

Many Opportunities For Dairy Production

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The topic this week is dairying or milk production. The underlying theme to these columns for awhile will be opportunities in agriculture and in dairying there are many opportunities for expanded production.

I know that all cattle owners wish they had a fluid milk contract, however, there is almost no chance for any extra milk for the fluid trade so any opportunity in dairying must be directed at the manufacturing trade.

To have an opportunity in dairying it will depend upon a three thing—The first is the plants to do the manufacturing, the second is markets and the third is milk producers.

Douglas Adams, the Manager of the Amalgamated Dairies in Summerside says that "We have the plants, for example the Co-operative Dairy in Morrell which manufactures butter and cheese, the Central Creameries in Charlottetown which is into evaporated milk, butter and ice cream. The Pure Milk Co., Charlottetown is equipped to manufacture butter, cheese and ice cream along with our plant in Summerside. There are also seven butter manufacturing plants across the Island. So we definitely have the facilities."

MARKETS—BUTTER
We have the markets here in the Maritimes. There is a deficit of butter in the Maritime Provinces of roughly 1 1/2 million pounds. This butter deficit would amount to about 272 million pounds of milk.

CHEESE
We also have a large deficit in Cheddar Cheese. We have a deficit of about 2 1/2 million pounds which represents approximately 27 million more pounds of milk.

EVAPORATED MILK
There is a good demand for evaporated milk and I feel that we could produce another 5 million pounds more of milk for use in the evaporating trade.

FLUID MILK AND ICE CREAM
We have sufficient production of these two products.

The deficit in butter, cheddar cheese and evaporated milk then if we should produce all we can consume in the Maritimes is something like 300 million pounds. This means about 19 to 12 million dollars that is available in local markets. Although we can't hope to get all of this in Prince Edward Island but we could get a good share of it if we had the milk to manufacture."

CORNELIUS PATER
While many people are apparently going out of dairy production in P.E.I. and all across

Canada others have seen an opportunity to make a good living and have expanded the dairy operation on their farms. One of these farmers is Cornelius Pater of Union Road, Queens County. Mr. Pater describes his farm operation as follows: "I have about 60 acres of pasture, about 20 acres of grain, about 25 acres of hay on my own farm and about two acres of broccoli too. As well I bought about 10 acres of standing hay. In addition we get all the waste products of broccoli, brussels sprouts, etc from the frosted foods plant which we chop up and put in the silo—an upright type 16 by feet. These waste products include everything but pea vines. Last year also we bought about three tons of hay, and grain and concentrates as required for the cows."

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CONFEDERATION PLAZA

it is not necessary to separate. The calves are fed whole milk for the first week and after this I use buttermilk powder. This is used exactly the same as calf starter and as soon as they can eat grain they are fed cracked grain. After 10-12 weeks we give up feeding the buttermilk powder. This powder is not much different in feeding value than milk replacer and is a lot cheaper and it produces good calves."

I started farming on our farm in 1954 and we had four cows the first year. We have eight children, six of them working, two in school and we had to save every cent that we could to

buy more cows. Today I am milking 45 cows and have 20 heifers to freshen next spring and summer and 22 calves and one bull for breeding purposes. This is a total of 88 animals.

PRODUCTION
This year the herd average will be close to 11,000 pounds per animal. When we started out we were buying the cheapest cows we could get so if we could get a cow for \$100 this is what we paid. The average at the beginning was about 7,000 pounds per year. Last year it was over 10,000 pounds and this year we expect it will be close to 11,000 pounds per cow.

BUILDINGS
We decided to build up the herd first before building another barn. In 1963 we had about 30 milk cows, the barns were getting old and not good enough any more so we built our first barn 110 by 34 feet. Last year, not having enough room we put up a barn for young cattle 60 by 30. The milk cows are all in the big barn.

LABOUR
I have the great help of my wife and two boys home, one all the time and one part-time. Labour is not too big a problem for me right now. I hope, that my

second son might stay home full time next year too.

CALVES
All the bull calves are sold right away. We keep all the heifers we can get, and breed them and if the animal is no good after the second calf I sell her. She is given a chance to prove herself and if she doesn't measure up she is sold. Generally if she goes below 30 pounds per day for the first year she is sold.

The farm income with the exception of broccoli comes completely from the dairy herd. We, of course, have to pay the farm loan board, as does everybody else and for a couple of barns which also cost a lot of money. Volume of production is important to us and by the end of October we had sold 338,000 pounds of milk and the end of the year isn't here yet. As far as price is concerned we get 10 cents from the government here and 75 or 80 cents from the Federal Government. Our test is usually pretty good and runs from 3.4 to 4.0. We get around \$4.20 per hundred at the farm, which is not a bad price for manufacturing milk."

SUMMARY
So—there are the plants in P.E.I. to manufacture milk and

the opportunities in dairy production are in butter, cheese and evaporated milk.

Markets are available in the Maritime Provinces for an additional 300 million pounds of milk yearly, which would mean an additional 12 million dollars to dairymen. This much milk would also mean an additional 30,000 cows at 10,000 pounds per cow.

The big problem is in getting the milk produced on the farm. We need more farmers with larger herds and increased production per cow. It is also necessary to produce high quality milk, with great emphasis on sanitation and disease control in the herd.

For the farmer who is willing to produce milk in volume, like Cornelius Pater, there is a great opportunity in dairy production. For further information contact the Dairy Division, P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 2000, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

STILL FAR TO FALL
The water at the foot of Niagara Falls is still about 250 feet above sea level.

Protuberances Noted On Moon In New Pictures

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—The face of the man in the moon appears to have moles, judging from a picture taken by Lunar Orbiter II and released by the jet propulsion laboratory.

The picture shows shadows cast by what scientists called protuberances. Scientists estimated the protuberances—column-like structures rising from the moon's surface—are about 50 feet wide at the base and 40 to 75 feet tall. But they declined to speculate further on the nature of the phenomena.

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