



For Immediate Release
July 1, 2009

Contact: Jayne Sebright, 717-259-6496
c-jsebrigh@state.pa.us

PENNSYLVANIA 4-H DAIRY YOUTH CAN EARN SCHOLARSHIPS TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Application Deadline is July 21

HARRISBURG – Pennsylvania dairy 4-H members ages 15-19 may apply to attend the National 4-H Dairy Conference Sept. 28 – Oct. 1 in conjunction with World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis., thanks to a grant provided to the Center for Dairy Excellence by the Pennsylvania Dairyman's Association.

Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Science is coordinating Pennsylvania's delegation to the National 4-H Dairy Conference. Each county 4-H program can nominate two 4-H members and applications are available online at www.das.psu.edu. Click on "Dairy Cattle," under "4-H Programs," to find more information about the conference. All nominations must be submitted through local county extension offices to Penn State by July 21.

"This is an incredible opportunity for our dairy youth to learn about the latest research and technology supporting the dairy industry," said John Frey, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence. "It is also an excellent way for them to learn about the many career opportunities related to the dairy industry."

The annual conference draws about 200 4-H dairy youth from the U.S. and Canada, and includes tours of local dairy farms, the *Hoard's Dairyman* farm, the National Dairy Shrine and Nasco. It also includes workshops about dairy product marketing, biotechnology, herd mating strategies and artificial insemination.

"We are excited to work with the Dairymen's Association and the Center for Dairy Excellence to support this delegation," said Dale Olver, Pennsylvania 4-H dairy specialist. "It is a real testament to the support system our young people have within Pennsylvania's dairy industry."



Delegates interested in attending this year's conference should plan to miss an entire week of school.

Finalists will be interviewed by a selection committee at Penn State's 4-H Achievement Days on July 29. Any finalist not attending Achievement Days will be interviewed by phone during that week. For more information, contact your local extension office or call Dale Olver at 814-863-3664.

###

The Center for Dairy Excellence is an initiative of the Department of Agriculture and was launched in January 2004 by Governor Edward G. Rendell. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more about the Center at www.centerfordairyexcellence.org.