



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 18, 2007

Contact: Dave Fischer, Extension Dairy Educator
618.692.9434; dfischer@uiuc.edu

2007 Superior Young Dairy Producer Award Winners

The 2007 Illinois State Fair Superior Young Dairy Producer Award (SYDPA) program was held August 15, 16 & 18, in conjunction with the Illinois State Fair Jr. Dairy Show. Fifteen 4-H and/or FFA dairy project members from across Illinois took part in the event. This four-phase competition, emphasizing the youth's knowledge of the dairy industry, awards each of the top five overall participants with a \$1,000 scholarship. The 2007 scholarship recipients are:

Janell Baum, Clinton (DeWitt County)

Angie Boesche, DeKalb (DeKalb County)

Chris Kollmann, New Baden (Clinton County)

Josh Huelsmann, Trenton (Clinton County)

Mikayla Krause, Milmine (Piatt County).

The \$5,000 in scholarships was sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland, Decatur, and Monsanto, St. Louis, Mo. The Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeders Association sponsored the individual plaques.

The first phase was a 50-question dairy management test. Questions were asked on dairy nutrition, health, reproduction, milk marketing, and other dairy related information. The top three contestants for this phase were:

Chris Kollmann, New Baden (Clinton Co.)

Josh Huelsmann, Trenton (Clinton Co.)

Mikayla Krause, Milmine (Piatt Co.).

The second phase was a four-station skill-a-thon on various aspects of the dairy industry. Contestants had to identify feedstuffs, explain DHIA production records, answer questions about dairy cattle health, and identify dairy equipment. The top three contestants in the skill-a-thon were:

Janell Baum, Clinton (DeWitt Co.)

Chris Kollmann, New Baden (Clinton Co.)

Josh Huelsmann, Trenton (Clinton Co.)

The third phase of the contest was showmanship. During this phase contestants were evaluated on their ability to present their animal in front of the judge. The Purebred Dairy Cattle Association showmanship scorecard was used as the basis for determining points earned. The top three winners for this phase were:

Janell Baum, Clinton (DeWitt Co.)

Allison Telgmann, Strasburg (Shelby Co.)

Chris Kollmann, New Baden (Clinton Co.)

The fourth phase of the Superior Young Dairy Producer Contest was a judging contest. The judging phase consisted of placing four classes of dairy cows and two classes of heifers. The top three contestants for this phase were:

Chris Kollmann, New Baden (Clinton Co.)

Josh Huelsmann, Trenton (Clinton Co.)

Mikayla Krause, Milmine (Piatt Co.).

This year marked the 12th consecutive year for the Superior Young Dairy Producer Award Program which has provided participating youth the opportunity to compete for \$60,000 in college scholarships since its inception. The program is developed and coordinated by Dave Fischer, University of Illinois Extension Dairy Educator. The purpose of the contest is to create an educational activity that promotes youth development, career development, and personal growth through increased knowledge of the dairy industry.

- 30 -

Editor's Note: High resolution digital photo available upon request – low resolution photo available at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/fairmedia.html>. 2007 Illinois State Fair Jr. Department press releases also available at Web address.