



Dairy Dispatch

The Official Newsletter of the Kansas Dairy Association

Providing a unified voice for Kansas Dairy Farmers

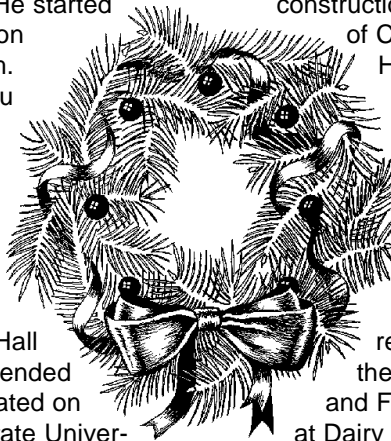
Volume 9, Issue 4

December 2002

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE KANSAS DAIRY ASSOCIATION

Happy Holidays from the Kansas Dairy Association! The Association has been busy with dairy promotion activities. We have a new staff person, Ben Hopper. He started early October and has been busy working on several projects. We are happy to have him.

The Kansas Dairy Association wishes you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous new year!



for cattle. Dr. John Shirley updated producers on K-State nutritional research. Dr. John Smith had tips on soaker line construction, and Dr. Jeff Stevenson discussed the use of CIDR insert for Synchronization of Estrus in Heifers. Bob Vanderlenden and Dave Stukenberg of the United States Department of Agriculture discussed the recent changes in Federal Milk Marketing Orders. The Kansas Dairy Commission sponsored the meal each day.

Dairy Days

The K-State Dairy Days were November 13-15 at the Seneca Valetino's, the Amish Community Center in Whiteside, and the Franklin County Fair Grounds Celebration Hall in Ottawa. Approximately 120 producers attended one of the three days. Producers were updated on the latest research conducted at Kansas State University. Dr. Mike Brouk discussed effective cooling strategies

Kansas Dairy Producer Handbook

The Kansas Dairy Producer Handbook is ready. We started distributing the handbooks at the Dairy Days. If you are near Nemaha, Reno, and Franklin counties, and didn't get your handbook at Dairy Days, there are extra copies of the Handbook

continued on page 4

Kansas State Fair Dairy Results

Grand Champion Cow

| Exhibitor | Department | City, County |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Willhaus Brothers | Milking Shorthorn | Sterling |
| Justin Nisly | Brown Swiss | Partridge, Reno |
| Camron Nisly | Ayrshire | Haven, Reno |
| Rottinghaus Holsteins | Holstein | Seneca, Nemaha |
| Christy Ratliff | Jersey | Garnett, Anderson |



Reserve Grand Champion Cow

| Exhibitor | Department | City, County |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Patrice Fast | Milking Shorthorn | Cabool, Texas |
| Justin Nisly | Brown Swiss | Partridge, Reno |
| Kenneth Burgess | Ayrshire | Nickerson, Reno |
| Dale Klassen | Holstein | Hillsboro, Marion |
| Christy Ratliff | Jersey | Garnett, Anderson |

Premier Exhibitor & Premier Breeder

| Exhibitor | Department | City, County |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Rocking W Farm | Milking Shorthorn | Cushing |
| Long Acres Dairy | Brown Swiss | Partridge, Reno |
| Amanda & Jamie Hermann | Ayrshire | Meriden, Jefferson |
| Frank Pretz | Holstein | Osawatomie, Miami |
| Christy Ratliff | Jersey | Garnett, Anderson |

For more information and a complete listing of winners, log on to www.kansasstatefair.com.

The KDA Mission

The mission of the Kansas Dairy Association is to:

- ...provide a unified voice for dairy farmers;
- ...cooperate with other organizations and agencies toward common goals;
- ...provide information and education;
- ...perform selected activities to improve the economic status of Kansas dairy producers.

The KDA Vision

KDA will be...

...an organization devoted to supporting the Kansas dairy industry and family dairy farmers. It will be made up of committed and involved members led by active officers and supported by administrative staff.

...an effective, visible organization promoting cooperation, education, and communication for the betterment of all Kansas dairy farmers.

All Kansas dairy producers who participate in the statewide, voluntary assessment to the Kansas Dairy Commission are automatically members of the Kansas Dairy Association. Non-producers and businesses may join the KDA as associate members.

Membership in the KDA entitles you to a subscription to *The Dairy Dispatch*, the official newsletter of the KDA, as well as other special membership mailings. You will also be invited to attend the KDA's Annual Meeting, held in February of each year, and the KDA's annual Dairy Delights Legislative Reception.

Associate membership dues help the KDA provide a unified voice for all Kansas dairy producers. If you would like to join the Kansas Dairy Association, please complete the form below and submit it to: Kansas Dairy Association, 4210 Wam-Teau Drive, Wamego, KS 66547.

Kansas Dairy Association Associate Membership Form

Today's Date _____ Phone Number (____) _____

Name _____

Farm or Business Name _____

Complete mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Level of Membership (Check one)

- \$50 Individual Associate Member
- \$100 Business Associate Member
- \$100 or more Gold Club Associate Member

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The Dairy Dispatch is published regularly by the Kansas Dairy Association. Comments, questions, suggestions or advertising inquiries may be sent to the Association at the address above.

Aflatoxin: Still a problem

Aflatoxin has shown up in numerous Kansas corn fields recently, but producers have several options to deal with the problem, said Kansas State University plant pathologist Doug Jardine.

"This is the worst it's been since 1998," said Jardine, who is the state leader in plant pathology from K-State Research and Extension. "The main thing is not to panic. In most cases there are still uses for the corn."

Aflatoxin, the greenish-yellow, dime- to quarter-sized mold, grows on corn ears between the kernels are produced by the fungus *Aspergillus flavus*. It tends to favor hot, dry, and humid conditions and for that reason, is more often found in eastern Kansas than in less-humid western counties.

Jardine said that mid-November, Randy McCormick of the Kansas Grain Inspection Service, said that 40 percent

of the samples had detectable amounts of aflatoxin. He said that 20 to 25 percent were above 20 parts per billion or ppb. In September, 40 percent of the samples had 20 ppb or

higher. At that level, it is deemed unsafe for human consumption.

Jardine said that in the dairy industry, the tolerance is zero. "If there is .5 ppb in the milk, it will be dumped," he said.

However, at 20 to 100 ppb, infected corn can still be fed to breeding cattle, swine, and mature poultry.

Jardine recommends that you have the corn tested. The cost of the test is \$20 from the Kansas Grain Inspection Service.

"The more stressed the corn is when it's growing, there's a greater risk of it developing aflatoxin," Jardine said.

Parts of this article are taken from a K-State Research and Extension press release from September 17, 2002.

Getting a sample

- A thorough sample is essential. Aflatoxin has aggregate distribution. It can sporadically show up in a field or bin.
- Get enough corn for a 10 lb. sample.
- Put sample in a cloth or paper container.

Sampling from a bin

- Use a probe 5 times around the side and once in the middle every six feet of the bin. If you have a 20 ft. bin, take a sample at 6 ft., 12 ft., and 18 ft.

Sampling from a field

- Take 10 to 30 samples per field around the edge and the center of the field.
- Get corn from the silk end or tip.
- Dry the corn to 12-14 percent moisture.

Source: Doug Jardine, Kansas State University

KDA Welcomes Ben Hopper

Greetings! My name is Ben Hopper and I joined the Kansas Dairy Association staff on October 8. I am excited about working with the Kansas Dairy Association and Kansas Dairy Commission!

I graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in agricultural communications and journalism, with minors in political science and agricultural economics. I grew up on a diversified crop and livestock farm northwest of Leonardville, Kansas, in northern Riley County.

I look forward to working with the dairy industry and you, the dairy producer. If you ever need anything, don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to working with the Kansas Dairy Association and Kansas Dairy Commission!



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continued from page 1

available there at the local extension office. The idea for the Handbook came about after producers were fined by the Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for lagoon and production problems. We recognized a need for more information on lagoon management and also regulatory information.

Thanks to a grant from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, we have been able to develop a notebook for producers that includes regulations, laws, examples, and information in one central location. Each dairy in the state is to receive a handbook. Our grant with the Department of Agriculture calls for us to provide these directly to producers through a series of meetings and we'll continue to hand them out at DHIA and other producer meetings, as well as the annual meeting in February.

Special thanks go to Secretary of Agriculture Jamie Clover-Adams for providing the grant and to Carolyn Dunn for the research she did for this project. KDA staff who worked over the past two years on this project included Kerri Ebert, Ben Hopper, Tracy O'Briant, Tammy Mathews, Jessica LeDoux, and Chris Wilson.

Dairy Fact Sheets

An updated dairy facts sheet is available with 2002 information. If you need some copies to distribute at a function or meeting, please contact the Association office, and we'll be glad to provide them to you.

Interbreeds Dairy Committee Meeting

The Interbreeds Dairy Committee met November 25 at Vista in Manhattan. They voted to recommend to the that the current system of premiums be used and that exhibitors not be reimbursed for milk at the State Fair and that the income from the milking parlor be returned back to the respective breed associations. Dale Klassen, Hillsboro, was elected chairman, Keith Burgess, Hutchinson, was elected vice chair, and Becky Keil will continue as secretary.

State Fair Dairy Bar

The Kansas Dairy Association Dairy Bar under the Grandstand took on a new ice cream parlor look this year, with new paint, red and white gingham curtains, white ceiling fans, and other improvements! The goals of the Dairy Bar are to present dairy products in a positive and attractive way and to provide outstanding dairy products for fair-goers. We had many compliments on the changes that were made. Despite serving customers as quickly as possible, there were lines to the Dairy Bar throughout most of the fair. It was definitely one of the most popular food stands on the grounds! Next year, we hope to have cheese available again next year and to shorten those long lines through new shake machines.

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Kansas Dairy Association's Annual Meeting February 21-22 in Wichita. More information will be sent at a later date.

SHORT NOTICE COMPLETE Holstein Dispersal!

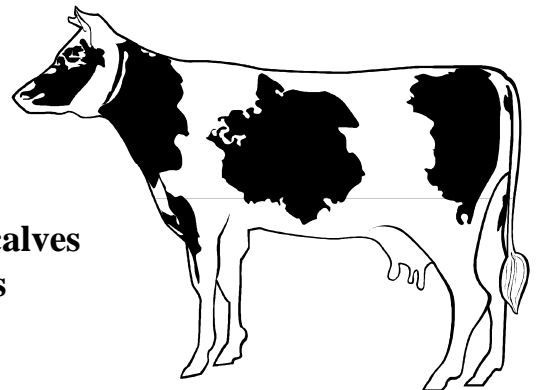
300 quality A.I. sired DHIA commercial Holsteins!

Wednesday
December 18
10:30 a.m.
Falls City, NE

- ◆ 174 cows
- ◆ 22 breed heifers
- ◆ 44 heifers
- ◆ 14 heifers (600-700#)
- ◆ 17 heifers (300-450#)
- ◆ 14 weaned and baby calves
- ◆ 15 Jersey cross heifers

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- ◆ 3000 gallon Mueller tank



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2003 Legislative Session

The 2003 Session will begin on January 13, 2003, and legislators will face an unprecedented budget crisis. The state's revenues are expected to be over \$1 billion below what would be needed to fund the current budget in fiscal year 2004. This amounts to 25% of state general revenues, so cuts in that amount would be very difficult or impossible to achieve. Topeka representative Doug Mays has been elected by his Republican colleagues to serve as Speaker for the coming session, and Dennis McKinney of Greensburg will serve as the Minority Leader.

There will be 27 new legislative members in the House of Representatives, 19 Republicans and 8 Democrats. Also, there will be two new senators, replacing Lynn Jenkins, elected Treasurer, and Sandy Praeger, elected Insurance Commissioner. There will be 80 Republicans and 45 Democrats in the House, versus 79 to 46 in the last Legislature. Forty-seven out of 80 Republicans have 4 or less years of service, and 17 out of 45 Democrats have 4 or less years in the Legislature, so more than half of the representatives, 64 out of 125 total, have less than 4 years service in the House.

One of KDA's chief concerns is that there will be consideration of eliminating sales tax exemptions. The Kansas Department of Revenue estimates that eliminating sales tax exemptions could generate an additional \$694 million in income to the state. There will be many proposals for budget cutting and generating more revenue considered during the upcoming session, but this is one we'll be watching closely.

Adrian Polansky, Belleville farmer and seedsman, is heading Kathleen Sebelius' task force reviewing agriculture and natural resource agencies. Some of the ideas that have been suggested include moving the Agricultural Products Development Division from the Department of Commerce and Housing back to the Department of Agriculture; and combining water-related agencies. KDA would oppose combining the Division of Water Resources of the Department of Agriculture with other water agencies, such as the Kansas Water Office and water-related sections of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. We believe it is best to not consolidate all water authority and power in one agency.

Sunflower AgriPAC Election Results

Here is a break down of who received money from Sunflower AgriPAC for the 2002 election. We gave 44 House candidates \$100 and 2 candidates \$200 for their ties to the dairy industry. One Senate candidate received \$100. We lost three races, but all were by small margins. Thank you to those who contributed to Sunflower AgriPAC.

| Candidate, Hometown | Party | District | |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| Doug Gatewood, Columbus | Dem | 1 | |
| Bob Grant, Cherokee | Dem | 2 | |
| Andrew Howell, Fort Scott | Rep | 4 | |
| Bill Feuerborn, Garnett | Dem | 5 | |
| Jene Vickrey, Louisburg | Rep | 6 | |
| Stanley Dreher, Iola | Rep | 9 | |
| C. Frank Miller, Independence | Rep | 12 | |
| Mary Compton, Lafontaine | Rep | 13 | |
| Ray Merrick, Stilwell | Rep | 27 | |
| Doug Patterson, Leawood | Rep | 28 | |
| Patricia Lightner, Overland Park | Rep | 29 | |
| Rick Rehorn, Kansas City | Dem | 32 | |
| Tom Burroughs, Kansas City | Dem | 33 | |
| Bill Reardon, Kansas City | Dem | 37 | |
| Ray Cox, Bonner Springs | Dem | 39 | |
| Kenny Wilk, Lansing | Rep | 42 | |
| John Ballou, Gardner | Rep | 43 | |
| Tom Sloan, Lawrence | Rep | 45 | |
| Lee Tafanelli, Ozawie | Rep | 47 | |
| Becky Hutchins, Holton | Rep | 50 | |
| Lana Gordon, Topeka | Rep | 52 | |
| Doug Mays, Topeka | Rep | 54 | |
| Annie Kuether, Topeka | Dem | 55 | |
| Vaughn Flora, Topeka | Dem | 57 | |
| Bruce Larkin, Baileyville | Dem | 62 | |
| Kathe Lloyd, Clay Center | Rep | 64 | |
| Russ Frey, Manhattan (\$200) | Rep | 66 | Lost by 144 votes |
| William Kassebaum, Burdick | Rep | 68 | Letter only |
| Donald Dahl, Hillsboro | Rep | 70 | Letter only |
| Garry Boston, Newton | Rep | 72 | Lost by 463 votes |
| Carl Krehbiel, Moundridge | Rep | 74 | |
| Judy Showalter, Winfield | Rep | 78 | |
| Bill McCreary, Wellington | Rep | 80 | Letter only |
| Ted Powers, Mulvane | Rep | 81 | |
| Don Myers, Derby | Rep | 82 | |
| Jo Ann Pottorff, Wichita | Rep | 83 | |
| Steve Huebert, Valley Center | Rep | 90 | |
| Brenda Landwehr, Wichita | Rep | 91 | |
| Daniel Thimesch, Cheney | Dem | 93 | |
| Timothy Tedder, Hutchinson (\$200) | Dem | 101 | Lost by 399 votes |
| Mike O'Neal, Hutchinson | Rep | 104 | |
| Sharon Swartz, Washington | Rep | 106 | |
| Joann Lee Freeborn, Concordia | Rep | 107 | |
| Clay Aurand, Courtland | Rep | 109 | |
| Dan Johnson, Hays | Rep | 110 | |
| Eber Phelps, Hays | Dem | 111 | |
| Ralph Ostmeyer, Grinnell | Rep | 118 | |
| Gary Hayzlett, Lakin | Rep | 122 | |
| Bill Light, Rolla | Rep | 124 | |
| Senate | | | |
| Derek Schmidt, Independence | Rep | 15 | |

Stricklers amass 70-year Allen Co. Fair streak

Excerpt from The Iola Register August 8, 2002

By Richard Luken, Register Reporter

When Ivan Strickler was a young lad, he often dreamed of entering one of his family's heifers in the Allen County Fair.

Each year, his dream was unfulfilled.

"Our family was so poor that we couldn't afford a truck to haul our cattle," he recalled. "We didn't have any way to get our animals to the fairgrounds."

His first break came in the summer of 1932. A neighbor had a Model-T Ford with a flat bed equipped with racks on the side.

His parents remained leery. Although the Model-T had racks, it had not hatch or tailgate to prevent the animal from falling out en route.

"I volunteered to stand behind her to make sure she didn't fall out between home and Iola," Ivan said.

Strickler showed his animal, starting a remarkable string of success at the annual fair. For 70 consecutive years, a Strickler has shown at the fair.

"I hadn't really thought about it until I was visiting with a few friends the other day," Ivan said. "It finally dawned on me that ever since that first summer, we've had an animal to show at the fair."

Ivan continued to show dairy cattle at the fair through elementary, junior, and high school and then as he attended college at Kansas State University.

The fair's rules and regulations at the time permitted open-class livestock entries, unlike today where livestock must be owned by 4-H members.

Even a three-year stint in the Navy in the 1940s failed to stop the streak. While he was on active duty, Ivan's younger brother Robert showed his cattle.

Ivan resumed showing when he returned from the service, and continued to do so until his oldest son, Steve, became old enough to show in 1962. Next were Tom and Doug, who showed their animals through much of the 60s and 70s.

Following that trio came their children. Cody, Kimberly, and Scott started showing in the 80s and 90s. Grandchildren Kayleigh and Sabrina picked up the baton from there, and the youngest grandchildren, Skylar and Jordan, are now showing animals.

"I still try to get by the fair each summer to see how the grandchildren are doing," Ivan said. "They put in a lot of work."

Ivan credited his association with the fair and the fair organizers to his college education and eventu-

ally forming one of the country's foremost dairy operations.

"One of the fair's directors invited me to enroll at K-State," Ivan said. "I told him that I didn't have any money, and wasn't very smart. He assured me that they could find me a job, if I was willing to work."

"All of that was possible because I got started in 4-H and became involved with Allen County Fair," he said. "It's easy to see how being involved with the fair helped thousands of kids over the years."

Ivan adhered to a strict set of principles as he watched his sons and grandchildren enter their animals each year. As soon as each is old enough to handle the cattle safely by themselves, they are responsible for all of the work that goes into preparing the dairy cattle for the fair.

"That's how they learn responsibility," Ivan said. "They're the ones who put the work into it. They learn what a real asset it is to be able to work hard and be responsible, something they can use later after they're done with the fair."

Tom Strickler, who now serves as a bank officer at Community National Bank in Iola, said his family's connection to the fair is mind-boggling.

"It's one of those things that you never think about while you're doing it," he said. "It's not until you stop and think about it afterward that you realize what was occurred. It sure caught me off guard to learn (about the streak)."

Kim Strickler, whose 4-H time ended a few years ago, now attends classes at K-State.

"I've visited with people from big cities who have never seen a live cow," she said. "It's remarkable that in a small town like Iola you can gain experience in something that people would never have imagined."

Editors note: Some edits were made to shorten article for content and to fit in space.

Milk consumption is up 55% in one 600-student school from a new calcium grant from the Midwest Dairy Council. This pilot project, created by the Garden City school food service director and a teacher at Kenneth Henderson Middle School, included fun milk mustaches pictures and nutrition lessons by middle school students to elementary students. The rise in milk sales is documented from Aug-Oct 2001 to Aug-Oct 2002.

Source: Midwest Dairy Council

Kansas Dairy Commission News

Kansas Dairy Assessment Dollars At Work

By state statute, the Kansas Dairy Commission is charged with conducting a statewide campaign of dairy industry development through research, education and information. If you have a project that meets any of these three criteria, you can submit a request for funding to the Kansas Dairy Commission at 4210 Wam-Teau Dr., Wamego, KS 66547.

Kansas Dairy Commission Highlights

The Kansas Dairy Commission board meeting was held October 27, 2002, at the Abilene Pizza Hut Conference Room in Abilene, Kansas.

The board reviewed minutes and the financial report.

Warren Winter reported that youth showmen took advantage of the photography package that KDA sponsored for the All Breeds Show. Chairman Dennis Metz shared with the group about presentation of the KDC scholarships at Ft. Hays State University.

The Commission considered financial requests. A milk dispenser from the dairy bar at the State Fair will be used to distribute milk November 19 for the Kansas Farm Bureau annual meeting in Manhattan. The Commission contributed cheese to the Governor's reception at the American Royal. The National Corn Growers and the Kansas Corn Growers Associations requested that the Commission co-sponsor the distillers

dried grains meeting. The Commission voted to donate \$250 worth of dairy products to the meeting. The Commission also agreed to provide ice cream for an afternoon break for the Commodity Classic in Wichita November 12. Another request for the Employee Management Conference in Kansas City was discussed. The Commission decided to donate \$150, to this beneficial conference but to encourage holding future conferences in a more central location so that more of our members could attend.

KDC will be publishing a new directory of Kansas dairies in the spring of 2003. This is a popular publication, referred to frequently by dairymen and associate members. We will send out postcards to KDA members to be sure their listing is correct prior to printing.

The next meeting will be December 13 at the Hays House in Council Grove at 2 p.m.

Kansas Dairy Association Highlights

The Kansas Dairy Association Board of Directors met October 26, 2002, at the Abilene Pizza Hut Conference Room in Abilene, Kansas.

Chris Wilson reported that the Kansas Dairy Producer Handbook will be ready soon, and we will start distributing them at K-State Dairy Days. There was discussion of the Dairy Bar at the State Fair. Members were impressed with the efficiency, attitude, and the money management of the workers in the Dairy Bar.

It was reported that the Sunflower Agri-PAC contributed \$4,800 to candidates. All were House races, except Derick Schmidt's Senate race. Everyone received \$100 except Russ Frey of the 66th District and Tim Tedder of the 101st District, both of whom received \$200

due to their ties to the dairy industry.

It was decided that the annual meeting will be held February 21-22 in Park City at the Red Coach Inn.

During the legislative report, there was discussion of the budget difficulties facing the 2003 Legislature. Other issues of importance for KDA will include proposals for restructuring the Department of Agriculture, eliminating sales tax exemptions, and water agency consolidation.

Richard Benoit was congratulated on his reappointment by Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman to the National Dairy Board.

The next meeting will be December 13 at the Hayes House in Council Grove at 4 p.m.

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