

Milk Commission Developing Form To Verify Costs of Production

Factual data on the cost of milk production in the several areas of Pennsylvania, was the subject of a recent conference in the office of the Milk Control Commission. The conference was an outgrowth of a request made by Julius S. Nilson, a former president of the Young Farmers Association of Pennsylvania, and now public relations director of the Dauphin County Unit.

Following this hearing, Nilson and President, Sam Williams, of the Dauphin County Unit of the PFA, requested that County Agent, A. S. Frommeyer, arrange for a farm management expert from the State University, to meet with interested persons from the Harrisburg area to develop a standard form for farmers, appearing before hearings of the commission, whereby essential information might be provided that would stand up under cross examination of attorneys and become a workable part of the record of the hearings.

Nilson contended that similar forms had been developed for

dealers in presenting cost figures to the Commission and insisted that a form of a similar nature be provided by the commission for milk producers. He was supported in this request by the Rev. Robert L. Cocklin of Shippensburg, who has been employed on a part time basis by the commission to secure from farmers, general information on costs of production. Mr. Cocklin insisted that without a standard form, it was impossible to secure essential information on producer's problems.

Cost figures submitted before the Commission in the past were prepared by Dr. George E. Bradow, professor of agricultural economics at Pennsylvania State University, but these figures applied to a study made in 1947, and projected by a formula of general increases in costs during the past 10 years. It furthermore applied to production costs for the entire state. The Milk Control Law requires that evidence of costs of production be submitted for the area in which the hearing is held.

Iodine Containing Solution Approved For Use in Dairy Barn Sanitation

The medicine that has been used to treat many a cut and scratch on farm boys' fingers and toes has now become an effective dairy sanitizer, as scientists are putting iodine to work in the milk room.

By combining an iodine solution with detergents, chemists have come up with a product that has both cleansing and high germ killing power. Besides cleaning dairy utensils, it also serves as an effective udder and flank wash.

The first hurdle that confronted scientists in putting iodine to work in this manner was to "tame" it so that its burning and corrosive characteristics would be removed. When this was accomplished, the Public Health Service gave the green light to its use as a dairy cleaner-sanitizer, and the new product resulted.

Advantages of the iodine dairy cleaner-sanitizer include the fact that it will not chap nor irritate when used according to directions, although it is strong enough to remove milkstone from dairy utensils.

The material is readily soluble in hard and cold water. It does

not add flavor or odor to dairy products, and does not affect lactic acid development when used according to directions.

The "taming" of this ancient substance for use in the milk room promises to be an important stride forward in modern dairy sanitation.

Parasite Increase Loss Of Young Sheep, Cattle

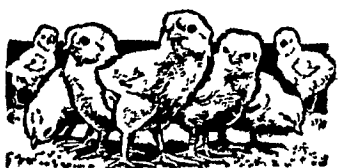
An increase in death losses among young sheep and young cattle due to parasites is reported by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Applications of sheep manure, which had been composted for only one year, to grazing areas were blamed for the parasite build-up. North American Veterinarian, a professional magazine, also reported poor gains in some beef animals were due to a similar cause.

Manure to be spread on pastures should be composted for two years, veterinary authorities said. Manure composted for a shorter period should be used only on fields intended for crop raising.

High death rates in new-born pups may be expected from litters whelped in the fall, recent veterinary research shows.

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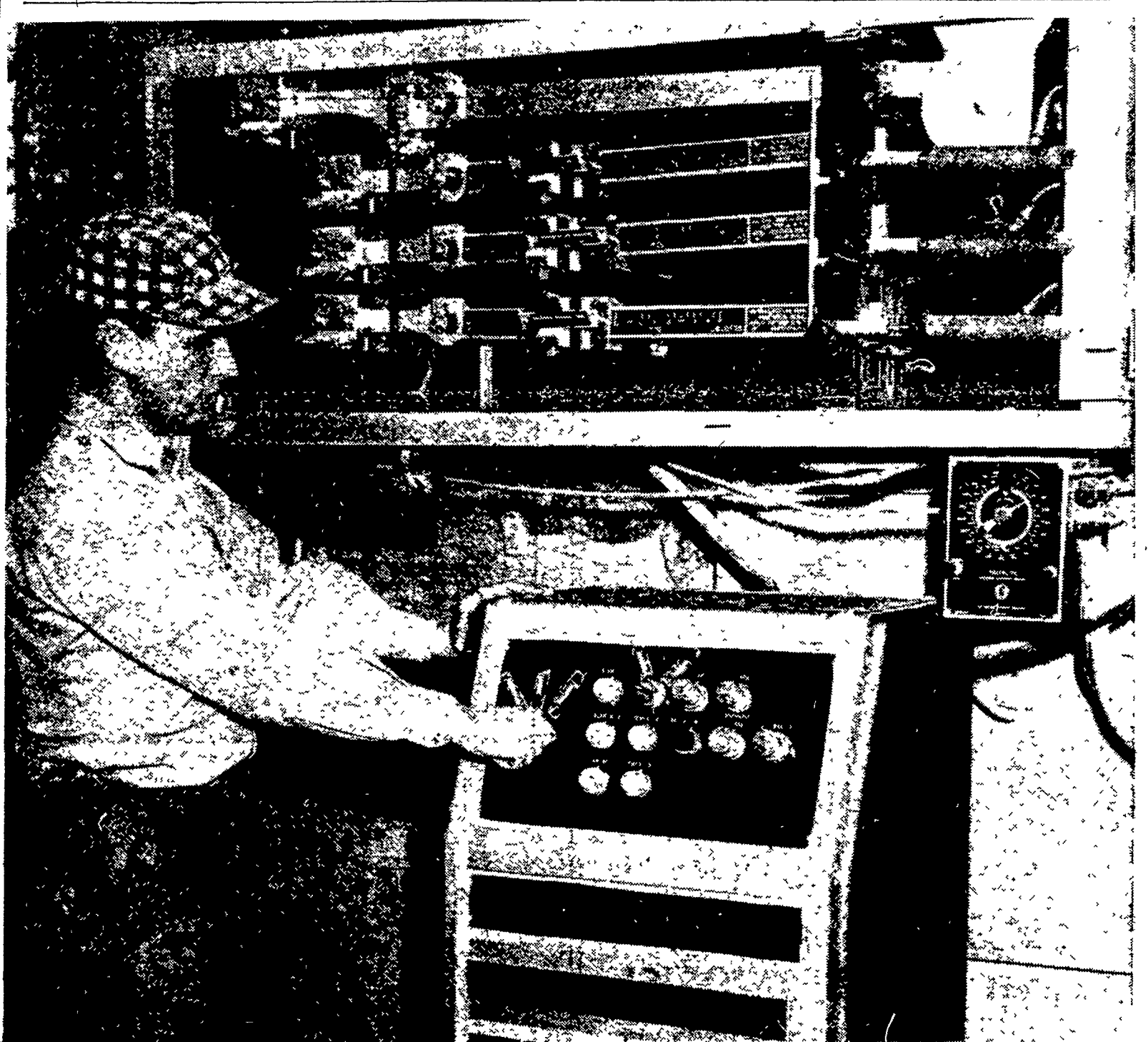
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Two Salesmen Attend Poultry Health Course

Two sales and servicemen for County firms have completed poultry health and nutrition courses at Whitmoyer Laboratories, Inc., Myerstown. They are Gerald K. Zook, Schaefferstown, and John E. Paes, R1 Strasburg.

The clinic was the final phase in an intensive study on poultry health control. Before attending the clinic, they had received preliminary instructions through home study lessons.

Zook is employed by Millport Roller Mills, R4 Latitz, and Paes works for John J. Hess II, New Providence.



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A Third Reason Why Pullets Pick

Lack of exercise and not enough to do encourages cannibalism in laying pullets. Heavy laying pullets have lots of energy, lots of zip and this liveliness has to be worked off one way or another. One reason poultrymen who feed their pullets on crumbles instead of mash have trouble with picking is that the pullets can fill up on the crumbles so quickly that they have lots of time on their hands and they don't know what to do with it. I, therefore, suggest that for layers you feed your laying ration in mash form because it takes birds several times as long to get their fill with mash as with crumbles or pellets.

I suggest that you not feed more than 4 lbs of feeding pellets or supplemental pellets per hundred birds per day. If you feed higher levels of pullets the birds are full for a number of hours and are more likely to pick.

Scratch grain should be fed in the litter which encourages exercise and the birds really like to scratch (scratching in the litter also helps to keep their feet cleaner and give you cleaner eggs).

I believe, but I am not sure, that all mash rations usually cause more picking than when you feed a laying mash plus scratch grain. Pullets appreciate the diversion they get if you feed scratch in the litter.

Pullets do not have magazines, radios or television. Try to give them a little variety of activity. The more personal attention you give the birds, the better they will lay for you.

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