

# NYSCHAP

New York State Cattle health assurance program

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### Stewart's Offers Sign-up Bonus

Over 75 years after their beginning, there are about 300 Stewart's Shops. Stewart's sells fine quality dairy products and ice cream (from their own processing plant), as well as having a complete line of convenience groceries, food-to-go items, cash dispensing machines, and, in most of the shops, gasoline pumps to meet the needs of customers' ever-changing lifestyles.

After meeting with NYSCHAP team members to learn about the program Stewart's decided to offer their members a \$100 sign-up bonus. In a letter to milk producers, Gary Dake (President, Stewart's Processing Corp.) stated, "We were very impressed with what the program offers and think that it is a wonderful tool that all of our producers could benefit from.....We will pay \$100 to any producer who enrolls. Anyone who is already enrolled will receive the premium." *Thank you Stewart's for supporting NYSCHAP and it's committed producers.*

### NYS Ag and Markets Subsidizes Testing

The NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets is committed to NYSCHAP to the point of subsidizing testing to producers that make a good-faith effort to improve their farm operations. The following modules have or will have subsidies in place.

**Johne's Disease:** The NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets supports the NYS Diagnostic Laboratory at Cornell University for infrastructure and technical expertise. This enables the Diagnostic Laboratory to offer the KELA test to NYS producers at \$4 per sample and the fecal culture at \$12 per test. The true cost of the fecal culture is between \$28 - \$33. Further, the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets subsidizes NYSCHAP farms directly by offering the KELA test at \$3 and the fecal culture at \$7. Use the following table to calculate the total subsidy provided for the year 2000.

	Total
# of fecal tests X \$5	
# of KELA tests X \$1	

<b>TOTAL</b>
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**Mastitis Module:** In addition to Johne's testing the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets will begin subsidizing bulk tank samples for NYSCHAP farms enrolled in the mastitis module. Six free bulk tanks will be offered in the first year. In subsequent years 6 bulk tank samples will be offered at half price. For farms actively participating in the NYSCHAP mastitis module, the first year will provide a \$42 subsidy, and \$21 in succeeding years. The tentative date for the bulk tank samples to be offered is August 2, 2001.

*Many thanks are extended to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets for these generous testing discounts.*

### First Veterinarian Completes Certification Program

NYSCHAP is proud to announce that Dr. Craig DeMuth (Truxton, NY) is the first private practitioner to complete the NYSCHAP Herd Planner Certification Program. This program trains private practitioners to work with farms to create NYSCHAP herd plans. To complete certification Dr. DeMuth attended two training sessions (Core Module and Johne's Disease Module) and completed three herd plans that were reviewed by NYS Field Veterinarians.

To the fortune of central NY livestock operators, Dr. DeMuth was unable to secure a position with a small animal practitioner in Ohio that he had worked for throughout his time in vet school. Fondly recalling his time spent during his undergraduate years at Cornell, Dr. DeMuth came back east and eventually bought a practice based in Cortland County.

Dr. DeMuth favors NYSCHAP because he feels it offers him a chance to make a difference as well as favorably positioning NY cattle producers for facing current and future issues. Although Dr. DeMuth can create herd plans on his own he expects to sometimes use the NYS Field Veterinarian (Dr. Tom Nytech) as an unbiased pair of eyes.

Although Dr. DeMuth is the first veterinarian to complete the certification process, there are four veterinarians at Countryside Veterinary Clinic (Lowville, NY) that have worked closely with NYS Field Veterinarian Dr. Lyda Denney to learn how to create herd plans. The four veterinarians that are already working with their clients creating herd plans include Dr. Mark Thomas, Dr. Patrina Ashley, Dr. Kyle Burbank and Dr. Pete Ostrum.

For more information on the NYSCHAP Herd Planner Certification Program, please contact Kathy Kaufman.

### **NYS Veterinary Medical Society to Offer Excellent Food Animal Program**

The NYS Veterinary Society will offer excellent educational sessions regarding food animals at their annual meeting from November 2 – 4 in Kerhonksen, NY. Dr. Billy I. Smith, from the University of PA, will address several herd health issues including herd health monitoring, routine hoof trimming and infectious hoof disease. The NYS Quality Milk Promotion Services veterinarians will present information regarding mastitis, to include risk assessment, biosecurity, antibiotic susceptibility, and sampling strategies. This will be followed by mastitis risk assessments on local farms as well as the latest information on microbiological methods

for udder health assessment, robotic milking and environmental Steptococci. Rounding out this excellent program will be Dr. Ed Dubovi, (NYSCVM, Diagnostic Laboratory) who will present information on bovine viral diarrhea. Don't miss this opportunity – mark your calendar for November 2-4. For more information on the conference, contact Dr. Chris Cripps (518-692-7372). Please note: the BVD and mastitis sessions will fulfill the requirement for continuing education for veterinarians participating in the NYSCHAP Herd Planner Certification Program.

### **NYSCHAP Reaches 500 Farms**

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Wiscoy Farms (Pike, NY) become the the 500<sup>th</sup> farm to enroll in NYSCHAP. Wiscoy Farms has been owned by the Albro family for 50 years. Dan Albro is the current owner and Eric Sickle is the herd manager. The farm milks 168 cows in a double 8 parallel parlor and boasts a RHA of 25,000. Within the past year, Wiscoy Farms had the highest RHA in Wyoming County – a county that ranks 5<sup>th</sup> for total milk production in the United States. Congratulations to Wiscoy Farms on being the 500<sup>th</sup> NYSCHAP Farm and to the NYS Field Veterinarians for their effort and commitment in enrolling herds.



*Above: The NYSCHAP Team Celebrates 500 Farms. Standing from left: Dr. Roger Ellis, Dr. Jim Gray, Dr. Bob Scrafford, Dr. Cricket Johnson, Dr. Don Russell, Dr. Mark McConnon, Dr. John Huntley, Dr. Lyda Denney, Dr. Dwight Bruno. Sitting from left: Kathy Kaufman, Dr. Tom Nytch, Dr. Pepi Leids, Dr. Sue Stehman*



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