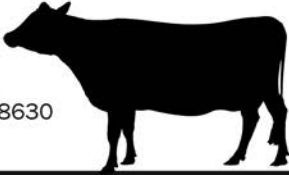
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David Thorbahn named National Dairy Shrine Guest of Honor

FORT ATKINSON, Wis. — David Thorbahn president and chief executive officer of Select Sires, Inc. since 2000, has been named National Dairy Shrine's Guest of Honor for 2025. It's the highest level of recognition offered by the organization, recognizing an exemplary dairy leader for his or her accomplishments and contributions to the dairy industry.

Thorbahn's passion for the dairy industry began during his youth on his family's farm in Ohio, where his interest in improving the dairy industry took root. Today, he is a true leader in the dairy industry, known for his remarkable achievements during his quarter-century tenure as president and CEO of Select

Under his leadership, Select Sires has grown into the largest supplier of bovine semen in North America and one of the largest globally. It was Thorbahn's leadership that drove the company to be first-to-market with sex-sorted semen.

Select Sires has seen substantial growth during Thorbahn's tenure, expanding sales from 6 million doses in 1999 to more than 24 million doses by 2021. He also led seven major acquisitions, including the purchase of Low Carbon Beef, which supports sustainability efforts by enabling dairy and beef producers to gain carbon credits.

Additionally, Thorbahn's dedication to

mentorship and youth development is well known, particularly through his role as a founding member and first chairman of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge. This initiative has grown to provide a unique learning and career development experience for countless university students across the country.

As a respected figure in the industry, Thorbahn has served on numerous boards, including the National Association of Animal Breeders, the U.S. Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding and World Dairy Expo. He has been honored with several prestigious awards, including Ohio State's Distinguished Alumni

Award and the 2024 Ohio State Dairy Hall of Service induction.

Randy Kortus of the Select Sires Board of Directors is one of several influential figures in the dairy industry who recommended Thorbahn for the award. He says: "I cannot think of a more qualified individual who has accomplished so much for the dairy and beef industries."

Thorbahn will receive the Guest of Honor award at the National Dairy Shrine Awards Banquet on Monday, September 29, in Madison, Wisconsin. His portrait will be displayed in National Dairy Shrine's Dairy Hall of Fame and Museum in Fort Atkinson, Wis.



David Thorbahn

Sires Inc.

Prior to taking the reigns at Select Sires, Thorbahn worked with ABS, heading up the Holstein young sire program. There, he held various positions and received numerous promotions before returning to his home state to lead the Select Sires team.

'Debbie' storm loans, anyone? Apply by July 8

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated nine Pennsylvania counties Primary Natural Disaster Areas due to Tropical Storm Debby's damage on August 9-10, 2024. This disaster declaration allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through emergency loans. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Impacted area in Pennsylvania, primary counties eligible: Cambria, Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Indiana, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming. Contiguous counties also eligible: Pennsylvania: Armstrong, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Forest, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Monroe, Pike, Potter, Somerset, Warren, Westmoreland. And in New York State: Broome, Delaware, Sullivan, Tioga.

The application deadline for FEMA's disaster loans, regarding Tropical Storm Debby, is July 8, 2025. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center.



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Lancaster
DHIA

New England, New Jersey, New York

MARCH 2025
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Cheshire					
MALNATI, VINCENT & CA	96 HO	20341	833	624	
BRITTON, LARRY & WY	113 HO	17205	751	555	

Grafton					
GRAFTON FARM	57 HO	29055	1250	941	
PATCH FAMILY	93 HO	25295	1166	835	
GRAFTON FARM	10 JE	20146	1015	743	
MINOT, WILLIAM & DIANNE	12 HO	22787	851	728	
MINOT, WILLIAM & DIANNE	15 AY	17778	696	614	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
GRAFTON FARM	JE	76	10		
GRAFTON FARM	HO	80	57		
MINOT, WILLIAM & DIANNE	AY	133	15		
PATCH FAMILY	HO	141	93		

Merrimack, Belknap					
PINELANE FARM	238 HO	26720	1519	857	
BOHANAN FARM	124 HO	26342	1128	855	
CATE, JONATHON	57 XX	17629	855	627	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
CATE, JONATHON	XX	176	57		
BOHANAN FARM	HO	184	124		

Sullivan					
GARY LECLAIR	299 HO	28119	1244	944	
PUTNAM FARMS, INC.	440 HO	26378	1175	873	
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	355 HO	26886	1341	863	
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	60 XX	21492	1249	763	
PUTNAM FARMS, INC.	69 XX	20607	1067	760	
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	88 JE	19404	1130	721	
CLARK, GREGORY & MARCIA	31 HO	22097	867	692	
LUTHER, JOHN W.	28 HO	20888	835	686	
CLARK, GREGORY & MARCIA	35 MS	18027	669	569	
LUTHER, JOHN W.	12 JE	14484	734	530	

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
CLARK, GREGORY & MARCIA	HO	90	31		
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	XX	111	60		
LUTHER, JOHN W.	HO	113	28		
PUTNAM FARMS, INC.	XX	129	69		
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	HO	150	355		
MACGLAFLIN FARM LLC.	JE	152	88		
CLARK, GREGORY & MARCIA	MS	178	35		

VERMONT
Addison

B. DANYOW FARM LLC.	1020 HO	29922	1336	988	
VORSTEVELD FARM	1684 HO	28712	1253	972	
KAYHART BROTHERS LLC.	1494 HO	28356	1252	925	
HOWLETT, TIM & JULIE	777 HO	28002	1157	922	
LIVINGSTON, PHIL & DIANE	884 HO	28879	1163	909	
LUCAS, JONATHAN	319 HO	27268	1232	907	
CORREIA, ANTHONY & BARB	392 HO	25430	1107	885	
DEGRAAF, HAROLD & ANJE	14 XX	27306	1078	878	

WILCON FARM	575 HO	27478	1177	873	
FIFIELD, JEFF & LISE	134 HO	25891	1032	852	
DEGRAAF, HAROLD & ANJE	170 HO	25745	1090	842	
ANDY NOLAN	347 HO	24576	1037	829	
TUDHOPE, MILES & CHERYL	55 HO	25159	1089	821	
BRISSON, MARC & NORRIS	1089 XX	24701	1076	820	
B. DANYOW FARM LLC.	75 XX	23121	1093	813	
TREADWAY, BRIAN	207 HO	24909	1003	781	
TUDHOPE, MILES & CHERYL	54 BS	21339	975	741	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
TUDHOPE, MILES & CHERYL	BS	56	54		
TUDHOPE, MILES & CHERYL	HO	67	55		
B. DANYOW FARM LLC.	XX	86	75		
LUCAS, JONATHAN	HO	104	319		
B. DANYOW FARM LLC.	HO	106	1020		
CORREIA, ANTHONY & BARBARA	HO	110	392		
TREADWAY, BRIAN	HO	126	207		
ANDY NOLAN	HO	132	347		
DEGRAAF, HAROLD & ANJE	HO	144	170		
LIVINGSTON, PHIL & DIANE	HO	152	884		
DEGRAAF, HAROLD & ANJE	XX	159	14		
KAYHART BROTHERS LLC.	HO	160	1494		

FIFIELD, JEFF & LISE	HO	167	134		
VORSTEVELD FARM	HO	172	1684		
HOWLETT, TIM & JULIE	HO	174	777		
BRISSON, MARC & NORRIS	XX	178	1089		
WILCON FARM	HO	183	575		

Caledonia					
FREMONT & ETHAN NELSON	222 HO	24614	1069	796	
JAMES W. SEYMOUR	69 HO	21663	984	722	
ACKERMANN DAIRY	73 HO	22360	906	721	
LAGGIS BROS.	509 JE	17632	935	659	
FREMONT & ETHAN NELSON	24 XX	18725	884	657	
WILLSON, DOROTHY & A.	83 XX	16700	816	626	
BRIAN NICHOLS	93 XX	16863	823	617	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
FREMONT & ETHAN NELSON	XX	89	24		
ACKERMANN DAIRY	HO	89	73		
FREMONT & ETHAN NELSON	HO	124	222		
JAMES W. SEYMOUR	HO	159	69		
BRIAN NICHOLS	XX	163	93		
BEAN, ERIC	JE	165	39		
LAGGIS BROS.	JE	171	509		

Chittenden					
CREAM	67 HO	29464	1216	929	
SHELburne FARMS	129 BS	16490	722	560	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
SHELburne FARMS	BS	99	129		

Essex					
ROUTHIER & SONS, INC.	314 HO	25328	1150	855	
RUSSO, STEPHEN & CARLA	17 HO	21675	913	690	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
RUSSO, STEPHEN & CARLA	HO	92	17		
ROUTHIER & SONS, INC.	HO	113	314		

Franklin					
HOWRIGAN HOME FARM	291 HO	29425	1188	963	
HOWRIGAN, H.J. & A. & LAW	366 HO	27919	1177	914	
HOWRIGAN H-J DAIRY	344 HO	27271	1083	878	
MIKE BENJAMIN	542 HO	27037	1141	871	
HOWRIGAN, HAROLD J. & SO	369 HO	25062	1082	844	
MCGARRY DAIRY LLC.	133 HO	25873	1078	839	
BALLARD ACRES	237 HO	24352	1081	802	
DEPATIE, JAMES & JESSICA	378 HO	25186	1022	777	
CARPSDALE FARMS LTD.	83 HO	22624	938	739	
DALESTEAD FARM & MAPLE	94 HO	22864	974	723	
PAUL-LIN DAIRY LLC.	26 JE	16135	753	587	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
MIKE BENJAMIN	HO	76	542		
BALLARD ACRES	HO	94	237		
MCGARRY DAIRY LLC.	HO	105	133		
HOWRIGAN, H.J. & A. & LAWRENCE	HO	122	366		
HOWRIGAN, HAROLD J. & SONS	HO	130	369		
PAUL-LIN DAIRY LLC.	JE	133	26		
HOWRIGAN HOME FARM	HO	155	291		
CARPSDALE FARMS LTD.	HO	173	83		
DALESTEAD FARM & MAPLE LLC.	HO	183	94		
DEPATIE, JAMES & JESSICA	HO	196	378		

Grand Isle					
J. & M. LADD FAMILIES FARM	60 XX	19531	734	606	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
J. & M. LADD FAMILIES FARM	XX	138	60		

Lamoille					
MORRILL, ARTHUR & LARRY	37 HO	20934	927	670	
KEEWAYDIN FARM	86 JE	17516	819	654	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
MORRILL, ARTHUR & LARRY	HO	60	37		
KEEWAYDIN FARM	JE	83	86		

Orange					
GLADSTONE, WALTER & MA	2719 HO	32044	1320	1073	
GLADSTONE, WALTER & MA	58 XX	25155	1263	946	
HARKDALE FARM, INC.	62 HO	26185	1118	871	
WHITE, ELIJAH & MARY	119 HO	22905	1040	788	
HARKDALE FARM, INC.	117 JE	18214	1000	705	
ALLENVILLE FARM	82 HO	22692	923	700	
ADAM BEAULIEU	64 HO	21296	885	700	
ROBERT J. HOWE	27 HO	21494	838	652	
SILLOWAY FARMS	66 HO	19457	791	612	
GRAY, KIM	21 JE	15064	772	579	
LEBOLD, KYLE	36 JE	16230	734	563	
WRIGHT, ANDREW	47 XX	15447	710	545	
ROBERT J. HOWE	13 JE	14052	671	507	
OUGHTA-BE-FARM LLP.	61 XX	14649	648	505	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
GLADSTONE, WALTER & MARGARE	XX	89	58		
HARKDALE FARM, INC.	JE	101	117		
GLADSTONE, WALTER & MARGARE	HO	101	2719		
GRAY, KIM	JE	105	21		
LEBOLD, KYLE	JE	125	36		
ALLENVILLE FARM	HO	128	82		
HARKDALE FARM, INC.	HO	146	62		
WRIGHT, ANDREW	XX	148	47		
HOYT, AMBER & SCOTT	XX	153	41		
OUGHTA-BE-FARM LLP.	XX	172	61		
WHITE, ELIJAH & MARY	HO	172	119		
SILLOWAY FARMS	HO	182	66		
HOYT, AMBER & SCOTT	JE	189	18		

Orleans					
ANDY & SARAH BIRCH	44 HO	26681	1176	895	
NADEAU, AARON & CHANT	150 HO	24381	1048	779	
SHEENA BROWN	46 HO	23166	910	749	
WEBSTER, DANIEL	88 HO	21488	885	720	
ANDY & SARAH BIRCH	12 XX	20428	991	720	

LISAI, PAUL	66 XX	19368	968	609	
RANDALL FAMILY FARM	127 HO	18941	765	600	
PADDLEBRIDGE HOLSTEINS	58 HO	20144	773	599	
LATRAVERSE, SEBASTIEN	56 HO	19028	778	588	
PATENAUE, KATE BRACE,	197 XX	17890	702	558	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
ANDREWS, ANDY	HO	73	112		
LISAI, PAUL	XX	88	66		
ANDY & SARAH BIRCH	HO	103	44		
SHEENA BROWN	HO	130	46		
RANDALL FAMILY FARM	HO	144	127		
PATENAUE, KATE BRACE, DUST	XX	156	197		
PADDLEBRIDGE HOLSTEINS	HO	158	58		
NADEAU, AARON & CHANTALE	HO	165	150		
LATRAVERSE, SEBASTIEN	HO	171	56		

Rutland					
WOOD LAWN FARMS, INC.	122 HO	26145	1274	833	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
WOOD LAWN FARMS, INC.	HO	119	122		

Washington					
FAIRMONT FARM	1661 HO	29444	1267	984	
SETH GARDNER	372 HO	20665	832	644	
FRANK, MARILYN & KIRT JO	63 HO	19706	701	592	
MOLLY BROOK FARM LLC.	77 JE	15458	747	581	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
FRANK MARILYN & KIRT JOHN SO	HO	104	63		
MOLLY BROOK FARM LLC.	JE	122	77		
FAIRMONT FARM	HO	124	1661		
SETH GARDNER	HO	163	372		

Windham					
MARK, SUE, SAM, KELTSEY RU	38 HO	25810	1081	850	
MILLER, PETER	271 HO	26488	1133	816	
VERN-MONT FARM LLC.	520 HO	25047	1117	811	
MARK, SUE, SAM, KELTSEY RU	22 JE	17578	970	679	
HAMILTON, JAKE	49 HO	20204	884	648	
LILAC RIDGE FARM	36 HO	16624	707	514	
THE PUTNEY SCHOOL	32 XX	15850	684	510	
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000					
MILLER, PETER		HO	127	271	
MARK, SUE, SAM, KELTSEY RUSHTO		HO	134	38	
MARK, SUE, SAM, KELTSEY RUSHTO		JE	139	22	
THE CORSE FARM		XX	157	54	
HAMILTON, JAKE		HO	167	49	
VERN-MONT FARM LLC.		HO	193	520	
LILAC RIDGE FARM		HO	195	36	

New England, New Jersey, New York



Lancaster
DHIA

VALLEY VIEW DAIRY	HO	169	123
JAKE AUBIN	HO	191	110

Windham

ROCK MAPLE FARM 1	20 HO	22413	916	708
ROCK MAPLE FARM 1	15 BS	19417	933	703
KURT NIEMINEN	11 HO	20887	843	672
ROCK MAPLE FARM 1	12 XX	18803	848	626
ROCK MAPLE FARM 1	42 JE	16967	858	616
SELBUORT VALLEY FARM	69 XX	15747	740	538
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
ROCK MAPLE FARM 1	HO	186	20	

NEW YORK

Allegany

PLOETZ, GARY & PAT	41 HO	25863	1006	804
HESS, LESTER E.	71 HO	24780	994	777
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
PLOETZ, GARY & PAT	HO	156	41	

Broome

WINSOR ACRES	2176 HO	27545	1114	860
SCOTT GLEZEN	2351 HO	25129	1067	831
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
WINSOR ACRES	HO	89	2176	

Cayuga

EZRA WEAVER	76 HO	28113	1185	908
LEROY & CYNTHIA HORST	120 HO	25417	1024	768
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
LEROY & CYNTHIA HORST	HO	47	120	
MARK & TORI STAUDERMAN	JE	153	30	
EZRA WEAVER	HO	182	76	
JASON & BETHANIE GLICK	JE	188	80	

Chautauqua

COUNTRY AYRE FARMS LLC.	705 HO	26959	1215	910
COUNTRY AYRE FARMS LLC.	28 XX	25651	1215	887
FINN STAR FARMS	32 HO	23124	986	738
COUNTRY AYRE FARMS LLC.	63 JE	19041	1051	712
PHILIP BECKERINK	69 HO	21790	905	708
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
FINN STAR FARMS	HO	86	32	
PHILIP BECKERINK	HO	150	69	

Chemung

LE-DENN FARM	92 HO	23466	871	731
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
LE-DENN FARM	HO	97	92	

Herkimer

JOHN SAUDER	54 HO	27583	1078	864
SAMUEL S. KING	76 HO	27422	1046	857
JONATHON SHIRK	44 HO	23237	1103	740
JOHN E. STOLTZFUS	42 HO	18433	742	531
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
SAMUEL S. KING	HO	182	76	

Montgomery

GIDEON S. KING	78 HO	26429	1115	823
KELLETT, JR., JOHN G.	75 HO	20421	788	672
DELLAVALLE FARM	17 HO	19690	817	645
DREAMROAD JERSEYS LLC.	65 JE	16491	784	602
ABRAM MILLER	47 HO	19255	725	571
SAMUEL L. STOLTZFUS	72 XX	16720	688	532
FISHER, S. SAM & MA	77 XX	15362	631	505
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
SAMUEL L. STOLTZFUS	XX	199	72	

Ontario

LAKE COUNTRY HOLSTEINS	78 HO	30703	1236	992
NEVIN SENSENIG	59 HO	28377	1224	944
NELSON SENSENIG	57 HO	29033	1160	934
RUEBEN WEAVER	51 HO	27301	1252	920
HARVEY SENSENIG	60 HO	28203	1170	919
DAVID BURKHOLDER	45 HO	28021	1184	882
STARLIGHT DAIRY	86 HO	24788	1183	846
ARTHUR ZIMMERMAN	160 HO	25880	890	824
LEON NEWSWANGER	52 HO	25145	1095	816
CLEARVIEW FARM	60 HO	24450	1022	758
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
HARVEY SENSENIG	HO	54	60	
CLEARVIEW FARM	HO	76	60	
NEVIN SENSENIG	HO	76	59	
DAVID BURKHOLDER	HO	82	45	
LAKE COUNTRY HOLSTEINS	HO	86	78	
STARLIGHT DAIRY	HO	116	86	
ARTHUR ZIMMERMAN	HO	147	160	
RUEBEN WEAVER	HO	173	51	
NELSON SENSENIG	HO	177	57	

Otsego

EVAN M. CHARLES	71 HO	24379	988	795
MATHEW FISHER	58 HO	22889	1012	720
MARVIN FISHER	68 XX	23122	866	699
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				

EVAN M. CHARLES	HO	116	71
NICKOL ORGANIC, E. & J.	XX	184	26

Schoharie

SLATEHILL FARM	123 HO	22374	931	711
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
SLATEHILL FARM	HO	161	123	

Schuyler

MARLIN HOOVER	43 HO	24801	964	779
JAMES HOOVER	56 XX	22681	953	747
BROOK'S EDGE DAIRY	77 HO	22193	911	707

Steuben

PAUL & KATHIE WHITE	120 HO	28060	1231	892
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
PAUL & KATHIE WHITE	HO	83	120	

Tioga

LAWTON JERSEY FARM	98 JE	21519	1064	767
SHIPMAN, DAVID	233 HO	17593	743	564
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
ROGER FORD	XX	145	35	
SHIPMAN, DAVID	HO	168	233	

Washington

WINDY LEA DAIRY LLC.	129 HO	18438	783	580
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
YOUNG, JENNY	AY	188	45	

Wayne

RICHARD HORNING	133 HO	26809	1129	884
LARRY MARTIN	110 HO	25432	1027	776
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
LARRY MARTIN	HO	151	110	
RICHARD HORNING	HO	174	133	

Yates

NATHANAEAL MARTIN	45 HO	27590	1111	899
MATTHEW ZEISET	63 HO	29224	1151	898
CLARENCE GARMAN	55 HO	27163	1102	888
DAVID MARTIN	52 HO	27992	1102	879
DANIEL K. MARTIN	63 HO	27544	1126	877
WARREN MARTIN	75 HO	28303	1177	876
MERVIN LEE ZEISET	46 HO	26911	1121	871
DAVID HORST	50 HO	26360	1161	864
AMMON REIFF	64 HO	24815	1044	841

SCENIC RISE DAIRY	56 HO	24617	941	768
NEIL WEAVER	38 HO	24591	946	768
TOWNRIDGE FARMS LLC.	145 HO	24525	965	765
LEON WEAVER	55 HO	23612	955	760
DUANE MARTIN	46 HO	25656	964	757
BRANDON HOOVER	54 HO	23538	919	741
DELMAR BURKHOLDER	63 HO	23470	949	738
JOHN BURKHOLDER	46 HO	24074	926	735
MARK HOOVER	56 HO	21496	848	662
DANIEL LEID	46 HO	21211	803	655
VINE VALLEY FARM	223 BS	19037	804	645
WILMER HORNING	48 HO	18928	736	602
ROLLEN N'S DAIRY	68 HO	18669	749	589
MARTIN FOX	49 XX	16025	737	566
MERVIN MARTIN	36 JE	14266	688	521
CLEASON MARTIN	35 XX	16339	668	519
RICHARD NOLT	43 JE	14345	695	513
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				

DAVID MARTIN	HO	51	52
NATHANAEAL MARTIN	HO	52	45
PHILIP MARTIN	HO	67	24
MATTHEW ZEISET	HO	71	63
DANIEL K. MARTIN	HO	82	63
WARREN MARTIN	HO	87	75
JOHN BURKHOLDER	HO	88	46
RICHARD NOLT	JE	96	43
DELMAR BURKHOLDER	HO	100	63
BRANDON HOOVER	HO	102	54
NEIL WEAVER	HO	104	38
MERVIN LEE ZEISET	HO	114	46
ROLLEN N'S DAIRY	HO	116	68
AMMON REIFF	HO	117	64
CLEASON MARTIN	XX	124	35
LEON WEAVER	HO	125	55
DUANE MARTIN	HO	128	46
SCENIC RISE DAIRY	HO	131	56

CLARENCE GARMAN	HO	139	55
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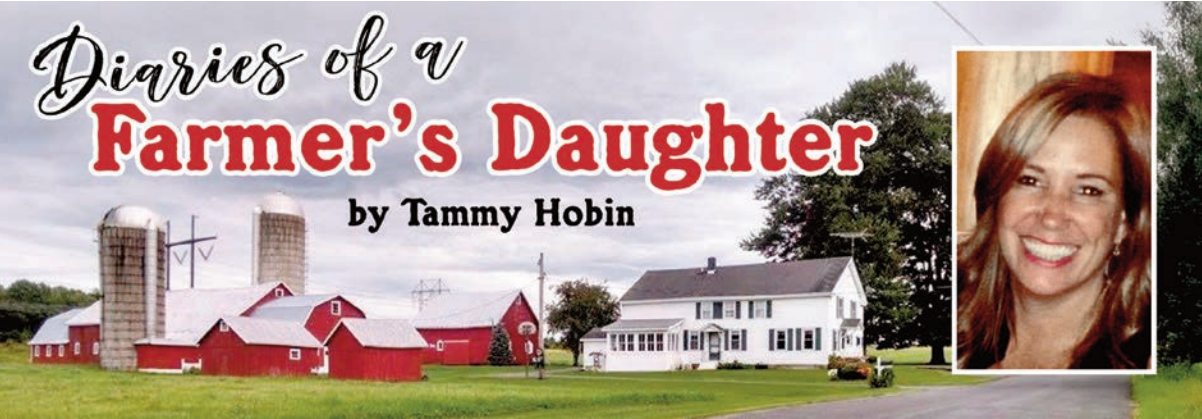
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A farmer's daughter raised on a picturesque dairy farm in upstate New York, Tammy Hobin developed a deep love for the land and countryside. After making the transition to life near New York City, she found herself yearning for connection with others who shared her rural roots. Inspired by memories of childhood on the farm, she began writing about her experiences in hopes of preserving them and finding a community of like-minded individuals who understand the joys and challenges of farm life. She can be reached at tammyhobin18@gmail.com.

Mickey... not a strong manly name for a bull. But then again, it was five little girls who named him.

After my brother, sister and I escaped the family farm to start our lives, my parents had a void. My mom always loved kids and thought it would be a good idea to start a little babysitting service. She told my sister once that in her previous life, she thought she was Mother Goose!

I'm sure Dad thought it was crazy, but she did it nonetheless. The baby-sitting service ran for 20 years and over time sat a total of 67 kids.

One day, my dad noticed that a cow had a calf while out in the field. Dad -- now babysitting, too -- decided to take the boys to go look for the calf.

Lunchtime came, and the boys came back -- but no calf.

As they ate lunch, Dad was anxious because he knew he needed to find that calf.

Mom said, "You go fix fence with the boys. I'll take the girls to look for the calf."

They weren't gone long when one of the little girls said, "I found it! I found it!" They all ran to the calf and saw it was a little bull. They ran through the field, the little calf in tow. Of course, the boys were mad that the girls found it and they hadn't. The little bull calf was brought into the barn. The kids decided to name him, and "Mickey" was the chosen name. They decorated his stall, making posters and putting flowers all around it. They even made a big sign, carefully lettered "MICKEY."

Now, it's important to note that Dad only keeps heifers since that's what brings him money. If it's a bull cow, he's sold. The next day, Dad had to break the news.

"Listen... this is a bull cow so he's going to be leaving. He's not staying."

The girls, upset, begged my father. "Please! Keep him." Dad wasn't swayed.

That afternoon, Dad told Mom that they were coming to pick up the bull and asked her to keep the girls inside. He didn't want the kids running around the yard when the big truck was pulling in.

Later on, Dad was out in the field fixing a fence. Mom was in the beauty shop doing hair. Yes, a woman of many talents, she was also a hairdresser.

The girls, mad that they were stuck inside and even madder that they were taking 'their' Mickey, decided to make a large sign. On it, they wrote:

"PLEASE DO NOT TAKE OUR MICKEY!!"

When the truck pulled in, the girls started banging on the

window. Again, Dad's in the field, Mom's in the beauty shop, and here are these five little girls are banging on the window, holding up their sign, screaming!

The old man looked at them, shook his head, got in his truck and pulled away in search of my dad. He got out of the truck and Dad thanked for taking the bull calf.

The man said, "I'm not taking him!"

"Why?" asked Dad.

"Because," he explained, "there's five little girls banging on your window, holding a sign, and screaming not to take their calf. So, I'm not taking him." The man pulled away and left.

Dad was so mad! When he got to the house, he told those girls: "This bull is now your responsibility. You feed him, and you take total care of him!"

That was good for about six months, 'til Mickey was getting much bigger than they were! Of course, being a bull, he could become aggressive. After they could no longer care for him, Dad took it upon himself to sell him.

Those little girls are now in their mid-twenties. Successful, and I'm sure they all remember Mickey. They learned early on that girls can do anything they put their mind to and there is strength in numbers!

The moral of this story: Girls in Dad's world always get what they want! Right, Dad?

Helping hands welcome after severe flooding in Kentucky

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The Kentucky Dairy Development Council (KDDC) reports that during five days, April 2-7, historic heavy rainfall produced severe flooding.

Quoting the Kentucky Mesonet, a network of research-grade automated weather and climate monitoring stations, the rainfall total peaked in Marshall County with over 15 inches, with many areas receiving 8-12 inches. In just the April 3-5 period, Marshall, Christian and Trigg counties beat previous three-day rainfall records.

Kentucky dairy operations affected by flooding or weather events are urged to visit the Extension Disaster Preparedness and Recovery website for resources at <https://anr.ca.uky.edu/extensionhelps>

Producers may also reach out to KDDC for further assistance at 1-859-516-1129 or email kddc@kydairy.org

Gov. Andy Beshear has established the general Team Kentucky Storm Relief Fund for tax-deductible donations at <https://secure.kentucky.gov/formservices/Finance/stormrelief/>

Monetary donations to directly help affected farmers are also being received through the Kentucky Cattlemen's Foundation at 176 Pasadena Dr., Lexington, KY 40503.

Kentucky Farm Bureau and Kentucky Department of Agriculture are receiving many calls asking how to volunteer. As flood waters recede, farmers engage in clearing their pastures and cropland of debris left behind. The Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau, and Cattlemen's Association are teaming up to organize volunteer opportunities. Those who wish to help can enter their contact information at https://ukyaz1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8GhFMqhEQaWYh70

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Chobani's founder and CEO Hamdi Ulukaya speaks inside an old airplane hanger at the former Griffiss Air Force Base near Rome, N.Y. about his company's journey that started in South Edmeston, N.Y. 20 years ago. The occasion was the ground-breaking of a new \$1.2 billion, 1.4 million square foot facility expected to be completed in 2026.

Chobani from page 1

of those early days at the South Edmeston plant. He explained how Chobani “began with a feeling” that he had when he toured the former Kraft plant that was being shut down for sale.

“The people that day were working to close the plant like they were opening it. They were working so hard,” he said, peppering his review of Chobani’s history with stories about the people that have been part of the journey.

What became Chobani started simply, and within two years the product was launched in 2007. Within five years, they had \$1 billion in sales. Today, with sales worldwide, Ulukaya talked about coming back to the roots to expand for the future.

“Yes, we face challenges. We will need more milk. We will need more people, more training. But here we are. This is heaven. We have the land. We have the nature of this most beautiful area. We have the tradition of the people. We are not just going to build a plant, but a campus to come to-

gether. A promise on the handshake I will honor every moment is that every Chobani act will be in the interest of our state and our country, that we deepen our relationship with our farmers to have a second and third and fourth generation come back to this magical work that we all need, that these towns and villages will flourish naturally,” said Ulukaya.

“That is what excites me the most. This is a large investment, and we have large sales, but business is a force to make the world better. This is not my invention. This invention lives right here in this tradition of the farmers and of the working class.”

New York Ag Commissioner Richard Ball observed the “full-circle moment,” saying “this is tremendous news for our state and for our dairy farmers, who will be supplying milk to this state-of-the-art processing facility. Chobani has long been a part of New York’s world-class dairy industry.”



Photos by Darren McGee, Office of Governor Kathy Hochul



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Many factors play a role in raising calves to become cows

By CASSIE YOST
Penn State Extension Dairy Educator

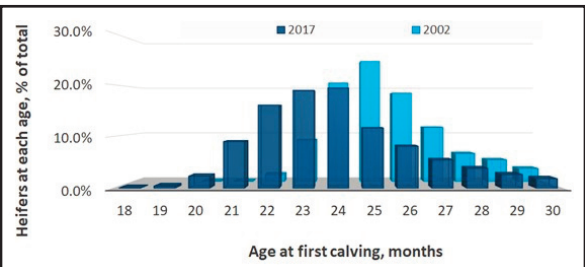
UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Raising replacement heifers for your dairy can be a challenging task. Because they are also an expensive part of a dairy, we want to ensure that those heifers are productive when they enter the milking herd.

During their course of growth and development, it is important to understand that how they are raised from birth to freshening can impact their future milk production potential.

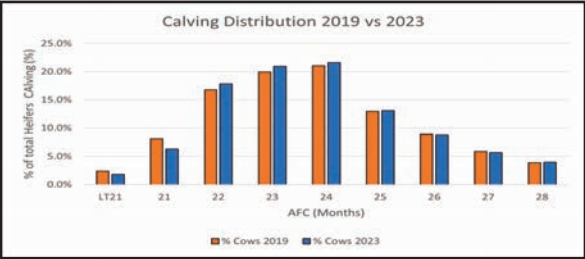
Colostrum, housing, health events, nutrition, average daily gain, and age at first calving (AFC) are all factors that can play a role in future performance. Once any of these factors are compromised, the performance of that heifer may be negatively affected. One of these factors that have been tracked over the years is AFC. What is the average AFC for Pennsylvania Holstein heifers and how has this impacted milk production in recent years?

With the help of DRMS records, Penn State Extension has routinely tracked heifers freshening throughout Pennsylvania. It has been recommended for heifers to calve between 22 and 24 months of age. A previous report from Penn State compared the average AFC from 2002 to 2017 in Holstein heifers only. In the figure below, the shift from heifers freshening at older ages to entering the herd earlier in 2017 is easy to see. Figure 2 shows this same information for fresh Holstein heifers in 2019 compared to 2023.

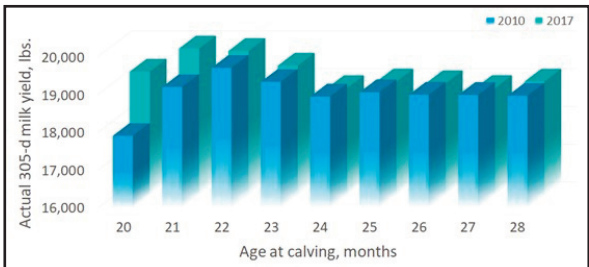
Looking more closely at yearly averages within these graphs, there are only slight shifts in the averages. DRMS data over the years indicates that the average AFC for Holsteins was 25.68 months in 2013, 25.51 months in 2015, and 25 months in 2017. The latest data reports that the average AFC in 2019 was 25.02 months, 25.31 months in 2020, 25.18 months in 2021, 25.02 months in 2022, and 25.08 months in 2023. The last couple



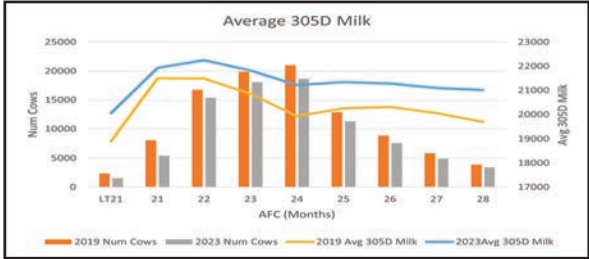
Distribution of age at calving (as a percentage of all heifers) for first-lactation Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania in 2002 (light blue) compared to 2017 (dark blue). Data from DRMS, Raleigh, N.C. Source: Penn State Extension



Distribution of age at calving (as a percentage of all heifers) for first-lactation Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania in 2019 (orange) compared to 2023 (blue). Data from DRMS, Raleigh, N.C.



Average actual 305-day milk production by age at calving of first-lactation Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania in 2010 (blue bars) and 2017 (teal bars). Data from DRMS, Raleigh, N.C. Source: Penn State Extension

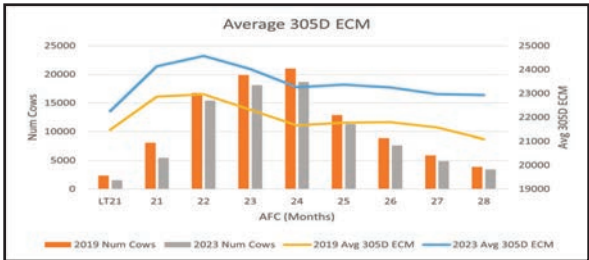


Average 305-day milk production by age at calving of first-lactation Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania in 2019 (orange bars) and 2023 (gray bars). Data from DRMS, Raleigh, N.C.

of years closely mirror the same trend that was seen in the 2017 numbers as the average AFC took a shift towards most heifers freshening in the desired age range of 22-24 months.

Now that we know what the AFC looks like for Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania, what does the performance of these heifers look like concerning milk production? The relationship between AFC and milk production has continued to be a debated and researched topic. Heifers calving earlier than 21 months are arguably not mature enough in size and body condition to perform well in the milking herd. It has also been shown that heifers calving after 26 months do not perform as well as those freshening in the recommended age range. Figure 3 is a graph published in a previous Extension article that highlights 305D milk yield in Pennsylvania Holstein heifers in 2010 and 2017. Figure 4 uses updated information to show the number of Holstein heifers calving in 2019 and 2023 in relation to their age at first calving.

Some people prefer to use milk production on an energy-corrected basis. This method adjusts production based on a 3.5 percent fat and 3.2 percent component ratio for a more equal comparison. Figure 5 shows the same data but with energy-corrected milk. To determine this figure the following equation is used: $ECM = 0.327 \times \text{milk pounds} + 12.95 \times \text{fat pounds} + 7.2 \times \text{protein pounds}$.



Average actual 305-day ECM production by age at calving of first-lactation Holstein heifers in Pennsylvania in 2019 (orange bars) and 2023 (gray bars). Data from DRMS, Raleigh, N.C.

In comparing 2010 and 2017 data to 2019 and 2023, the trends are very similar. Milk production for first lactation animals seems to be maximized around 22-23 months. For those heifers entering the milking herd before 22 months, there is a significant reduction in their milk production. Similarly, as heifers freshen beyond 25 months, there is a decrease in milk production as those freshening ages are

turn to page 21

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By SHERRY BUNTING
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BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Calves have never been more valuable than they are today. It doesn't matter if they are heifers being raised for the milking herd, or bulls — straight dairy or beef-on-dairy crossbreds, otherwise known as BXD. Even wet Holstein bull calves have been bringing \$600 to \$800 recently, while BXD fetch \$800 to \$1200, even up to \$1400 in spots this month.

Looking at livestock auction data, we also see heifers are averaging \$1500 for 300 to 600 pounds, \$1900 to \$2000 for older open heifers, \$2800 for bred heifers, \$3300 for fresh heifers, and the big prices of \$3700, even \$4000 are commanded by the springing heifers. Why? They've got both the milk and the calf in them.

Ag economist Dan Basse, founder of Chicago-based AgResource Company, touched on this recently in a Professional Dairy Producers' Dairy Signal podcast.

"There is more margin revenue in that calf than the milk its dam produces for a whole year, and we expect high demand and high prices for beef-on-dairy calves to continue through 2028," he said, adding that strong demand for beef continues as "consumers are showing their willingness to pay these retail price averages of \$8.77/lb."

Underpinning it all is the smallest U.S. beef cattle herd since 1951. Cow/calf operators are showing no signs yet of a significant rebuilding. Beef breed heifer slaughter rates as well as heifer feedlot placements continue to show year-on-year (YoY) increases in the USDA data.

For dairy farmers, however, the trend toward BXD began a decade ago in 2015.

"It started as a way to manage our heifer inventories. We got great at using sexed

semen, and the question became, what are we going to do with the rest of the cows? The natural next step was to cross them to beef because those calves will be beefed out anyway, so let's add some value," said Iowa State University extension educator Gail Carpenter, speaking virtually at the 2025 Kentucky Dairy Conference in Bowling Green.

Carpenter shared data based on beef semen sales to dairies, showing 10 years ago there were 111,515 dairy cow matings to beef bulls recorded nationwide. By 2019, this had more than doubled to 277,952 dairy cow matings to beef bulls. By 2024, it was 3.2 million, 87% of them to Angus.

"Getting \$800 to \$1000 for wet calves in Iowa is hard to ignore, especially with milk prices going up and down. It's very easy to make a profit off these calves right now, which has been a great source of revenue for a lot of dairy farms. This has helped keep some dairy producers in business and moving forward with their milk production as well. This is now standard application on many U.S. dairies to breed a percentage of their dairy cows to beef," she observed, saying she expects it to continue even if those calf prices go lower because the strategy started as a way to manage heifer inventories.

"Whether it's heifer calves destined as herd replacements or wet calves we are selling, it's critical to give them their best start in life," she said, stressing that farmers have more reason than ever to invest in beefing up their calf care practices.



Gail Carpenter is a dairy nutrition and management specialist with Iowa State University Extension.

She sees the colostrum feeding and transportation stresses as two bottlenecks to mitigate when raising BXD calves. While transportation is unavoidable for calves being sold, making sure they are hydrated and get electrolytes is critical for a long trip.

Colostrum is still the key, along with managing those calves for good health, feeding for good preweaning growth, and prevention of respiratory and other health events. "All have impacts on long term outcomes — no matter who the calf's sire is, beef or dairy. Either way, we are building on a solid foundation for the life of that calf," said Carpenter.

She shared the results of a 2024 Iowa survey of the two-thirds of dairy farms using beef semen on a percentage of their dairy cows: 58% sold their BXD calves soon after birth, 23% reported finishing them out, 11% sold them as 400 to 500 pound feeders, and 6% sold them at weaning. When selecting beef semen, the top criteria noted by dairy farmers in the survey was — by far — calving ease and conception rate. Cost and market price also ranked, along with hide color (black).

"The driver here is to get the cow pregnant to milk her, so calving ease, followed by conception rate are ranked the highest. We don't want problems. We want a smooth transi-

tion," she explained.

Carpenter noted that there are some considerations as dairymen experiment with beef breeds. She encouraged keeping track of calf-carry time. For example, she said that such records showed one producer that his Wagyu-bred cows had a one-week longer gestation. "I've seen some dry pen overstocks when we don't plan for that," she said.

The main thrust of Carpenter's talk was to apply the same essential care to that BXD calf as a replacement heifer because dairy farmers have become an even bigger part of the beef industry.

"We're taking the genetics from one system and another system and combining them into one calf that will spend part of its time in each system," she said.

In a truly beef system, the cow does all the work, but in the dairy system "we're hands on. The cow's not doing the work," she said. "This means everything you do with that calf affects its health all the way through calfood, all the way through the feedlot, all the way through its life — just like early calf health affects that dairy heifer all the way through her life as a milking cow on your farm."

Carpenter cited recommendations for BXD calves to receive — at a minimum — 2 quarts of colostrum within the first 12 hours from birth.

"This colostrum feeding may be less than we would recommend for a full-bred dairy calf because it is based on size, and it's a minimum recommendation. Either way, colostrum for that calf is absolutely critical —

turn to page 25



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Milk futures recover with midweek rally
A midweek rally in the CME milk futures helped shore things up with across-the-board gains on both Class III and Class IV contracts. The strongest recovery on both boards was pegged to next month's May 2025 contract -- pushing the 12-month Class III average above \$18 for the first time this month. At \$18.10 the 12-month Class III average on the close Wed., April 23 is the highest 12-month average since Feb. 28 when the downward spiral first gained momentum. Class IV averaged \$18.76, up 22 cents.

But cheese took the beating; powder, whey up
The spot cash dairy product market on the CME was mixed this week. Cheese erased some gains, butter edged lower, but nonfat dry milk (NFD) and whey powder jumped higher over the 4 trading days. On Wed., Apr. 23, the CME 40-lb block cheddar price was \$1.76/lb, down 7 cents from a week ago with 17 loads trading. The 500-lb barrel cheese at \$1.7850/lb dropped 8 cents with 24 loads trading. Dry whey jumped 3 cents higher at 50 cents/lb with 9 loads trading. Butter volume was light and gave up 2 cents, pegged at \$2.3250/lb on 17 loads. NFD gained nearly 2 cents, pegged at \$1.1825 with 10 loads changing hands.

Butter, cheese at 25 to 45% below global markets, pushed All-Milk price forecast lower

The jury is out on what will happen with potential new trade negotiations as the value of the dollar weakens and Pres. Trump's reciprocal tariffs are paused (except for China). In the face of it all, corn and soybeans had moved higher, then eased back; cattle are fetching ever higher prices, hogs turned higher too.

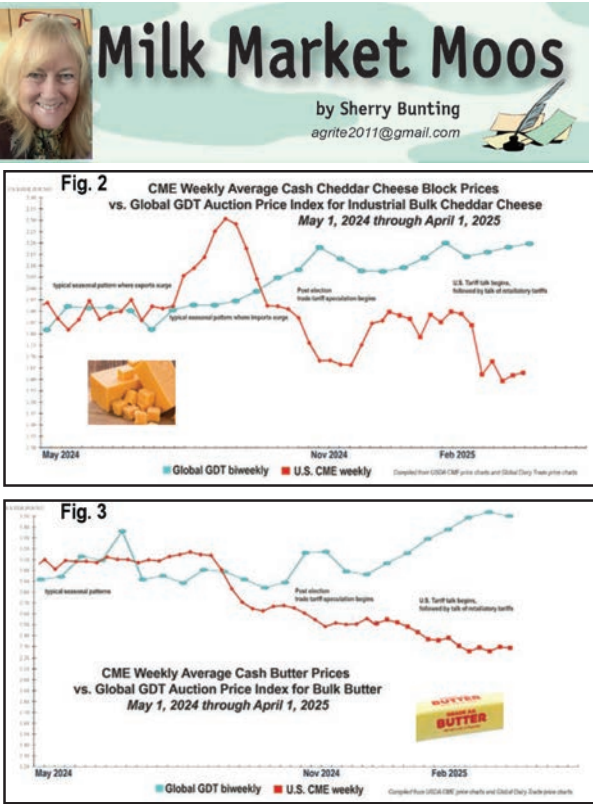
But what about Dairy? It's been in the doldrums. The USDA WASDE lowered its 2025 All-Milk price forecast from \$23 in January to \$21.10 in April, suggesting DMC margins in the \$11s.

Figures 2 and 3 (right) tell the story as the blue lines show global cheese and butter prices vs. red lines for the U.S. CME market-clearing prices. These spreads have grown significantly since Feb. 28 to now double any previous record discount. In fact, contrary to U.S. milk price forecasts being lowered, Fonterra New Zealand announced a record 2025 payout of \$10 per kgMS. Converting to U.S., this is like \$22.50 per cwt of 4.7% fat milk.

U.S. dairy trade paradigm shift underway
Several market factors are converging simultaneously: 1) The new tariff uncertainty; 2) The dairy trade's preparation for new FMMO formula rules on June 1st; 3) Historic foreign investment in U.S. dairy processing growth with sights set on growing international sales as low-cost-producer; and 4) U.S. dairy product prices are at steep discounts below the Global Dairy Trade (GDT).

U.S. dairy has gone from running trade deficits on a value and volume basis before 2007 to running significant trade surpluses, especially from 2014 to 2022. In 2023-24, dairy exports flattened alongside growth in dairy imports from 2021 to 2024. On a volume basis, U.S. dairy exports represented 16% of U.S. milk production on a milk solids equivalent (MSE) basis for 2023 and 2024. This is four times the volume of imports, which grew to 4.2% MSE in 2024. Tariffs, a weaker U.S. dollar, and discounted U.S. product prices should lower U.S. dairy imports in 2025.

On the export side, the dairy trade paradigm has shifted to exporting higher-value products like cheese, and doing so as low-cost producer. 2024 saw record volumes of exported cheese (+17%) and butter (+7%). This continued into 2025 with Jan-Feb



cheese export volume up 7% YoY, butter up a whopping 236%. In its Apr. 18 weekly report, USDA Dairy Market News stated: "Demand for butter from international buyers is strong." No surprise, considering U.S. butter at \$2.32/lb is discounted 45% at \$1.16/lb below the global butter price index of \$3.48/lb. U.S. cheese is attracting international interest at a nearly 30% discount as U.S. 40-lb block cheddar (\$1.76/lb) undersells the global index (\$2.32/lb) by 55 cents per pound.

Meanwhile, the GDT index on whole milk powder (WMP) was higher for the past few sessions and the global pulse market in between pegged WMP at its highest price level in three years. These global market trends would normally boost U.S. dairy markets. Not so much today. The undercurrent of drilling down the price for overseas sales has been exacerbated by the threat of retaliatory tariffs. At these discounts, plenty of U.S. product can move offshore, tariff or no tariff. If the market suppression has been in vain, meaning no retaliatory tariffs from trading partners for cheese, and in relation to domestic retail prices -- someone stands to make a lot of money, and it won't be the farmers.

March & Feb. milk production up 0.9%
USDA's March Milk Production Report on Apr. 22 tallied 19.8 bil. lbs, up 0.9% year-on-year (YoY). Feb. was revised higher, up 0.9% also (leap-year-adjusted). Milk output per cow grew by 0.3% YoY in March, and U.S. dairy farms milked 57,000 more cows YoY. No. 3 Texas added 45,000 head, with milk up 9.4% YoY. For the first time in 4 years of major losses in production and cow numbers, neighboring New Mexico reported 2000 more cows making 1.5% more milk. South Dakota added 9000 cows and 5.1% more milk. Idaho milked 29,000 more cows making 4.3% more milk.

Kansas added 8000 cows with 4.4% more milk. No. 1 California continued lagging, down 2.1% as bird flu continues, though diminishing. No. 2 Wisconsin was up 0.1%, with 5,000 fewer cows. In the Mideast, 2000 more cows were milked, collectively, with Michigan's milk up 1.3%, while Indiana and Ohio both gained 0.8%. In the East, No. 4 New York increased production 1.3% with no added cows. No. 8 Pennsylvania as well as Virginia had milk production equal to a year ago, and both milked 1000 fewer cows. Vermont's output grew 0.5% with 2000 fewer cows. Georgia grew by 4.1%, without adding cows. Florida declined 3.6% with 5000 fewer cows.

Even with two consistent back-to-back gains just shy of 1% in U.S. milk production, growth is still around half the annualized average growth curve that the U.S. dairy industry was on pre-Covid. Milk production growth, post-Covid -- whether by cow numbers, output per cow or even the big jump in component levels -- still lags the overall pre-Covid growth curve.

This was explored recently in a Milk Production webinar by National Milk Producers Federation in conjunction with Dairy Management Inc and McCully Consulting. They looked at the future for milk growth to support capital investments made in processing. Noted was the fact that planned growth in dairy processing tends to locate where milk growth is concentrated. From 2015 through 2024, production grew 8% nationwide, but was mostly concentrated in the Southwest, Idaho, and the Upper Midwest (including Michigan, Ohio, Indiana). Of course, Texas was tops, up 65% over the past decade. South Dakota was up 110% but represents less new volume than the Texas gain.

Webinar leaders circled western New York as a subset growth area, pushing the No. 4 state up 14% over the decade, whereas pretty much of the rest of the eastern seaboard was down, including Pennsylvania off by 9% since 2015. Georgia gained 20% trading off for its neighbor Florida, down 21%.

Questions come to mind in these Eastern numbers: *What role did base programs play?* They were installed by most co-ops and some processors and tended to focus on subduing (or even reducing!) production growth on the coasts vs. the interior. They were prevalent over the past decade, until fairly recently. Industry leaders said the market is sending the signal for more milk, but producer response has been slow. They said 1 to 2% milk solids equiv. growth in components has helped some, but not enough.

How strong is that market signal for more milk, when dairies are diversifying or exiting? Input costs and milk check deductions have increased. The DMC margin doesn't tell the whole story. Dairy farmers don't get a "make allowance" for rising energy, labor, and insurance costs. *Will the 5 to 7 cents/lb increase in make (take) allowances effective June 1st dampen this signal?* With the 2025 milk price and DMC margins forecasts already sliding lower, a nearly 6-cents/lb increase in the "make" (or take) for cheese translates to about 60 cents off a hundredweight of Class III milk. Does THAT signal scream: "More milk please?!" Maybe, if bonuses return and deductions disappear.

May Class I 'mover' \$18.37
May's advance Class I base price 'mover,' announced Apr. 23, is \$18.37, down \$1.20 from April and down 9 cents vs. year ago. This is 46 cents higher than under the 'higher-of' method, which will be reinstated next month. Go Figure! For 6 years under 'average-of,' Class III/IV pricing factors were wider apart, making the average-of calculation problematic for orderly marketing and a loser for farmers.

In these months ahead of reinstating the higher-of, Class III/IV pricing factors have come together, making higher-of the loser. Can't win!

Feb. fluid milk sales up 1.3% YoY

USDA's Apr. 18 Fluid Milk Sales Report tallied Feb. 2025 sales at 3.8 bil. lbs, up 1.3% year-on-year (YoY). All values are leap-year-adjusted. Conventional sales at 3.1 bil. lbs. were up 1% YoY, bringing year-to-date (YtD) sales up 0.4%. Total organic fluid milk sales at 241 mil. lbs. were up 4.9% YoY, up 6.6% YtD as 7% of total fluid milk sales. February whole milk sales pushed the gains, up 5.9% YoY. Breaking it down: conventional whole milk grew 2.4% YoY, up 2.8% YtD as 38.5% of total conventional sales; organic whole milk grew 12.2% YoY, up 10.9% YtD, as 53.8% of total organic sales. Flavored whole milk grew 5.3% YoY, up 2.5% YtD.

The conventional 'other products' category grew 65.8% YoY, up 35.1% YtD as 5.4% of total sales. According to USDA, this category includes eggnog, certain kinds of drinkable yogurt, Lactaid milk, and products that don't fit the main categories.

**According to USDA, extended shelf-life (ESL) milks are not counted in the 'other products.' They are put into the overall fat-content categories alongside conventionally pasteurized milk.*

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‘Empowering Women in Dairy’ event takes place May 20 at Fantasyland, Robesonia, Pa.

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Dairy farmers and employees are invited to attend the “Herds and Her: Empowering Women in Dairy” event hosted by Penn State Extension from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 20 at the Fantasyland Holsteins, 27 Valley Farm Lane, Robesonia. The registration deadline is 11:59 p.m. May 16; the registration fee is \$50.

The workshop will gather women in dairy

for an interactive boot camp-style event. Participants can gain practical knowledge to enhance their farm operations during this hands-on experience.

Topics will include on-farm culturing to improve milk quality; farm safety; calculating a farm’s breakeven costs; serum total protein analysis and the importance of colostrum; and hoof health, including identifying and preventing lameness.

Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey positioned as Mid-Atlantic Region’s EPA administrator

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey has been appointed the EPA’s Mid-Atlantic (Region 3) regional administrator. She will oversee the implementation of federal environmental laws and priorities of the administration’s agenda in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia, and of EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Program. She is the first woman appointed to lead the EPA Mid-Atlantic Region in the agency’s history.



Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey

“Amy’s experience and dedication to both agriculture and the environment make her a tremendous asset to the agency and the Mid-Atlantic Region,” said Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin. “I am confident she is well equipped to carry out our mission and help deliver on our agenda to Power the Great American comeback.”

“My commitment to sustainability traces back to over 30 years ago, when I founded a county-wide environmental group focused on watershed management and agricultural best practices. I’m excited to harness my passion for the environment to facilitate progress

and support the Great American Comeback under the leadership of Administrator Zeldin and President Trump,” said Van Blarcom-Lackey.

The newly-appointed administrator has a distinguished history of service, having been appointed as the first Agricultural Ombudsman in the state of Pennsylvania where she served as a crucial link to agriculture communities, addressing conflicts related to agriculture, land use, and environmental planning. She brings more than a decade of experience as a lobbyist for both state and federal agricultural interests and over 20 years of experience in finance and business management.

A lifelong conservationist, Van Blarcom-Lackey was raised in rural Pennsylvania and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed on her family’s dairy farm in Bradford County. Her successful tenure managing her own family enterprises, along with her work in the financial industry, equipped her with a keen understanding of the intersection between business, environmental, and community needs.

She resides in Philadelphia with her family.

USJersey events

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REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio — Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the annual meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ), which will be held June 25-28, at the Embassy Suites-UK Coldstream in Lexington, Ky.

To join the growing list of sponsors, contact the AJCA at info@usjersey.com to promote your brand and be seen by Jersey breeders from across the United States.

It will be a week to celebrate Kentucky heritage — Jerseys, Bluegrass, Thoroughbreds

and Bourbon while in Lexington through a variety of events featuring Kentucky agriculture. Jersey enthusiasts and allied industry friends can enjoy networking with their peers for four days.

In addition to the AJCA annual membership meeting on Saturday, June 28, and the NAJ annual meeting on Friday, June 27, the USJersey organizations will recognize the award winners for Master Breeder, Distinguished Service, Meritorious Service and six Young Jersey Breeders.

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FMMO revisions will beg

Larger ‘take’ allowances collide with collapsing milk prices

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON —Implementation of the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) final decision adopted in January is set to begin with data from dairy product sales in the first two weeks of May to determine June's advanced Class I fluid milk price that will include for the first time an adjustment for extended shelf life (ESL) milk as part of the advanced price announcement on May 21st. The implementation of the FMMO changes on manufacturing class and component prices will follow with the July 2 announced prices for June milk marketings, based on cheddar cheese, butter, nonfat dry milk, and dry whey prices, that will be modified by new make (or take) allowances.

The final decision increased processor credits known as ‘make (or take) allowances,’ by 5 to 7 cents per pound across all four dairy pricing commodities in the face of an unexpected collapse in the milk price as U.S. butter and cheese prices have fallen to record-large discounts below the higher-trending global markets.

The April USDA World Ag Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) already revised lower its 2025 all-milk price forecast to \$21.10 per hundredweight — a nearly \$2 decrease from the all-milk price forecast of \$23 just two

months earlier (Fig. 1). It is unclear whether the FMMO pricing changes have already been factored into this revision or what the May WASDE will bring.

While the FMMO changes will particularly benefit producers in the Class I fluid milk markets of the three Orders in the southeastern U.S., producers in the other eight milk marketing areas will more likely see net negative impacts under the rapidly evolving market conditions.

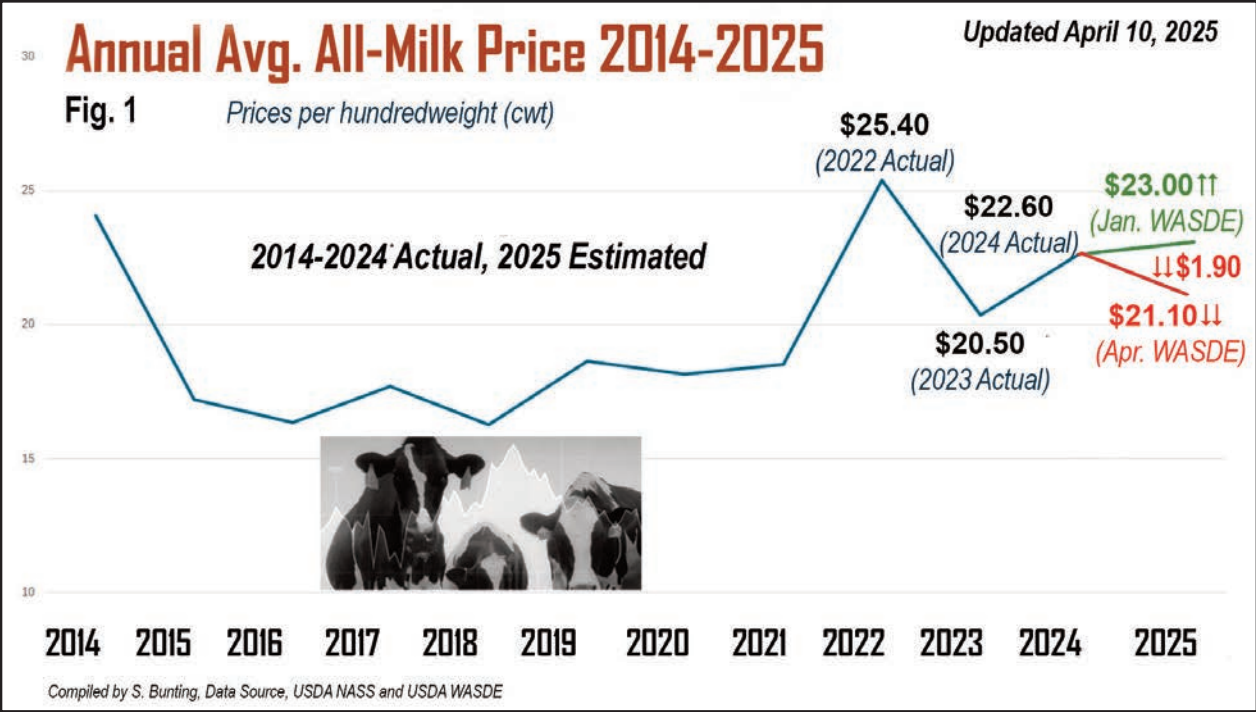
What’s being implemented?

- Elimination of 500-pound barrel cheese prices from the weekly mandatory National Dairy Product Sales Report, although barrel cheese may continue trading on the CME;
- Updated make allowances that are processor credits, subtracted from the prices for cheese at \$0.2519/lb (+\$0.0516), butter \$0.2272/lb (+\$0.0557), nonfat dry milk \$0.2393/lb (+\$0.0695), and dry whey \$0.2668/lb (+\$0.0677), along with a butterfat recovery factor of 91% instead of 90%;

- Reinstatement of the calculation for the advanced Class I base skim price using the ‘higher-of’ either the advanced Class III or Class IV skim milk pricing factors;
- Introduction of the new ESL Adjustment, essentially a second Class I ‘mover,’ calculated as the current ‘averaging’ method plus a 24-month rolling average adjuster of the difference between the current averaging method and the reinstated higher-of method, with a 12-month lag, and is applied to the volume of Class I fluid milk products with a shelf life of 60 days or more;
- Updated Class I Differentials to reflect increased costs to service the Class I fluid milk market; and
- Updated skim milk composition factors to 3.3% true protein, 6.0% other solids, and 9.3% nonfat solids. This provision is delayed until Dec. 2025, according to USDA.

In USDA’s Nov. 2024 impact analysis, the final decision was evaluated by looking backward five years, estimating an average 15-cents per hundredweight net positive impact for milk checks nationwide. However, the impacts will vary by region and milk market, and the market conditions into the future look much different from the past.

Since the impact analysis was published, a major paradigm shift in U.S. global dairy trade





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gin with May’s dairy data

e; expanding cheese capacity, new global trade paradigm

has emerged, even before the more recent uncertainty of tariffs and trade negotiations. In 2024, the U.S. began aggressively prioritizing higher-value exports like cheese and butter over lower-value exports like skim milk powder. To accomplish its growth and export goals, the U.S. dairy industry set out to be the lowest-cost-producer of these higher-value products.

In 2025, alone, new cheese and whey capacity is expected to process over 30 million additional pounds of milk daily, according to estimates provided by noted expert Calvin Covington at several dairy producer conferences earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the CEOs for International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) and National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) have been calling upon farmers to grow their milk production and produce more dairy replacement heifers to meet the investments of \$8 to \$10 billion in new dairy processing in 2024 through 2026.

These mostly foreign investments in largely U.S. cheese and whey processing assets are steeped in the focus on global cheese exports, whey innovations, and sustainability metrics – three areas where the mandatory national dairy farmer checkoff payments have also been directed. As the U.S. industry expands to grow its exports of higher-value products, like cheese and butter, it becomes more reliant on consistently securing these international sales. While U.S. quality is being marketed to international destinations, the bottomline is to consistently be the low-cost-producer in the world.

On the flipside, cheese and butter sales are the higher-value categories that form the basis for fat and protein pricing, which traditionally has allowed farmers to boost their



Increases in dairy replacement heifers are being encouraged by NMPF and IDFA executives for the purpose of making more milk to meet anticipated needs of massive new processing plants in the U.S. Money coming mostly from foreign investors is behind the \$8 to \$10 billion in new dairy processing facilities built in 2024 and on the drawing board through 2026. The U.S. dairy industry set out to be the lowest-cost-producer of higher-value products. Photo by Dieter Krieg

mailbox milk checks by producing milk with more fat and protein. Does being the low-cost-producer fit this scenario?

New cheese and ingredient plants are equipped to make more money on whey stream innovations, shifting the cheese almost

to the back seat, effectively positioning the U.S. as the world’s lowest-cost producer. This was the case last fall, and it has certainly been the case through February, March and April 2025 as the U.S. CME market-clearing cheese price sank to a 20 to 30% discount and butter a 40 to 45% discount below global markets. Exports

have grown year-on-year for cheese (+17%) and butter (+236).

Huge new state-of-the-art processing plants can withstand these cheese price discounts that attract international buyers because they are able to generate more revenue by processing whey for a wide range of products that are not price-surveyed into the FMMO formulas.

Meanwhile, smaller, older, traditional cheese plants do not have this capability. They must primarily cash flow on the cheese price. The new increased ‘make allowances’ offer a lifeline to those plants, but at the same time, the new and more efficient plants gain more margin to build up their market-dampening inventories of bulk products – if the milk is there, or other tools, to do it.

Questions have been raised about whether the industry is incorporating bioengineered dairy protein analogs that have been around for nearly a decade and are now scaling into this picture. These novel proteins lack key elements that real milk protein delivers on the nutrition side, but the companies that make them are working directly with some of the largest global dairy processors to incorporate them as interchangeable in large scale dairy product manufacturing. Who is keeping track?

When the drive is to crank out more cheese, and do it cheaper, the past three years of record imports of milk protein concentrate and whole milk powder are also suspected as cheese yield boosters, alongside the successful increases in milk component yields achieved by U.S. dairy farmers.

To be continued.

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ESL panel from page 5

“milk” into more top-demand moments to capture a larger share of the \$159 billion total beverage category.

(More ultra processed beverages are just what global consumer packaged goods companies are famous for. But is this what consumers really want? And will the ‘huge value potential’ trickle down to farm milk checks?)

According to Ziemnisky, there is at least \$2 billion in new investment coming into the beverage space across geographies. “But it’s not your father’s Oldsmobile. Those new plants are filtration and separation, and we can add functionality to it.

“There are things we know of that we can’t even talk about yet,” he said as he gave a snapshot of where MMI is, and what is yet to come.

He cited a proliferation of ESL milk beverages that are mainly lactose-free, high protein milks as the gateway to molecular separation. Examples included the ESL capabilities at the Maola plant in Philadelphia, the national launch of Milk50 by DFA, the new nutrition line of beverages developed by Dairy Gold, Nestle’s new line made exclusively for Target, and others.

Asked if these new products are taking sales away from non-milk alternatives or traditionally branded milk, Ziemnisky said DMI’s work with MilkPEP shows that the plant-based beverages – on a volume and value basis – are “over-shelved.”

“They haven’t grown their category, their volume is declining. Those guys are eating themselves — going after each other. They’re not going after us anymore because they can’t. We win with nutrition and value. When we see all the innovation that is coming into dairy, we’re taking our space back by meeting the functional needs of the consumer. The quality of the protein is in demand now,” he said, confirming data showing that, “People are coming back to us because of the nutrition and the quality of the protein.”

During questions, he dug into the health and wellness “playbook” that checkoff has created with the help and blessing of USDA and has put into the hands of the top people at all of the big companies in food processing and retailing.

“We’ve traditionally undersold our nutritional benefits, and that’s changing,” he said.



At the 2025 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit, Paul Ziemnisky, head of wellness, innovation, and business development for Dairy Management Inc. (DMI), spoke about the fluid milk innovation, and the Milk Molecules Initiative (MMI) in which extended shelf life (ESL) milk is seen as the gateway to new products aiming to meet 'functional needs' of consumers. Photo by Sherry Bunting

Where MMI comes into the picture is to identify the bioactive molecules for separation and marketing linked to specific health claims that can go on a label.

A graduate student in the audience said the presentation gave her “a lot of hope in the future as a scientist.” She asked if DMI has noticed any difference in regional trends related to consumers, and specifically wondered what is happening in California?

Ziemnisky said California was moving the other direction. “They like to try things out there,” he said, explaining that the dairy industry is so volume- and scale-focused that pilot products are not the norm.

“California is coming back. California has assets that do smaller runs to try things. Last year, California grew (beverage milk sales) at a faster pace, whereas the Northeast market is so heavily regulated,” he said, adding that government regulation puts pressure on local retailers who want to try things.

DMI’s role is to test and learn, he explained: “We help processors prove these markets to retailers. Value-add is 30% of the dollars in the fluid milk category today. We went to 30% from just 10% just 10 years ago. We are targeting both volume and value with our retail and direct sales teams.”

One attendee asked what checkoff can do about the out-of-stock issues at retail, noting

that perhaps fluid milk sales would increase if the dairy cases were consistently well-stocked.

“When we ask the store people, they say we don’t do the orders, it all comes from above us,” the questioner said.

Ziemnisky replied: “They are not telling you the truth. The real out of stock rate nationally is 3%. The problem is they are not managing their inventory. The inventory is there, but not the labor.”

“What we run into is the problem is store help,” said John Chrisman of ADANE, jumping into the conversation, noting new laser-system camera technologies are coming within the next five years to issue alerts about what is “flying off the shelves.”

In the meantime, he told attendees to report out-of-stocks to ADANE so they can get it resolved.

Another question asked was how farmers can feed or manage their herds to hit higher levels of functional bioactives like lactoferrin.

Ziemnisky said that’s a question for the milk buyers’ field service personnel, but in general, feeding cattle to hit higher component levels will raise the functional level of milk molecules like lactoferrin.

This reporter asked Ziemnisky what DMI is doing to know if there is any change in the

protein structure with the further processed options: “How are we protecting that message on whey protein by protecting its structure through the ultra pasteurization process?”

(The only published research we could find was an NIH study showing heat and mechanical processes of ESL packaging change the structure of the protein, namely the whey protein.)

Ziemnisky replied that DMI is “doing significant work” on the nutrition research side to prove the efficacy of dairy’s high quality protein vs. other proteins.

“And on the product science side, we’re investing significantly in everything from the clarity of protein, so you can put it into other products, to the quality as it goes through different processes that it stays stabilized. We work with the industry on what are the needs we can solve,” he assured.

On follow up questioning about protecting the protein, he added that, “Encapsulation is just one technology we’re doing to preserve the bioactive pull, and we have other things underway as well. We also look at the byproducts. What do we do with lactose coming through on the lactose-free? What do we do with the permeates on the cheese, the passive whey? These are where we’re doing work to create products from the bioplastics all the way to the functional ingredients.”

Bottom line, he said: “Whey was the bastard child, and now it is the largest gaining market share because of demand for high quality proteins. We are seeing the fractionation piece of this, the precision nutrition, the new players coming in and doing research on different compounds, driving whey to where it is today vs. 20 years ago.”

With an estimated 6300 molecules in milk identified by artificial intelligence, all located within the 13% of milk that is the solids, Ziemnisky expressed excitement about the future.

“We are at the cusp of this, and with our artificial intelligence partnerships, we are getting the learnings in 2 to 3 years that used to take 10 years,” he suggested. “This is moving fast toward a sustainable future with zero-waste circular milk plants.”

In Part III, we’ll look at what Maola is doing at the Philadelphia plant with ESL ultra-pasteurization (UP) technology, packaging, and how they see these efforts meeting consumer needs and trends as part of the panel presentation at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit.

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South Dakota State hosted Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge

BROOKINGS, S.D. — The Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge, hosted by South Dakota State University concluded on February 14 in Brookings, S.D. The event saw significant participation with 110 students from 13 schools, along with coaches and volunteers for an immersive learning experience.

Upon arrival, students attended educational seminars covering financial management, automatic milking systems, and emerging farm technology. They also had the opportunity to meet their mentor and team-

mates over dinner, followed by a brief team-building activity. Afterwards, teams received farm information and began analyzing data in preparation for their farm visit on February 13 and their upcoming presentation.

On the second day, students visited MoDak Dairy, Inc., where they toured the calf and heifer barn, lactating barn, and milking parlor. Guided by industry mentors, teams assessed various aspects of each facility at the dairy farm, including animal health, parlor management, transition pens, and feed man-

agement processes. Additionally, student teams conducted interviews with the producers to gain deeper insights into farm management practices and goals. In the afternoon, teams used the data collected to develop their presentations. After submitting their work, all attendants, volunteers, and coaches gathered for dinner and a networking event.

The final day of the contest featured team presentations, evaluated by a panel of judges. Each team delivered a 20-minute analysis outlining the strengths and areas of improve-

ment of the farm they had assessed. Additionally, students were able to attend a career and innovation fair, and educational sessions, including a Dairy Challenge alumni panel and an informational session on *the Future of Dairy Products* by Dr. Prafulla Salunke, a professor at South Dakota State University. The event concluded with the presentation of student awards.

The judges awarded teams with the first and second place ranking on each farm among the 24 total teams participating.

Program worked out to help farmers cope with stress

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — At a recent event focused on farm stress, participants heard the story of a dairy farmer, Duane Martin, who made the painful decision to sell his cows, ending his family’s legacy as dairy farmers after 12 generations. Both his story of losing the farm and his ensuing mental health struggles illustrate the growing challenges farmers face — extreme weather, volatile markets, limited health care and childcare access, low incomes, and the physical toll of farm work.

Florence Becot, the lead of Penn State’s Agricultural Safety and Health Program in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, shared the farmer’s story to underscore the urgency of these issues. Becot, who has a doctorate in environment and natural resources with a specialization in rural sociology from Ohio State University, explained that Martin had emailed his 7-page story, “Sale Day,” to her out of the blue with permission to use it for any research or lecture that she gives, including the AgForum event.

Becot noted that while farmers may be willing to seek help, accessing it is another matter, especially in rural areas where resources are sparse.

“Bringing people together from different sectors helps increase our reach,” said Ginger Fenton, dairy extension educator and one of the event’s organizers. “It was a great opportunity for networking with the idea of building partnerships that will lead to concrete outputs.”

Participants used a methodology called “Strategic Doing” to set goals and develop short-term projects — achievable in three months or less — designed to support farmers and their families. Through case studies and group discussions, they identified challenges and developed concrete steps and actionable plans.

Fenton added that farmers also struggle with time.

“That’s especially true now, as we’re getting into planting season,” she said. “The idea of using a sunny day for an appointment instead of being in the field is a tough call.”

Jacqueline Amor-Zitzelberger, extension educator in food, families and communities, helped coordinate the forum.

“There are many family-owned farms in Pennsylvania that really need help,” Amor-Zitzelberger said. “They have to be problem-solvers and are constantly dealing with issues.”

Attendees chose focus areas and drafted plans, assigning “Chief Doing Officers” to follow up on progress.

“The discussions were rich and included many different perspectives,” Amor-Zitzelberger said.

Ideas included launching county coffee groups to discuss farm transition planning, creating flyers about mental well-being, recording public service announcements with real farmers dealing with real issues, publishing articles on affordable insurance, and crafting an elevator pitch to share financial resources.

“It was great to see the excitement,” Fenton said. “They didn’t break right away for lunch because they were still chatting, and even after the forum, many people stayed in

the room to keep the conversations going.”

The event featured several prominent speakers. Troy Ott, dean of Penn State’s College of Agricultural Sciences, emphasized Extension’s partnership with federal, state and local governments, calling it a “powerful force for good.”

U.S. Representative Glenn “GT” Thompson, chair of the House Agriculture Committee, acknowledged the challenges facing the farming industry and discussed his efforts to support the federal farm bill, which he said would protect farmers from market volatility.

Mark Critz, western regional director for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, noted agriculture’s central role in the state’s economic development. With rising temper-

atures and increased precipitation across Pennsylvania, he stressed the need for investment in agricultural innovation. The Pennsylvania Farm Bill, now in its seventh year, seeks \$13.8 million to support workforce development, urban agriculture, meat processing expansion, farms in transition and farm-to-school programs.

Organizers said the goals of the event were to raise awareness of farm stress, foster connections, connect farmers with resources and drive meaningful action. The team is exploring options for a future regional AgForum, potentially in southeastern Pennsylvania, to continue engaging stakeholders.

“We are hopeful that we can replicate this and continue these types of efforts,” Fenton said.



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Penn State Students participating in Dairy Challenge were, front row, from left: Jamie Batey, Sara McNichols, Hannah Mansfield, Madison Benfer, Jessica Fleisher, Emma McLaughlin, and Emory Bewley. Back row, from left: Josh Becker, Calvin Dechow, Jay Bratton, Rylan Curran, Jarret Mitchell and Leoni Martins.



PSU dairy students return from Florida-hosted NAIDC

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Six Penn State students participated in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, (NAIDC) hosted by the Southern Region in Gainesville, Florida, April 6-8. Five students also participated in the Dairy Challenge Academy.

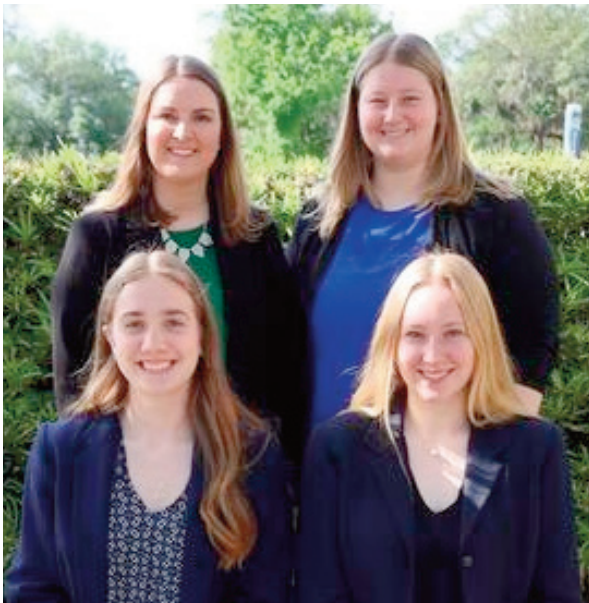
Penn State's team of seniors placed third in their contest team bracket. Those team members were Madison Benfer, Curryville, Pa.; Emory Bewley, Susquehanna, Pa.; Sara McNichols, Scranton, Pa.; and Emma McLaughlin, Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. Jamie Batey, Moon Township, Pa. and Jarrett Mitchell, Titusville, Pa. were part of an aggregate team.

Coaches for the competition were Leoni F. Martins, assistant professor of precision dairy nutrition, and Josh Becker, a masters's degree student. Also preparing the team were Dr. Lisa Holden, associate professor of dairy science; Dr. Chad Dechow, associate professor of dairy cattle genetics; Dr. Gabriella Varga, emeritus professor of dairy nutrition, and Josh Becker, graduate assistant.

The Dairy Challenge Contest and Academy are innovative activities for students in dairy programs at North American post-secondary institutions. Its mission is to develop tomorrow's dairy leaders and enhance the progress of the dairy industry, by providing education, communication, and networking among students, dairy producers, agribusiness, and university personnel.

In this real-world simulation, students have just 24 hours to analyze farm data, visit the farm for two hours, ask questions directly to the producer, and prepare a comprehensive presentation. Their presentation must highlight the farm's strengths and opportunities, along with their own recommendations for improvement. They then present their findings to a panel of judges composed of industry professionals, including veterinarians, nutritionists, financial consultants, and dairy producers.

Contest student teams evaluated North Florida Dairies, with 6600 cows total, and Southern Cross Dairy, with 3600



The team which placed third in their bracket, seated: Sara McNichols, left, and Emma McLaughlin. Standing: Emory Bewley, left, and Madison Benfer.

cows total.

Team member McLaughlin said: "Dairy Challenge has encouraged me to use my prior experience and the data analysis skills that we learn in class to evaluate farms and herd management in a more organized way. Before this class and competition, I had only worked and visited smaller dairies but have now had the opportunity to visit a farm with 6000+ cows. It has been astounding to see the growth that our team has made in just one school year, from our presentation skills to our comfort in understanding industry standards and

benchmarks. This has by far been my favorite college experience, and I would recommend this to any student who has a strong interest in joining the dairy industry."

Fellow team member McNichols added: "Dairy Challenge has been a great experience to learn all about how different dairy farm operations run their facilities and what they can do to improve. In competition, I have used my prior knowledge in both growing up in the dairy industry and from the classes I have taken at Penn State. At North Florida Dairies near Bell, we competed against seven other teams from schools across the United States. We placed third in a very close match, wrapping up our competitive season. The team has grown astronomically in the past year since we started at the regional level last fall in New York and I would recommend this experience to any student involved in dairy."

Coach Martins added: "Beyond the competition, Dairy Challenge offers a valuable platform for students to interact with industry stakeholders and build professional networks — connections that are often critical in helping them secure jobs after graduation. All eyes in the industry are on these students. Stakeholders want to interact with them, observe their thought processes, and see how they approach problem-solving under real-world conditions. Ultimately, more important than winning is demonstrating the ability to apply knowledge to practical challenges. Participating in Dairy Challenge undoubtedly positions students ahead in their careers."

Thirty-eight academic schools participated, with 127 contestants and 119 attending the Academy. There were 47 coaches and 72 volunteers from 34 companies.

Penn State students who participated in the Academy were Jay Bratton, Millerstown, Pa.; Rylan Curran, Northampton, Pa.; Calvin Dechow, Julian, Pa.; Hannah Mansfield, Greenville, N.C.; and Jessica Fleisher, Newport, Pa.

Dairy Challenge has helped prepare over 10,000 students for careers as dairy owners or managers, consultants, researchers, veterinarians, or other dairy professionals. It provides a unique opportunity for students to engage in dairy industry management and communication while networking with other students and exploring industry careers.

Funding for Penn State's participation in the event came from an endowment established by alumnus Clifton Marshall, the Student Activity Funds in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, and the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association.

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Cornerstone Dairy Academy[®] graduates included 3 from Pa.

JUNEAU, Wis. — The 2025 edition of Cornerstone Dairy Academy[®], presented by Professional Dairy Producers[®] (PDP), recognized 14 dairy farmers and allied industry professionals as graduates of the three-pillar program. They included, all from Pennsylvania:

- Dalton and Sarah Miller from Pitman
- Luke Trice from West Grove and
- Rosalie Zaginaylo from Berwick.

Attending from Wisconsin were: Lynae Schott of Sauk City; Stephanie Cash, from Kaukauna, Hector Delgado Mondragon from Fremont, Dr. Scott Earnest, DVM from Lodi, Melanie Eck from Johnson Creek, Abbie Jo Erickson from Mauston, Kathryn Hohmann Browning from Cambridge and Eduardo

Juarez Mota from Malone.

And from Iowa, Heidi Hall of Monticello. The application-based leadership-development course is designed to build the skills of those in dairy who want to expand their skills to lead with purpose, character and integrity. “Cornerstone Dairy Academy graduates represent the best of the best in our dairy industry with a commitment to developing their leadership skills to benefit their farms and dairy businesses,” said Amber Keel, PDP program manager. “Completing all three pillars of training provides a strong foundation of communications and leadership skills for dairy farmers and industry professionals at any stage of their career.”

‘A Content Life’ chronicles faith-filled journey against backdrop of 40 years in dairy automation

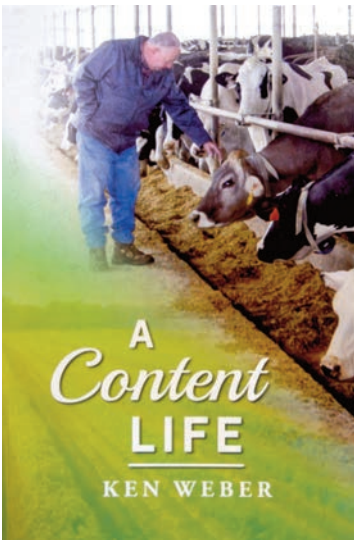
By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

EAST EARL, Pa. — Those who knew Ken Weber before retirement as a milking equipment automation sales and service provider -- working for the former Lancaster Dairy Farm Automation and then Innovative Dairy Solutions -- know his unassuming and methodically humble ways that come from an appreciation of hard work, continuous learning, commitment to excellence, and sense of true inner peace owing to his faith in God.

A *Content Life* is the title of Weber’s book published in 2024, which I recently had the opportunity to read. It has something for everyone. It is sprinkled with some of his favorite Scriptures, underlying a life’s journey in nearly every aspect of dairy.

After receiving a subscription to ancestry.com from his daughter for his 70th birthday, Weber wondered if his descendants years from now would want to know more about his life. So, he wrote the autobiography from birth through present-day.

Except for his two years of I-W service, Weber has been involved in the dairy industry in a variety of ways his entire life. Starting as a son of a dairy farmer, then farm manager, and then operating his own dairy farm before having to sell out in the early 1980’s, to then be working in the milking equipment industry for 40 years.



A book of quiet, steadfast faithfulness, the settings chronicle four decades of the evolving automation landscape in dairy farming.

A book of quiet, steadfast faithfulness, the settings chronicle four decades of the evolving automation landscape in dairy farming. But first, Weber takes the reader through the 1960s growing up on a dairy farm in a Mennonite community in eastern Lancaster County.

The following chapters chronicle the economic struggles of dairy farmers -- which Weber himself experienced -- as well as the societal changes and their impacts on agriculture, and how dairies have evolved to continue family farm legacies in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and beyond.

Halfway through the book, the chapter “Starting Over” shifts to “What does one do after leaving farming?” A question that has confronted many others. This difficult question is handled with the grace of Weber’s own experience, working through the basic challenges, the fears, doubts, as well as hopes and aspirations.

The book is full of mini stories that provide both technical and human interest and a deeper understanding of the dairy industry and those who are a part of it.

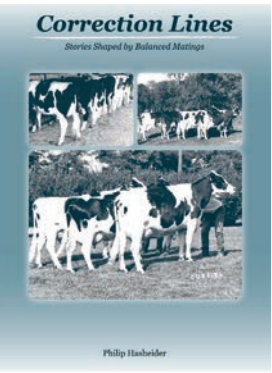
At its core, however, it is a relatable chronicle of faith, family, commitment, and relationships.

A *Content Life* is available by calling Ken Weber at 717-863-0239. The cost is \$15.00 plus postage, or it can be picked up at his home.

Phil Hasheider wrote the book on balanced matings

SAUK CITY Wis. — A popular book about the age-old question of how to breed a good herd of cows is once again available in print. *Corrections Lines* details herd stories shaped by balanced matings with 800 photographs to illustrate the history of the 27 featured Holstein herd breeding programs.

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those involved in creating such breed influencing sires as Walkway Chief Mark, Carlin-M Ivanhoe Bell, Mowry Ivanhoe Prince, Heatherstone Lucky Typeblazer, Burket Falls ABC, Man-O-War BF Crescent Combine and others.

Individual copies can be ordered from the author for \$45 each, plus \$10 priority mail from Philip Hasheider at P.O. Box 155, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Factors from page 12

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Premier Select Sires awards \$20,000 in scholarships

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa.—Premier Select Sires recently awarded over \$20,000 to students through the 2025 Premier Future Ag Leaders Scholarship Program. Two students received \$2500 scholarships through the Wayne Dudley Scholarship and the Johnny Daniel Memorial Scholarship. Nineteen other students received scholarships of \$500 to \$1500 in value. Eight students received an honorable mention with a \$100 cash award.

- Sarah Diehl of McVeytown, Pa., the daughter of Joe and Kristen Diehl, received the \$2500 Wayne Dudley Scholarship. She is a student at Virginia Tech studying dairy science and hopes to enroll in veterinary school to become a large animal veterinarian.
- Anna Longenecker of Williamsburg, Pa., the daughter of Douglas and Yvette Longenecker, received the \$2500 Johnny Daniel Memorial Scholarship. A senior at Central High School, she plans to attend Penn State to study agribusiness management.
- Claire Fogler of Exeter, Maine, the daughter of Kathryn and Travis Fogler, is a senior at Dexter Regional High School and plans to attend Iowa State University to study dairy science.
- Jordan Anderson of Centre Hall, Pa., the daughter of Donald and Angela Anderson, is a student at the University of Wyoming studying agriculture communications.
- Joseph Coltrane of Pleasant Garden, N.C., the son of David and Amy Coltrane is a student at North Carolina State University studying agriculture science.
- Lemuel Coltrane of Pleasant Garden, N.C., the son of David and Amy Coltrane is a student at North Carolina State University studying agriculture science.
- Hayley Daubert of Dayton, Va., the daughter of Jeremy



- and Becky Daubert, is a student at South Dakota State University studying dairy manufacturing.
- Chelsea Empet of Kingsley, Pa., the daughter of Richard and Dana Empet, is a senior at Mountain View Jr./Sr. High School and plans to study animal sScience/ag business in college.
- Regan Jackson of Boyce, Va., the daughter of Kevin and Laura Jackson, is a student at Louisiana State University studying nutrition and food science with a minor in biology.
- Madison Mowrer of Petersburg, Pa., the daughter of Erica and Nathan Mowrer, is a senior at Juniata Valley High School and plans to attend Penn State to study animal science.
- Rachel Craun of Mt. Crawford, Va., the daughter of Kevin and Patti Craun, is a student at Purdue University studying agricultural and biological engineering.
- Addison Harpster of Spruce Creek, Pa., the daughter of Meg and Aaron Harpster, is a senior at State College Area High School and plans to attend college to study ag business man-

- agement.
- Katelyn Heckman of Kutztown, Pa., the daughter of Tracie and Christopher Heckman, is a student at Penn State studying animal science.
- Brailey Livingston of New Haven, Vt., the daughter of Philip and Dawn-Marie Livingston, is a senior at Mt. Abraham Union High School and plans to attend SUNY Cobleskill to study dairy production and management.
- Eli Merry of Arkport, N.Y., the son of Andrew and Jennifer Merry, is a senior at Arkport Central School District with plans to attend college to study animal science.
- Joleigh Nailor of Mechanicsburg, Pa., the daughter of Jason and Sherisa Nailor, is a senior at Cumberland Valley High School and plans to attend Penn State to study animal science.
- Alexis Schultz of Marion, N.Y., the daughter of Shane and Shannon Schultz, is a senior at Marion Jr./Sr. High School planning to attend SUNY Cobleskill or Penn State to study agricultural business.
- Nicole Arrowsmith of Peach Bottom, Pa., the daughter of Thomas and Amanda Arrowsmith, is a student at Penn State studying agribusiness management.
- Sarah Craun of Mt. Crawford, Va., the daughter of Kevin and Patti Craun, is a senior at Turner Ashby High School and plans to attend Blinn College to study animal science.
- Ava Neville of Little Meadows, Pa., the daughter of Chris and Katie Neville, is a student at Penn State studying animal science.
- Willis Reinhardt of Exeter, Maine, the son of Brian and Liza Reinhardt, is a senior at Dexter Regional High School and plans to attend South Dakota State University to study precision agriculture.

- Honorable mentions:
- Sara Dreibelbis, Lawrenceville, Pa.
 - Danielle Heltzel, Martinsburg, Pa.
 - Taydem Mitzner, Penokee, Kans.
 - Nicole Non, Pleasant Mt., Pa.
 - Skylar Peiffer, Lebanon, Pa.
 - Adria Russell, Alexandria, Pa.
 - Ainsley Sellers, Lebanon, Pa.
 - Natalie Yoder, Belleville, Pa.

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Six new directors join boards of CDE and/or Foundation

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Center for Dairy Excellence and Dairy Excellence Foundation recently welcomed six dairy professionals to the organizations’ board of directors.

• **Carissa Itle Westrick** of Cambria County Pa., was elected to the Center for Dairy Excellence Board during the December 2024 Board meeting. She filled an open position, which was vacated by Chuck Turner who reached the two-consecutive term maximum set by the organization’s bylaws.

Westrick is the director of business development for her family farm, Vale Wood Farms, an integrated multi-generational dairy business in Loretto, Pa. They process milk from their cows into dairy products that they deliver directly to customers. Additionally, they host thousands of visitors for their many farm and community events.

Westrick serves on the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers Board, co-chairs the Cambria County Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee, and is a trustee of Penn Highlands Community College. Before returning to the family farm, she gained invaluable experience working for the National Milk Producers Federation in Arlington, Va.

“The Center for Dairy Excellence unifies the Pennsylvania dairy industry. The Center focuses on providing resources for producers on animal health and other pressing issues, identifying industry opportunities, and celebrating Pennsylvania dairy farms,” Westrick said. “This focus on industry unity has allowed the Center to become a respected voice of reason in many dairy discussions. I’m proud to lend my time and effort to the board.”

• **Erica Mowrer**, a dairy producer from Mowrer Farms in Huntingdon County, Pa., also joined the Center for Dairy Excellence Board during the December 2024 Board meeting. She filled an open position that was vacated by Amanda Biddle.

Mowrer resides on Mowrer Farms, a seventh-generation dairy, with husband Nathan and two children. Their 1700-acre farm is home to 400 cows.

Mowrer spent 14 years teaching agriculture and business in Huntingdon County and is currently employed with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank as the senior agriculture acquisition manager. She is proud to work with one of the largest fresh milk programs in any food bank across the country. In this role, she works with Pennsylvania farmers to become a part of their risk management plan while ensuring fresh, healthy foods are available to those in need. She also serves on the Pennsylvania Holstein Association’s Youth Committee, volunteers with the Huntingdon County Junior Holstein Association, and serves as livestock superintendent for the Huntingdon County Fair.

“I agreed to join the Center’s Board because I feel it is important to bring a producer perspective to the board meetings and to the programs that are developed and implemented by the Center. As a lifelong learner and educator, I believe it is important to share our programs with current producers,” Mowrer said. “As the mother of a potential eight-generation dairy farmer, I am also passionate about empowering the dairy industry through times of change and transition so we may preserve it for the future.”

• **Rob Goodling**, an ag business consultant at Horizon Farm Credit’s Lewisburg office, joined the Center for Dairy Excellence Board of Directors for a second term, after serving his first term during the Center’s early years. He filled an open position that was vacated by Mike Hosterman who reached the organization’s two-consecutive term maximum.

Goodling has over 20 years of experience helping producers understand their farm business records and analyses to grow their operations. His specialties include financial business analysis, cost of production analysis, cash flow planning and budgeting, QuickBooks consultation and troubleshooting, transition planning, dairy record evaluation, and team facilitation.

“I joined the Center’s Board of Directors for a second term as I see great value in the mission and objectives the Center serves. It is vital to the long-term success of Pennsylvania’s dairy industry to have an organization that can bring all facets of our industry together – including producers, industry representatives, and processors – to address those broad challenges and help deliver a collective voice,” Goodling shared.

• **Kathy Hartzell**, a dairy producer from Butler County, Pa., was the fourth individual to join the Center’s Board of Directors during the December 2024 meeting. She filled an open position that was vacated by Caroline Zimmerman who reached the organization’s two-consecutive term maximum.

Hartzell is part of Hartzell Farm, a family-owned dairy operation, with her husband George. She worked for Farm Credit for 40 years and over her long career, she served as an agribusinesses loan officer, collection officer, appraiser, tax preparer, and branch manager. She has been involved in her community’s local Holstein club and served as a 4-H leader. She is also actively involved with her church and agricultural organizations. She has served on the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess and Promotion Services Board (PDPPS) for 12 years and serves as treasurer.

“I’m very passionate about supporting the Pennsylvania dairy industry and fostering the growth of the future. I was very honored to be asked to join the board of directors and to give back,” Hartzell said.

The Center’s Board of Directors must agree to serve a three-year term and may be re-elected for an additional term. The Board was developed to represent multiple aspects of the dairy industry, with seats for dairy farmers, allied industry professionals, marketing cooperative employees, veterinarians,

retail representatives, processor representatives, and members from the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

• **Dr. Joseph Bender** was one of the new members elected to the Dairy Excellence Foundation’s Board of Directors. He is associate professor of clinical dairy production medicine at the Center for Animal Health and Productivity at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary Medicine – New Bolton Center. Dr. Bender filled an open position that was vacated by Rachel Cloninger.

Since arriving at PennVet in 2013, Dr. Bender’s area of concentration has been to provide on-farm consultation to dairy farmers throughout the state to improve production and profitability. His service, research, and teaching focuses on animal health economics, reproduction, and dairy nutrition. He was raised and currently resides in Landisville, Lancaster County, with his wife and son.

“Serving on the Foundation Board of Directors is an opportunity to contribute my skills, experience, and passion to help shape the future of Pennsylvania dairy. Former board members whom I respect and trust speak highly of the Dairy Excellence Founda-

tion’s mission,” Dr. Bender said. “I am looking forward to driving strategic growth, fostering innovation, and helping to ensure long-term success for Pennsylvania dairy.”

• **Duane Hershey**, a dairy producer from Ar-Joy Farms in Chester County, Pa., also joined the Dairy Excellence Foundation Board during the December 2024 meeting, filling an open position that was vacated by Walt Moore who reached the two-consecutive term maximum set by the organization’s bylaws.

Hershey manages Ar-Joy Farms, a second-generation dairy operation, with his wife, Marilyn, and has been farming his entire life. Their farm has a methane digester and accepts food waste that they turn into electricity. He is the chairman of the West Fallowfield Township supervisors and was on his local school board for 12 years. He served on the Land O’Lakes Board of Directors for nine years.

“At this stage of my career, I’ve been helped by many producers and industry professionals in the business. If I can give back a little bit in some way, I’m really interested in that,” Hershey said. “The momentum that the Dairy Excellence Foundation has gained, and continues to gather, is exciting to me.”

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Cows got milk - GRAY	Youth: S	M	Adult: S	M	L	XL	2XL		
Cows got milk - PINK	Youth: S	M	Adult: S	M	L	XL	2XL		
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‘Healthy Dairy’ commitment to ban artificial colors from school meals applauded

WASHINGTON – USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins applauded the April 22 announcement by International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) on its Healthy Dairy in Schools Commitment -- the voluntary, proactive pledge to eliminate artificial colors Red 3, Red 40, Green 3, Blue 1, Blue 2, Yellow 5, and Yellow 6 -- from milk, cheese, and yogurt products sold to K-12 schools for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, beginning during the 2026-2027 school year or as early as July 2026.

In its own press release, IDFA observed that the vast majority of dairy products sold to schools do not contain certified artificial colors, as most dairy processors have chosen not to use or decided to remove or replace them in the past. Moving forward, all companies supporting the Healthy Dairy in Schools Commitment have pledged to discontinue products containing these certified artificial colors or to reformulate products with natural ingredients.

Dairy companies will also continue to reduce added sugar and to work with school nutrition professionals, parents, and students to educate them about the benefits of milk, cheese, and yogurt in healthy diets, according to IDFA.

“The Healthy Dairy in Schools Commitment goes above and beyond state and federal regulations to help ensure children in grades K-12 continue to have access to the milk, cheese, and yogurt options they enjoy without any certified artificial colors,” said Michael Dykes, D.V.M., IDFA president and CEO. “Dairy products in school meals including milk, cheese, and yogurt, play a critical role in meeting child nutrition requirements.”

While the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has deemed certified artificial colors safe for use in foods when used in accordance with FDA regulations, the federal government is considering how to phase out the use of these ingredients in the U.S. food supply.

At the same time, five states – Arizona, California, Utah, Virginia, and West Virginia – have already passed laws banning their use in foods sold to schools, and others are likely to follow suit, signifying a new attitude by states to go beyond federal regulators, according to IDFA.

Farm Bureau’s Ag Innovation Challenge hangs out \$100K to the top entrepreneur

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Farm Bureau Federation, in partnership with Farm Credit, invites entrepreneurs to apply online by June 9 for the 2026 Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge. Now in its 12th year, this national business competition showcases U.S. startup companies developing innovative solutions to challenges faced by America’s farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

The overall winner of the competition will receive \$100,000 in startup funds, the runner-up will be awarded \$25,000 and two additional business owners who advance to the final four round will receive \$10,000.

“This competition supports incredible entrepreneurs who are making sure agriculture is ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow,” said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. “If you have a vision for how your business can drive agriculture forward, apply today.”

Farm Bureau is offering a total of \$145,000 in startup funds throughout the course of the competition. After the application period closes, 10 semi-finalist teams will be selected and announced on Aug. 4. Next, the 10 semi-finalist teams will pitch virtually to compete for a spot in the final four round of the contest.

The final four teams will be awarded \$10,000 each and participate in a live pitch competition in front of Farm Bureau members, investors and industry representatives at the AFBF Convention in January 2026 in Anaheim, California.

For more information, contact AFBF at info@fb.org or call 202-406-3600.

LETTER from a READER

Tariffs are of concern

Editor,

It’s been awhile since I’ve written a letter to you. I’m writing this letter to voice my concern that President Trump’s tariffs are going to hurt and destroy our already crippled agricultural industry. The farmers of this country are already hurting and are having problems keeping up with the cost of production.

The tariffs are going to hurt all farmers no matter what section they are a part of in the agricultural industry. Crop farmers rely on foreign countries to buy their crops to make a profit for their farms and families. I’ve seen the pain and hurt that the farmers feel on a daily basis. Dairy farmers are continuing to disappear from our country.

I thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Respectfully,

Earl Russell Gow
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Baby bovines

from page 13

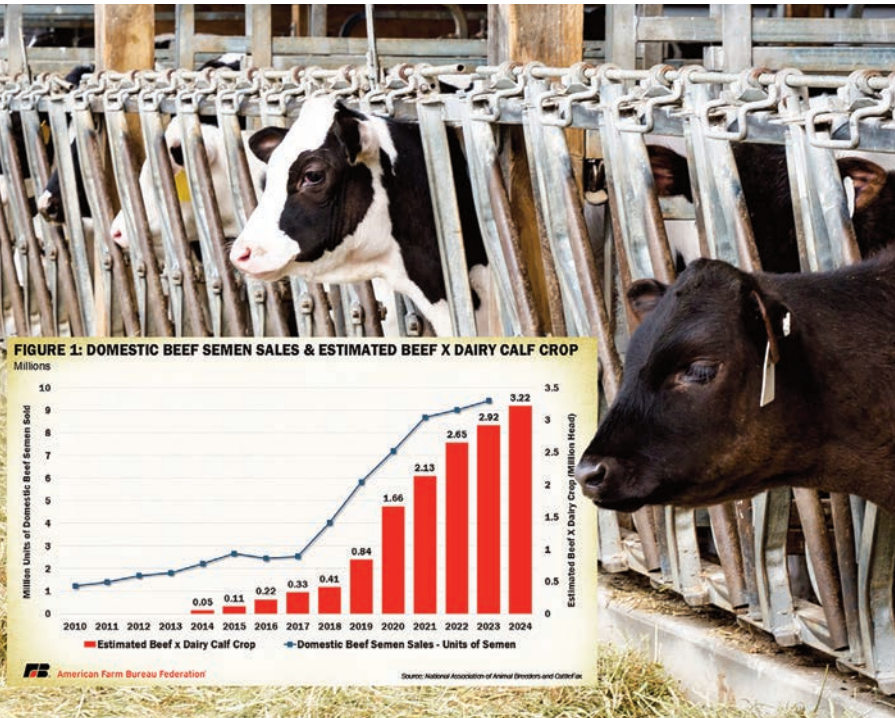
in both worlds, dairy and beef,” she stressed. Just like for dairy replacement heifers, care should be taken to limit that calf’s exposure to disease.

“We want to maximize resistance and maximize specific immunity through colostrum and vaccination. What I’m seeing is that dairy farmers are shifting away from the idea of giving bull calves a reduced quality of colostrum. These bull calves (BXD or straight dairy) are no longer a byproduct, but an asset,” Carpenter observed. “Transfer of passive immunity is critical.”

She cited a 2023 Wisconsin survey, where dairy farmers said their BXD calves were getting colostrum soon after birth and that most were feeding 4 quarts in the first 6 hours. They were giving those calves the same level of colostrum management as their dairy heifer calves.

Carpenter went over the top five criteria most farmers have heard before, “but it bears constant repeating,” she said:

- Quality – ensure high levels of antibodies;
- Quantity – feed 10 to 15% of the calf’s body weight within the first 18 hours life, earlier is even better;
- Quickness – the first feeding should be as soon as possible, within the first 2 to 4 hours of life;
- Quantify – measure quality of the colostrum with a colostrometer or Brix refractometer (worth investment);
- Clean – make sure all equipment for harvest, storage, and delivery of colostrum are both cleaned and then sanitized for each calf; and
- Temperature – Heat treating colostrum can be beneficial, but do not pasteurize colostrum as this harms the immunoglobulins. The big thing with temperature is to make sure to keep watch out for fluctuations, such as putting warm colostrum in the re-



Looking at data from National Association of Animal Breeders and Cattlefax, American Farm Bureau economist Danny Munch graphed the growth in beef semen sales to dairies from 2014 to 2024, estimating 72% of U.S. dairies breed some crossbreds today.

Photo by Sherry Bunting, AFBF graph

frigerator or freezer right next to already chilled or frozen colostrum.

Monitoring levels of passive immunity with random blood samples and running brix refractometer on those blood samples is also encouraged.

“Even if we’re selling BXD calves at birth, we still have control of those first critical 24 hours. Buyers will keep buying from you, and paying top dollar, when you take control of what you can while those calves are with you on your farms,” Carpenter urged, adding that she foresees a time when premiums and discounts may be applied based on blood sample brix levels to confirm transfer of passive immunity.

Beefing up the hygiene of the calving environment is also essential.

“Maternity management is as important to the calf and to the cow having a successful transition as anything we do with her diet,” she said. “We all want to talk about dry cow diets, transition diets, prefresh diets, post-fresh diets, but it’s the basic little things in managing that environment that add up real quick.”

In managing the maternity area, it’s no surprise that cleanliness is number one.

“That calf is hitting the ground in that maternity pen. Do the knee drop test,” said Carpenter.

She also stressed the importance of mini-

mizing social stress for the maternity cows: “We want to minimize those pecking order changes, give cows room to rest, room to eat, and limit stress in general.”

Carpenter advised targeting pen moves 21 to 30 days before calving (at least 10 to 14 days closeup) and monitor the average days of gestation if experimenting with different beef breeds.

She also covered some nutrition advice for calves that stay on the farm longer than the first 24 to 72 hours after birth.

Trials showed that step-down weaning had the best performance results, and it was obvious in the behavior of the calves as well. “When we stepped down the weaning at six weeks, we saw a nice increase in starter intake and no weaning slump,” she said.

She also recommends free choice starter from day-one.

Trials on high starch vs. low starch diets preweaning, the bodyweight differences were not noticeable in a trial at Iowa State, but the calves on the lower starch diet preweaning and TMR post-weaning had very few liver abscesses and slightly better health outcomes long term.

Calfhood respiratory events not only impact the growth and performance of dairy heifers headed to the milking herd, they also negatively affect carcass weight and value of feedlot animals. Carpenter cited a trial showing that any calf with two or more respiratory events, produced 29 pounds less beef and had a net carcass value reduction of \$91.

“Bigger than anything we saw on diets, however, is the big picture view across the whole lifetime of the cattle. Those that required treatment for respiratory or health events showed this as a big economic factor,” she said.

“There’s a lot we don’t know, but what we do know is that when we do the little things to keep them from having these health events, it pays off in the long term, whether that calf becomes a milk cow on your farm or a beef animal down the road.”

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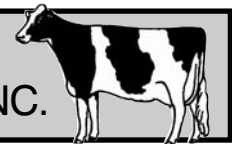
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REAL ESTATE – 12:00 NOON

15.75 Acre +/- farmette located at 59 Marsh Creek Rd., Shickshinny, Huntington Twp., Luzerne County with hand laid flagstone dwelling with 1½ baths, propane heat & Heatmore outdoor wood burner, detached finished she shed/man cave w/full bath, large bank barn, 2 story work shop with concrete floor and hand laid flagstone foundation, heat & elect. available, outbuildings. To view real estate call auctioneer for an appointment at (570)784-1011.

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TERMS: RE: \$10,000.00 down day of sale by cash or cashier's check made payable to Knecht Auctions Escrow, balance due in 60 days. Realty transfer taxes to be paid by buyer. Real estate taxes to be prorated to date of settlement. Potential buyers may conduct any test or inspections at their expense prior to auction day. To be sold with seller's confirmation.

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BRUBACKER'S QUALITY DAIRY SALES

10 BROWN ROAD, SHIPPENSBURG, PA

Thursday, May 1 @ 7:15 P.M. Annual Heifer Turn-Out Sale!

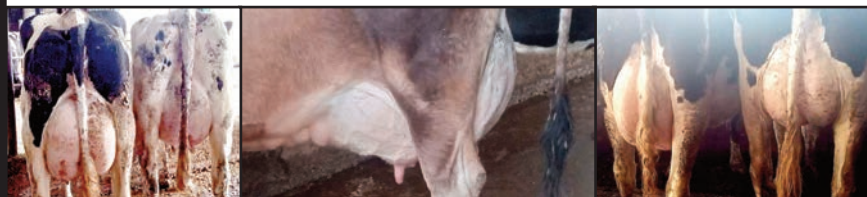
NOTE
EVENING
SALE

- ★ **Join us for our annual Heifer Turn-Out sale!** We are looking for any dairy heifers ranging from calves to springers. *Prices are at an all time high!* Call early to consign and get free advertising!
- ★ **Reg. milking shorthorn, Summer Jr. 2, Ourway Walk On The Wild-side, sells due 6/1/25** to Topshelf DL Lars EXP. Dam Innisfail Wo Julius Lucy- 2019 WDE Jr. Champ., People's Choice Heifer of the year!
- ★ **12 mon. Reg. Wolf Hulu dau. sells x EX-90 3-09 305 27,280 3.1F 3.2P x EX-94 3-07 365 38,090 4.5F 3.1P!**
- ★ **15 mon. R&W Historic-Red sells by GP-84 dam 1-11 357 22,410 3.7F 3.3P! Mgd. EX-92 3-09 365 41,770 3.8F!**
- ★ **80-90 head heifer dispersal for Michael Byers!** Ranging from three months old to bred heifers!
- ★ **8-10 Holstein heifers ranging from 3 months old to yearlings, from a 30,000 lb. herd with 60,000 SCC!** All fully vaccinated, and A.I. sired for many generations.
- ★ **10 to 12 Holstein heifers from a top local herd, ranging from 3 months old to springers!**
- ★ **15 Holstein heifers from another herd, yearlings to springers, A.I. sired with several out of 35,000 lb. dams!**
- ★ **We are also expecting a nice selection of top fresh cows from local over stocked herds!**
- ★ **Brandt-View sends several fancy fresh cows, with some nice genomic A2/A2 fresh heifers!**

★ **Maryland herd dispersal! We are getting the best 50-60 cows from a 120 cow herd!** Many mature cows in various stages of lactation. Freestall / parlor cows on test and **tested for A2/A2!** Herd consists of Jerseys and Holsteins and is currently ave. **60 lbs. 4.6F 3.6P and 204,000 SCC.** Good udders feet, and legs! **These cows have potential to bring milk to your tank!**

★ **Herd reduction for another farm!** 30-35 cows, mostly Jerseys with a few Holsteins, fresh 45 to 90 days! **These will also be tested for A2/A2 and will all have good udders!**

- ★ **8 fresh Holsteins from a freestall parlor herd, all milking well with low SCC.**
- ★ **8 Reg. Jerseys or crosses from a robot setup!** Most recently fresh, with 2 due in May, and 2 VG-86 w/ EX dams!
- ★ **Reg. Ratliff Victorious VG-83 sells dry and due July 4th to 54JE938 Cheaptrick! Dam EX-93 x EX-95!**
- ★ **Reg. WF Bionic Athens sells fresh by sale time! Dam EX-92 Latola x VG-88.**
- ★ **Reg. BS sells fresh! Milking 85 lbs. with a fancy udder!**
- ★ **Doc daughter sells fresh in 2nd lac! Dam EX-90,2E 4-02 305 27,970 3.8F 2.9P! Mgd. EX-93,2E 7-00 305 39,730 3.3F 2.9P! 3rd dam EX-92 2-00 305 24,710 4.4F 3.2P.**
- ★ **Several breeding age bulls out of good cow families sell!**
- ★ **21 mon. Gold Rush son! Dam VG-88 31,370 1484F 1116P! Mgd. VG-85 312d 27,335 lb. Mggd. VG-85 28,560 1292F 874P. 4th dam VG-86, 5th dam VG-88.**
- ★ **24 mon Renegade son! He carries the Variant Red gene! Dam GP-83 w/VG MS. Mgd 50,740 1942F 1365P. 3rd dam VG-88 Stoneden Fools Gold-Red 4-03 50,748 3.8F 2.9P. 4th dam VG-85 x EX-90 x VG-86 x VG-86!**
- ★ **Semen tank with 80 - 100 units of semen** and approx. 80 ampules. Bring your tank, info at sale.



NOTE: This will be a large sale with approx. 300+ head!
All cattle vet checked and vaccinated. All cows crossing state lines will be tested Friday, and should be ready Friday afternoon. Trucking available.
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For on-line questions, call Katie Shultz 717-543-7883.

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20 Wanted

USED HARVESTORES AND Slurrystores. 717-993-2373.

LOOKING FOR PLACES to catch barn pigeons. Call with approximately how many and location. 717-529-2326, ext. 5.

CERTIFIED ORGANIC dairy heifers. 2 months old to springers. 570-250-1725.

BUYING OLD ISSUES OF Holstein World, Jersey, Brown Swiss, etc. (all other dairy cattle breeds) magazines, sale catalogs and sire directories. 716-255-5625.

BUYING HARVESTORE silos & Slurrystores. Call 717-517-2080.

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Housing needed. Call 717-816-9693.

FAMILY LOOKING FOR dairy farm to rent. Call 717-821-5485.

23 Pets

OUT OF RESPECT FOR animal welfare, "Pets or Dogs Wanted" will not be accepted as classified ads. We will continue to accept household pet "For Sale" ads. Please take care when purchasing, selling or giving away a pet, keeping the animal's well-being in mind.

24 Seeds

ROB-SEE-CO/Masters Choice/Streamline Ag products. Merle Stoltzfus, 717-224-0700.

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2025 LEBANON COUNTY Spring Promise All-Breed Calf Sale

Friday Eve., May 2 • 7 P.M. • Lebanon Expo Center

Directions: 1 mile S of Lebanon on Rt. 72, then turn left (E) on Rocherty Rd., Expo Center is 1 mile on right. (use 2nd entrance) (GPS address: 80 Rocherty Rd., Lebanon, PA)

40 lots of show age calves sell! 5 breeds represented! Also, 7 special embryo lots sell!

SEE LAST WEEKS LARGE AD FOR MORE DETAILS!

Sale Presented & Sponsored by the Lebanon Co. Holstein Assoc.

Look for catalog on cowbuyer or sale staff Facebook pages



A few other highlights:

- New this week 12/4/24 Ayrshire sired by Stanley X VG 2yr-old X EX-91 X EX-94,5E 3X All-Am Nom.
- Also, new this week, 12/13/24 Hulu from Brook-Corner, descendant of Woozy EX-94,3E and Dam's sister is All-Am
- Selling an extra special must see 9/4/24 Hulu daughter of Luck-E Moovin A-Star EX @ 2-10 Next Dam is EX-92 King Doc X Luck-E McGucci Afro EX-94 X Luck-E Advent Asia EX-94,3E
- 3/9/25 Hulu sells Dam is just fresh Delta-Lambda 2yr-old x EX-95 x EX-94 x EX-95!
- R&W 6/15/24 Altitude & pot 9th generation that can show! Dam is EX-92 X EX-94 then 6 more EX Dams
- 9/4/24 Jersey show prospect X the EX-90% 1st Summ Yrlng at the 2019 Premier Nat'l Jr Show!



Idee Windbrook Lynzi EX-95,2E-CAN 95-MS

Lynzi was Nom. All-Can 5 stright years and N. A-A 4 straight! Selling is her special sister sired by Delta-Lambda and born 3/6/25. Your Spring calf for 2025! DAM IS EX-92 Goldwyn then EX-94-CAN Nom. All-Can.

- 9/2/24 Master sells & she is special! Dam is EX-94,2E Gold Chip w/ 32930M.
- Haniko Winter calf X Fresh Crushabull X EX-95,3E Gold Chip X Apple EX-96,4E
- 12/15/24 Advancer EX-91 Diamondback X EX-91 Redburst X Apple EX-96,2E
- 12/12/24 Sidekick X 12 VG or EX dams!
- Summer Yearling Jersey by Bontino X EX-92 Tequila!
- 9/17/24 Swiss X Puma X VG Faust
- 7 embryos lots including Delta-Lambda and Epiphany X Our-Favorite Enshrine EX-95,2E x EX-95,3E X 7 more EX; Alligator, Warrior & Alpha X Oakfield Goldwyn Daisy EX-94,2E sis to Darby, Res. Grand at WDE; Triton & Superman X fancy Alligator yearling dau. of Vogue Loyola Macy PP-RED-ET EX-95 and Paldwyn X Dropbox gr' daughter of Caught Your Eye EX-95 All-Am!

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2025 Bradford County Calf & Heifer Sale

Saturday, May 3 at 10:30 a.m. · Alparon Park, Troy, PA 16947



65 lots sell including fancy show age calves from 5 breeds, several special pedigreed bred heifers & springers and 4 embryo lots

See updates on Bradford County Holstein Facebook Page!

Cattle viewing with food and ice cream Friday Evening from 6-9 p.m.



Mead-Manor Def Adeline-RED EX-94,2E EEEE
6-00 365 34,980 4.0 1404 3.2 1131
Adeline was Supreme Champion of the WDE Jr Show 2019 and Un. All-Am R&W 3yr-old 2019 & Res. All-Am 4yr-old 2020! Selling is her sweet R&W March Altitude calf and direct descendant of Kingstead Chief Adeen EX-94,2E.



Ms Underground Glory-RED-ET EX-92 EEEE
3-04 298 34,630 3.9 1359 3.1 1090
Glory was Res Jr All-American R&W Sr 3yr-old 2024 and All-NY Sr 3yr-old 2024 and is a 20th generation EX cow! Selling is her wonderful R&W Spring Yearling Unstopabull daughter and potential 21st generation EX!



Ms DB Infinity-RED EX-93 EEEE
Infinty-RED was Un. All-American R&W Milking Yearling and just one of many All-American nominated sisters! Now you can potentially buy the next one with a 3/2/24 R&W Maximum daughter that sells. Dam is Infra-RED Un All-Am R&W Produce then 4 more EX.



Shoresbrook Awe Pumpkin-RED EX-94,2E EEEE
4-05 305 29,680 3.0 886 3.0 892
2 show age chances to buy from the awesome Pumpkin-RED. Selling is a 12/6/24 R&W Maximum and a 9/16/24 R&W Warrior. Next dam is EX-92 and 3rd dam EX-93!



Ms Kress-Hill Sapphire-RED-ET EX-92,2E EEEE
Sapphire-RED was Res. All-American R&W Fall Yearling 2019. She has 3 daughters already All-American and you could own the next! Selling is her fancy 9/23/24 R&W Altitude ready to win! Next dam is 6X All-Am nominee, Siemers Destry Sunny-RED



Lylehaven Atwood Lylly-ET EX-95,3E EEEE
5-11 365 41,280 4.45 1831 3.4 1412
The beautiful Lylly was 1st 5yr-old & HM Sr Champion @ NY Spring Show, topped the Lylehaven Dispersal at \$70,000 and is the dau. of Lili Starbuck EX-94,5E! Selling is her wonderful Eye Candy daughter born 3/11/25 and can be your Spring Calf for 2025!



MDF Goldwyn Breezier 39-ET EX-94,3E EEEE
6-09 365 39,420 4.4 1754 4.3 1266
Breezier is over 227,000 LM and a sister to Rainyridge Talent Barbara EX-95 Un. All-Am & All-Can. Next dam also EX-95 back to 2X WDE Supreme Champ Tony Beauty! Selling her fancy March Denver calf that will show!



Jacobs Sid Beauty-ET EX-95 EEEE
4-07 305 32,250 3.6 1169 3.1 988
Beauty was All-American Jr 3yr-old 2015 and is a tremendous transmitter with All-Am daughters up to EX-95. Selling is her extra sharp Gr' Daughter by Robella Major born 9/8/24. Dam is EX-91 Solomon.



Champ-View KB Thanks EX-94,2E EEEE
5-02 305 52,100 4.3 2228 2.9 1494
Thanks is an incredible milk machine with over 253,000 LM! Selling is a lovely 12/2/24 Maximum. Next dam also over 52,000M and next 3 dams all EX cows!



Kevetta Daniel Lexi EX-94,2E EEEE
4-05 365 42,020 4.4 1865 3.5 1473
Lexi was Res. All-American 3yr-old 2020 and has records up to 42,000M and she is the 2nd dam of a fancy 12/6/24 Architect that sells X EX 3yr-old Unstopabull dam that stood 2nd at the East Fall Nat'l. Calf is also potential 11th generation EX!



Twincounty Whats On Tap-ET EX-92 EEEE
Selling is an incredible, must see 3/3/25 Drone daughter of Whats on Tap. This super Guernsey was Un. All-Am Winter Calf 2019 & Un. Jr All-Am Winter Yearling 2020. Next dam is Knapps Kringle Tappy, Un. All-American 4yr-old 2020.



Sugar & Spice MG Vaseline-ET EX-93
3 daughters of this beautiful Jersey all sell! 3/2/25 Joel, 9/25/24 Finneus and 9/12/23 Victorious Due 9/7 to sexed Hilton. Next dam EX-90% All-Am X EX-93% Res. All-Can X EX-91% X Veronica EX-97%



Arethusa Premier Valia-ET EX-93
Selling is Valia's fancy 3/12/24 Askn daughter born and built to show and on service to sexed Overalls. Next dam is Elliotts Vivid Deluxe EX-95% X EX-95% X Veronica EX-97%



Jobo Dp Pepper ETV EX-91,2E EEEE
6-05 365 38,260 6.6 2524 3.4 1301
Selling from this super Brown Swiss is a wonderful 3/1/25 Time Out daughter and your Spring Calf for 2025! Next dam also EX w/ top record of 50,940M 2074F!



Mowry's Burdette Mojo EX-93,2E
5-04 358 22,800 3.5 809 3.3 757
This well known Ayrshire was Grand Champ of the 2018 Mid-Atlantic nat'l Jr Show & Nom. All-Am Jr 3yr-old & she transmits w/ All-Am daughter. Now Selling is her special 9/4/24 daughter by Stanley. next 3 dams also EX cows!

More Holstein highlights:

- 9/14/24 Alpha X Res. R&W All-Am Oakfield US Bamboo-RED-ET X EX-92 All-American X EX-92 X EX
- Extra special 12/2/24 R&W Warrior X EX Jordy X Cherry-Lor Awe Rippy EX-94 N. A-A X Ripple EX-95 R. A-A
- 3/15/25 Bullseye X 2yr Showtime X EX-92 Gold Chip X EX-93 Atwood X Chief Adeen EX-94,2E
- 9/5/24 Tatoo sells X EX-92,2E Leverage X EX-93,2E Un. All-Am X EX-93,2E
- R&W Latenite X JC NY State Show 2022 X EX-92 R. All-Am X Parkvue Absolute Rap-RED EX-94,3E
- Early Eye Candy bred heifer X VG-87 Jagger X Maple-Downs-Al GChip Galina EX-94,3E
- 2 gr'daughters of Pencroft Aftershock Tisha EX-94 including fancy Sidekick springer due 5/14 X EX Tatoo
- Showtime due July X VG-88 2yr Unstopabull X EX-94,2E Capital Z that was HM Grand at PA Spring Show!
- 6/13/24 Redeye X VG-87 2yr Altitude X EX-94,3E R&W Res. All-Am Production Cow!
- 6/6/24 Eye Candy X VG 2yr Legend X EX-91,3E Doorman X Ms Goldwyn Alana EX-96,2E-CAN

More Colored Breed highlights:

- 3 Holstein embryo lots sell including Delta-Lambda X VG-88 2yr Jagger X Blexy EX-97,3E A-A; Major X Oakfield Goldwyn Daisy EX-94; and Superman X 19th generation EX R&W Cow!
- Summer Yearling Guernsey sells from Knapps Kringle Tappy maternal line!
- Fall Yearling Jersey by Carpet Ride due 10/8 to Unigue X EX VIP X 4 more EX
- 12/2/24 Swiss sired by Design from several VG & EX dams back to Top Acres Garbro EWanda All-Am
- 9/1/24 Jersey by Vanilla Ice big pedigree thru Harmont Corners Fozzy EX-95%
- 3/12/25 Ayrshire sired by Festival X VG-86 Alaska
- 2 Guernsey EX sisters born 10/2/24 X VG-87 Yogibear X EX-91 Regal

Sale Staff:

Ed Pepper, Auctioneer	AU005424	
David Lentz (Pedigrees) 717-821-1238		
Reed Comstock (sale manager)	607-738-8038	
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