



For Immediate Release

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More than 300 Participate in “Dairy in Mineral Rich Region” Survey

Upcoming conference call will highlight results of survey

Harrisburg – More than 300 dairy farm families recently participated in a survey conducted by the Center for Dairy Excellence to evaluate the effect natural gas will have on the future of the dairy industry in northern and southwestern Pennsylvania. The results of that survey will be highlighted during a conference call hosted by the center on Thursday, Dec. 1, at 12 p.m.

“What we found from the survey is that expected income from natural gas could create opportunity to grow dairy in mineral rich regions,” said John Frey, executive director of the center. “Helping dairy farm families prepare to take advantage of that opportunity could have a significant impact on Pennsylvania’s dairy industry as a whole.”

The survey included questions regarding individual dairy farm families’ future plans and whether income from the natural gas would encourage or discourage further dairy production. Eighty percent of all farms participating in the survey plan to continue in the dairy industry. The majority of those expecting natural gas income and interested in continuing in dairy plan to reinvest some of the funds back into the dairy operation.

Anyone interested in learning more about the survey can take part in the conference call, being offered at no cost to participants. However, pre-registration is required. To register, please call the center at 717-346-0849 or e-mail info@centerfordairyexcellence.org. Upon registration, call-in details appropriate materials will be distributed.

Media contact: Jayne Sebright, 717-259-6496;
jsebright@centerfordairyexcellence.org

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. 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.