

Dairy of Distinction Program

HOW IS YOUR FARM SCORED?

Awards will be based upon neatness, good maintenance, and other factors, which can be controlled by the dairy producer. Attractive background scenery should not be weighed heavily in judging. All judging observations should be made from a vehicle at one or more points on an adjacent public highway (or if farm is off the road, the nearest lane). Judging should give equal consideration to old wood construction and new construction of metal or concrete block.

The award program may be used for subsequent advertising or promotion activities for dairy products or dairy farming. Dairy producers who apply for awards agree that, if selected, they will cooperate with these activities and make all reasonable efforts to maintain both the exterior and interior of their properties in an acceptable condition.

HOW THE JUDGING WORKS

Judging teams will visit farms during the month of May. Farms will be judged each year as the award is presented on an annual basis. Any dairy failing to maintain appearance standards will be asked to remove their sign. The Dairy of Distinction signs remain the property of the committee, not the property of the dairy producer. All farms must achieve a compliance score of 90 percent on their Dairy of Distinction score card. Your cooperative or milk handler will be contacted to approve your milk quality.

RULES FOR THE DAIRY OF DISTINCTION AWARD

1. The Dairy of Distinction sign remains the property of the Northeast Dairy Farm Beautification Program Committee (NEDFBP).
2. The post and bracket shall be supplied by and maintained by the dairy farmer. NEDFBP suggests that a wood post 4" x 4" x 12' or iron pipe 2" x 12' be used. Posts or pipe should be installed and maintained in true vertical position with 8' above ground. Top of the bracket should be lower than six inches from the top of the post. In addition, NEDFBP suggests that the sign be mounted in a frame to provide additional stability.
3. The sign shall be displayed in front of the dairy at roadside. An attractive post and bracket, or other frame shall be used to display the sign. No more than three signs should be displayed from the sign frame or post, and all shall be of a style, general size and quality comparable to the Dairy of Distinction sign. The sign should be secured on all sides to avoid wind damage.
4. Signs shall not be moved to other premises. New owners of a Dairy of Distinction farm must apply to retain the sign.
5. Replacement of damaged signs shall be at the discretion of the committee.
6. No producer shall be charged with scoring or sign expenses.
7. The judges' decision will be final.
8. Judging will take place between May 1 and May 31.
9. Farms awarded a Dairy of Distinction sign in previous years will be judged between April 1 and April 30. If they do not qualify, they will be rejudged between May 1 and May 31 so they have the opportunity to keep the sign.
10. Farms that do not requalify will return the sign to their regional Dairy of Distinction Committee.

Dairy of Distinction

2012 Pennsylvania Application

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

Attractive dairy farms give the consumer greater confidence in the wholesomeness of milk and stimulate milk sales which encourages public support for the dairy industry. The award gives recognition to the dairy producer for maintaining a well-kept farmstead.

ELIGIBILITY

All Northeast dairy farms producing milk for sale are invited to submit an application for the award. Dairies receiving the 10 highest scores in each of the 21 districts will receive an 18" x 24" **Dairy of Distinction** sign to be displayed in front of their farm.

APPLICATION

Name of Owner _____ Farm Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number _____

Cooperative or Handler (where you ship your milk, include your producer number, be specific)

(Your Handler will be contacted to approve your milk quality)

Location (driving directions for judging team) _____

County (where your farm is located) _____

I hereby apply to the Northeast Dairy Farm Beautification Committee to have my dairy scored in accordance with the rules of the program for the purpose of obtaining a Dairy of Distinction sign to be displayed on my premises. (No producer will be charged for scoring or sign expense.)

_____ Date _____

Signature Owner/Operator

Return application by **April 15, 2012** to:

Michael O'Connor
Department of Dairy and Animal Science
324 Henning Building
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16802



Score Card

Northeast Dairy Farm Beautification Program, Inc.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

First Impression Letter Grade _____

| | Maximum Points | Points Awarded |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>Buildings</u> | | |
| Clean and Attractively Finished | 10 | _____ |
| Physical Condition | 10 | _____ |
| Uniform Appearance | 5 | _____ |
| <u>Grounds and Surroundings</u> | | |
| Landscaping | 10 | _____ |
| Roads and Lanes | 5 | _____ |
| Fences | 5 | _____ |
| Ditches | 5 | _____ |
| <u>Farm Operations</u> | | |
| Animals | 5 | _____ |
| Barnyard | 10 | _____ |
| Cleanliness of Roads | 5 | _____ |
| Manure Handling | 5 | _____ |
| Machinery | 5 | _____ |
| Pollution | 10 | _____ |
| Feed Areas | 5 | _____ |
| Unnecessary Items | 5 | _____ |

Total _____

Judges

1. _____

Date _____

2. _____

Date _____

3. _____

Date _____