



For Immediate Release
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LAWRENCE COUNTY IS THIRD STOP ON DAIRY CENTER'S OPEN HOUSE TOUR

Kind Family Hosts the Event on Four-Part Tour

HARRISBURG – Dairy farm families are invited to visit the Kind Family's Grassycrest Farm in Slippery Rock on Thursday, July 30 as part of the "Open House and Dairy Tour," hosted by the Center for Dairy Excellence.

The third of four open houses, each event will have a picnic-style lunch and provide the opportunity for guests to see the farm's best management practices and learn about resources available to help dairy farms succeed in Pennsylvania. The final event is slated for Aug. 4 in Cumberland County.

"The turnout at the first two open houses shows the interest dairy producers have in learning new options to improve their own farm businesses," said John Frey, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence. "We appreciate the host families' hospitality, and are looking forward to visiting the Kind farm that includes three generations working closely together to keep dairying enticing for future generations."

The event on Thursday, July 30 from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., is at Grassycrest Farm, Inc., owned by Richard and Blanche Kind and sons Dwight and Dean. Richard started milking on his father's farm in Beaver County in 1947 with just three cows, and in 1970, moved the family's herd to Slippery Rock.

In April 2009, the Kinds completed construction of a double-12 herringbone parlor where they milk 300 head that are housed in a drive-through freestall barn. This and other renovations to dry cow and heifer facilities have allowed Dean's son Layne, the third generation of Kinds, to enter the business.



The farm is located at 638 Miller Road, Slippery Rock, between Lawrence and Butler counties. Witmer's Feed and Grain, Deerfield Farm Supply & Services and COBA Select Sires are sponsoring the event.

Details for the final Open House and Dairy Tour are:

- **Tuesday, August 4**, at Brymesser Farms, owned by Sheldon, Mary Ann, Mike and Matt Brymesser, 1463 Leidigh Road, Boiling Springs, Cumberland County.

The agenda for all four events includes a 90-minute farm and facility tour with comments from the host family, followed by a bar-b-que lunch and an update on center and industry programs including the Dairy Profit Team and LGM for Dairy programs.

The "Open Forums and Dairy Tours" are open to anyone within the local dairy community and pre-registration is requested by calling 717-346-0849. For more information about the events or the Center for Dairy Excellence, visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org. Click on "Center for Dairy Excellence Events," then on "CDE Open House and Dairy Tour Events."

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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.

PHOTO CUTLINES:

Kind Family: Kind family members at Grassycrest Farm, Inc., welcome neighboring farm families and others to next week's CDE "Open House and Dairy Tour."