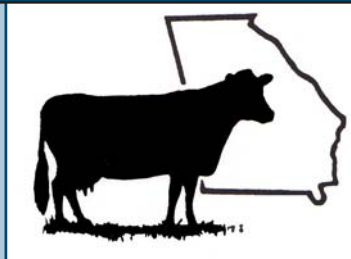


GEORGIA MILK REVIEW

November 2008



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

Take advantage of special room rates now by making your reservations early for the 2009 Georgia Dairy Conference. The convention is scheduled for February 2-3, 2009, at The King and Prince Beach Resort at St. Simons Island, Georgia.

The King and Prince Beach Resort has extended a special group rate for our organization. From Saturday, January 31, 2009, until Monday, February 2, 2009, the room rates will be as followed for those attending the conference:

Ocean Front Rooms will be \$151/night, Ocean View Rooms will be \$140/night, Resort View Rooms will be \$126/night and Standard Guest Rooms will be \$103/night. All rooms are subject to Georgia State sales tax which is currently 5% and Glynn County rooms tax which is currently 5% and a local tax which is currently 2%; a total of 12%.

In addition, Georgia Milk Producers will once again deduct \$100 from each producer's hotel bill at check-out for two nights (a total of \$200). In the case that two producers share a room, only \$100 will be deducted for that room, not \$100 per producer.

To make a reservation online go to www.kingandprince.com and click on reservations, then click on group reservations. The password for our meeting is georgiamilk. If you need to call the hotel to make a reservation call 800-342-0212, remember to mention that you are with Georgia Milk Producers.

A room must be guaranteed by means of a major credit card or with a deposit equal to the first night's room rate. A one-night charge will result for failure to show up for a confirmed reservation or for cancellation within 14 days prior to arrival. Room reservations received on or before January 1, 2009, will be confirmed at the group rate. Reservations received after January 1, 2009, will be provided on a space available basis.

We are still planning our agenda, but have received confirmation from Jim Tillison, CEO of CWT, that he will speak at the meeting. Look for more information soon!



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DAIRY BRIEFS

Tropical Storm Fay brought beneficial rain to Georgia in late August. But a very dry September has led to the return of low stream flows across the state and worsened drought conditions, according to David Stooksbury, state climatologist.

All streams in Georgia except those originating in the extreme southern counties are extremely low. Most streams in the state's northern half are at or near record low flows for this time of the year.

Because of the extremely low stream flows, many counties have had their drought level classification changed to a more intense drought level.

GA GOVERNOR:

Agriculture can brace economic recovery -

Agriculture remains an economic "bright spot" that could help rally the country out of what is now a dismal financial situation, said Governor Sonny Perdue at the 31st Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Ga., Oct. 14.

"I believe that farmers, producers and small-business people and people that make goods will be the foundation rock of a resurgence of the United States of America economy for the future, and you all will lead the way I'm persuaded," said Perdue (Source: GA Faces)

DAIRY PRODUCERS WAIT FOR PARTICULARS REGARDING MILC

(October 23, 2008) U.S. dairy farmers await particulars from USDA regarding a possible Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payment for October milk, considering the sharp plunge in the Federal order Class I base. While the November base rebounded substantially, the October base might qualify for a MILC payment, due to the feed cost adjustor that was added to the program.

The decision hinges on the NASS-surveyed feed prices, which will be included in the next *Ag Prices* report due October 31, but National Milk's Roger Cryan warned that, based on futures prices on feed and existing market prices, he doesn't believe there will be a MILC payment for October and he does not foresee any for the next 18 months. But he added the caveat that "it wouldn't take a big change in feed prices or milk prices to change that."

Looking out as far as the futures markets go Cryan sees no MILC payments but admitted that there are a number of months where the gap between the Congressionally-mandated target price and the projected price is within a dollar and "as we know, the dairy markets can change pretty drastically."

The new Fiscal Year started October 1 and the new Farm Bill mandated several changes as of that date, according to Cryan. First it renewed and revised the MILC program and secondly, it established the feed cost adjustor which helps raise the target price as feed prices rise above a certain level.

Future payments will also be about a third higher under the revised formula than under the old one, he said, and the amount of milk that a producer can get paid for was increased from 2.4 million pounds to just under 3 million.

Those two increases expire in about four years, according to Cryan, and the feed cost adjustor is weakened slightly but a lot of people don't realize that the Farm Bill extended the MILC program indefinitely, not just to the end of the Farm Bill. (Source: *Dairyline.com*)

SE DAIRY HERD MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER

The 2008 Southeast Dairy Herd Management Conference will be held on November 12-13 at the Georgia Farm Bureau Headquarters in Macon. This two-day conference will be divided into two sessions in order to provide useful information to dairy industry officials and producers.

The technical session on Wednesday, November 12, will provide attendees the opportunity to hear an in-depth discussion of topics of special interest to agri-business representatives and veterinarians. Some topics to be covered include: *Dairy Cattle Contribution to Beef Industry*, *The Application of Feed Efficiency on Dairy Farm*, *Economics of Post Partum Uterine Health* and *The Georgia Mastitis Situation: Cell Counts and Microbiology*. Registration for November 12 will begin at 11 a.m. with the first speaker at 1 p.m.

The producer session planned for Thursday, November 13, will offer presentations on current topics of importance to dairy producers and managers. Topics to be covered include: *Best Management Practices to Enhance Milk Quality*, *The Influences of the Commodity Markets on the Costs of Forages and Feed*, *By-Product Feeding for Milk Production and Mycotoxins in Dairy Diets*. Registration for November 13 will begin at 8 a.m.

Anyone is welcome to attend either or both sessions. Georgia Milk Producers is covering the registration fee for all Georgia dairymen in attendance. Advanced registration is not required. For conference information call Dr. Lane Ely at 706-542-9107 or Farrah Newberry at 800-337-0555.

SCENES FROM GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR AND SUNBELT EXPO....



Huge Audience at the Georgia National Fair. Nicole did a great job for her first fair!

Fairgoers enjoyed 32,000 half pints of milk at this year's fair. Milk was provided by the GA Agricultural Commodity Commission for Milk.



The Premier of the Southern National Brown Swiss Show was held October 8-12 at the Georgia National Fair.

Good crowds also at the Sunbelt AG Expo in Moultrie, GA.



Commissioners of Agriculture from Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, and South Carolina participated in the annual milking contest...



Commissioner (and dairyman) Hugh Weathers from South Carolina "creamed" his opponents. Slight advantage??

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CURRENTLY ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR FRIEND OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY AWARD

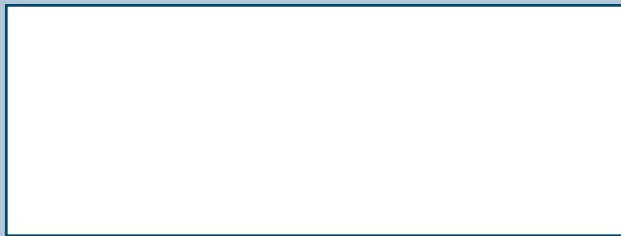
Georgia Milk will be awarding the "Friend of the Dairy Industry Award" to an individual or company that worked as a strong advocate for Georgia's dairy industry in 2008. We would like Georgia dairy producers to send in nominations for this award to our office by January 9, 2009. Our Board of Directors will review your nominations and the winner will receive the award at our 2009 Georgia Dairy Conference on February 2, 2009. The award is open to any individual who is involved with the dairy industry, for example, cooperative officials/field representatives, feed/supply companies or salesperson, veterinarians, extension agents, etc.).

Please list your nomination for the "Friend of the Dairy Industry Award" below and include a brief explanation of why you believe this person deserves this award. Also, please include an address of telephone number that the nominee can be reached at (if known). You can fax this information to the Georgia Milk office at 706-310-0025 or mail it to 1641 New High Shoals Road, Suite 5, Watkinsville, GA 30677.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12-13, 2008
SE Dairy Herd Management Conference at GA Farm Bureau Bldg. in Macon, GA

Feb. 2-3, 2009
2009 Georgia Dairy Conference at King and Prince Beach Resort at St. Simons Island, GA.



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