Centenary Thurles
Co-operative Society Ltd

JAN – FEB

NEWSLETTER 2013

Antibiotic Alert!
Care must be taken when resuming milk collection

The first collection is the highest risk. When resuming milk production after the dry off period the first collection should be checked to ensure it is free from all residues.

- Withholding times must be strictly adhered to according to manufacturer's instructions.
- In the event of using long acting dry cow therapy, ensure that cows are dry for a minimum of two months. Otherwise please check manufacturer's instruction. The milk from animals that calve down before the indicated active time on the manufacturer's instruction must be tested before entering bulk tank. Where cows are dry for a short period this will cause problematic milk with residues.
- As many winter milk herds are drying off now, all treated animals must be clearly marked, recorded and segregated from the milking cows.
- **Record the drying off dates and calving down dates andsegregate treated cows.**
- **Cows treated with lactating tubes must be marked and their milk kept out of the bulk tank.**
- Clarify with your vet any treatment administered by him/her, that may adulterate milk and eliminate from bulk tank.
- Inform family members, staff and relief-milker of animals treated and instruct them to keep the milk from treated animals out of the bulk tank.
- Ensure you have a method or system to eliminate antibiotic milk or non-conforming milk from the bulk tank. For example dump lines for the big plants, recorder jars, milking bucket or churn or simply milking the treated cows last.
- Antibiotic kits are available from Denis or Aisling at Ballyduff and each branch has testing facilities available.

Please note that every collection sample is tested for antibiotic residue during this risk period.

Penalties for antibiotic positive are very severe.

Where a load of milk or a compartment of a lorry is found to be antibiotic positive, the offending supplier will incur the total cost of the discarded milk and of its disposal.

Suppliers are advised to check with their farm insurance companies that they have cover for such an event.

Recommencement Of Milk Supplies

A minimum of three days notice must be given to the driver and Denis or Aisling for the recommencement of milk collection. The reason for this is to avoid stale milk and poor quality.

Bulk Milk Disease Screening Service 2013

Centenary Thurles Co-Op will once again be providing a disease screening service to milk suppliers. If you wish to join the programme please contact Denis or Aisling at Ballyduff (0504 34030) for the relevant form.

Bulk milk testing is one of the easiest and most economical ways of screening a herd for infectious diseases. In addition this test also screens for parasites like Liver Fluke and Ostertagia. Suppliers who joined the programme in 2012 benefitted greatly from some very useful information provided during that very difficult year. This is a voluntary programme for suppliers and should not be confused with the B.V.D. tissue tag testing service which is compulsory for 2013.

This service will cost €150 (+VAT) for three screenings per annum and for winter/liquid milk herds the cost is €200 (+VAT) for four screenings per annum. Milk suppliers who joined the programme in 2012 will be automatically registered for the programme for 2013 but if, for any reason, they wish to withdraw from the Scheme, please contact Denis or Aisling immediately.

BVD Tissue Tag Testing Service 2013

Centenary Thurles Co-Op in conjunction with ENFER Laboratories is offering a BVD tissue tag testing service for 2013 at a discounted price of €3.40 (incl. VAT). If you wish to join our scheme, please contact Aisling or Denis in Ballyduff (0504 34030).

If any milk supplier does not wish their herd number to be passed on to Enfer please contact Aisling or Denis immediately. Otherwise all suppliers will be on Enfer's database which facilitates a quick and efficient testing service.

Milk Quality Awards 2012

The finalists for the Centenary Thurles Co-Op Milk Quality Awards 2012 will be announced shortly. The ultimate winner will represent this Society in the 2013 National Milk Quality Competition run in conjunction with Kerrygold and The National Dairy Council.

Finalists will be shortlisted on the basis of TBC, SCC, Thermodurics, Butterfat, Protein and Lactose tests for the period April to October 2012. Following a farm visit with independent judges, the Overall Winner and Runner-Up will be announced.

Retirement of John Hackett

Photgraphed at the presentation by the Committee of Management are (L. to R.) **Jim Russell** Vice-Chairman; **Anne Hackett**; Con Costigan Chairman; **John Hackett** and **Joe Kerrigan** Chief Executive.

Last November, Centenary Thurles Co-Op held a retirement function for John Hackett who retired as Littleton Branch Manager during the year.

Speaking at the function, Chairman Con Costigan recounted John's career with Centenary Thurles. John joined Centenary Co-Op in April 1974 having obtained his degree in Dairy Science from UCC. His first posting was to Killea branch which along with Drom had merged with Centenary, the previous year. In 1976, John was appointed to Littleton Branch which he served with distinction for a further 36 years. Many developments and upgrades had taken place over John's time in Littleton. Con paid tribute to John Hackett, his staff and his customers that in the midst of continuous change, that they adapted to this change and that such a facility as our current Littleton branch exists on his retirement. In true Co-Op ethos this branch had brought both employment and vitality to Littleton and the surrounding area. On behalf of the Committee of Management, Con thanked John for his dedication, contribution and service to the Society and in particular to the farmers and customers of the Littleton Branch. He then proceeded to make a presentation on behalf of the Committee to John and wished him well on his retirement.

Further tributes to John were paid by Chief Executive Joe Kerrigan and Chairman of the Social Club John Martin who also made a presentation on behalf of the Staff. John Hackett responded and recalled many of the incidents that had taken place during his time, some serious and others humorous.

Agricultural Scholarships 2012

Pictured recently at the Presentation of the 2012 Agricultural Scholarships are (Front Row L. to. R.) **Bill Bergin** Borrisbeg; **Michael O'Dwyer** Kilrush; **Declan Cleary** Maclone; **Caoimhe Egan** Killahara; and (Back Row L. to R.) **Joe Kerrigan** Chief Executive; **Martin Sutcliffe** Barnalisheen; **Con Costigan** Chairman; **Thomas Ryan** Ashmere; **Paddy Nolan** Clondoty and **Tom Nyland** Branch Manager Ballyduff.

Super-Levy Update

The threat of a Super Levy for 2012/2013 continues to abate and Centenary Thurles is now only 400,000 litres or less than 0.5% over quota at the end of December. The national position at 30th November is 3.36% under quota.

There are just two more years left with the milk quota regime and suppliers should be conscious to monitor individual, co-op and national positions during that period to ensure they don't incur additional unnecessary super levy costs.

Cheque Payment Details

A reminder to all customers when paying by cheque in relation to their store purchases – all cheques must be made payable to **Centenary Thurles Stores Ltd.**

This is a banking requirement and correct identification will ensure that there are no problems regarding the cheque being returned. The bank will not accept the terms 'Centenary Co-Op', 'Thurles Co-Op', 'Centenary DIY', 'Roscrea Farm Store', etc.

HURRY!

January Sale ends
Saturday 19th

Milk Bonus

A reminder to all Dairy farmers that a bonus of €15 per tonne on 16% Dairy and €25 per tonne on 18% Super Dairy and 21% Premium is payable on nuts purchased and delivered prior to 31st January 2013. Get your orders in now to avail of this super deal!!

Telephone:
050491900

Facsimile:
050422657

centenarythurles.com