



For Immediate Release

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Center Seeks 10 Dairies to Participate in Pilot Herd Health Care Project

Harrisburg – Dairy farm families interested in improving herd health and cow care can apply to participate in the Center for Dairy Excellence pilot “Herd Health and Cow Care Improvement Project.”

“Herd health care can have a significant impact on a dairy farm’s profitability and on consumer perception of the dairy industry,” said John Frey, executive director of the center. “Identifying problems related to this area and developing a step-by-step approach to resolving those issues can strengthen the farm’s bottom line while demonstrating its commitment to animal care. Through this project we’ll help more farms improve herd health.”

The project is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Soybean Board. Each participating farm will have up to \$1,000 in financial support to work with the herd’s veterinarian and a Penn State veterinarian to aid in improving a component of the dairy, ultimately enhancing overall herd health and animal care on the farm.

Participating farms will provide details of their work in improving their specific herd health and animal care focus to the center. This information will be shared with the dairy industry to help other dairies looking to resolve similar issues.

“Working with these farms will help the center develop a tool to aid other producers quickly assess and identify steps to improve herd health care on the farm,” Frey said.

Applications for the pilot project must be submitted by Nov. 15 and are available from the center by calling 717-346-0849 or emailing info@centerfordairyexcellence.org. Farms will be selected for the project on a first-come, first-served basis with considerations given to the herd management support area and regional location.

For more information about this pilot project or to request an application, contact the center at 717-346-0849 or info@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.