

### 3 Guernseys In Witmer Herd Make Records

PETERBOROUGH, N.H. — R. F. Witmer, Willow Street, is the owner of three registered Guernseys that have recently completed Herd Improvement Registry production records, according to the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Zeitlers Princess La Traviata, an eight-year-old, produced 11,795 pounds of milk and 521 pounds of fat in 305 days. She was milked two times daily.

Barbian Golden Dolly, a six-year-old, produced 16,956 pounds of milk and 804 pounds of fat in 365 days. She was milked two times daily.

Selects Prairie Bloom, a junior three-year-old, produced 12,697 pounds of milk and 573 pounds of fat in 305 days. She was milked two times daily.

A survey by veterinarians in Germany indicated that the type of soil affects the incidence of tetanus. The disease occurs four times as frequently in loam soil as sandy soil, probably because the tetanus spores easily penetrate deeper in sand where they are less likely to infect animals or man.



A WELL-KNOWN Champion lady handler of sheep dogs is Mrs. Verla Fearn, shown here with "Imported Lad." This dog carried home honors from the International Sheep Dog trials last year. Mrs. Fearn will be competing for a repeat win in this year's trials, to be held at the 1957 World's Conservation Exposition and Plowing Contests in Adams County, Ohio. That's September 17-20, starting at 7:30 a.m.

### Penn State Develops New Diluter To Lengthen Usable Life of Semen

Dairymen can now select the bulls they want for artificial breeding every day of the year and use liquid semen. While frozen semen also prolongs the fertile life of sperm cells, liquid semen is cheaper and easier to use.

Research at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station shows the addition of glycerine (glycerol) to a heated milk diluter will prolong the fertile life of sperm cells at least four days after collection. Tests also show that semen can be collected more often than previously thought advisable, with no harmful effects.

Extensive field trials by Pennsylvania's artificial breeding cooperatives have demonstrated the practical use of liquid semen beyond the usual one or two days following collection. The average fertility of milk-glycerol diluted semen used four days is about equal to similar semen used only two days. Nearly 30,000 cows were bred in these studies.

These developments have been some of the major goals of the Dairy Breeding Research Center at Penn State. Now a dairyman using artificial breeding should be able to select his bulls and follow a line breeding program. More uniformity among cows should result.

Since the semen can be used three to four days after collection, not so much semen is wasted. Young sires can be proven at an earlier age since more cows can be bred in a shorter time.

### Sun Powered Fence Charger Being Tested

Energy from the sun is being harnessed to operate an electric fence charger by G. W. Isaacs, Purdue University agricultural engineer.

Silicon solar cells, located in a frame on top of a conventional fence charger, collect radiant energy from the sun and convert it directly to electrical energy. Isaacs says the cows don't go through the fence when the sun isn't shining, either, because the solar cells also charge nickel-cadmium storage cells inside the fence charger. When the sun doesn't shine, the storage cells run the charger.

The solar-powered fence charger could operate in remote areas without the need for replacing batteries or connection to electrical power lines.

### All Fruits Except Grapes To Be Plentiful

HARRISBURG — All kinds of fruit produced in Pennsylvania, except grapes, are expected to be more plentiful this year than last, the State Department of Agriculture declared Monday.

An 11 per cent increase in apple production, a 10 per cent boost in peach output, and three times last year's production in sweet cherries are expected to contribute to the overall availability, Federal-State surveys showed.

The first estimate of the season on Pennsylvania's commercial apple crop sets the total harvest at six million bushels. This compares with the 1956 production of 5,400,000 bushels but will be an estimated 348,000 bushels under the 10-year average.

Estimated sweet cherry production, at 800 tons, is 500 tons above the 1956 output, but well below the 10-year average of 1,150 tons.

The 1957 Pennsylvania peach crop has been revised upward to 2,575,000 bushels. Last year production was 2,340,000 bushels. The 10-year average is 2,439,000 bushels.

This year's estimated red cherry crop is listed at 12,500 tons. This compares with last year's 8,400 tons and the 10-year average of 8,200 tons.

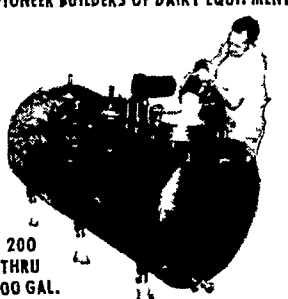
Pennsylvania's grape crop is expected to be 23,000 tons compared with the 10-year average of 19,700 tons. The July 1 estimate is well below last year's production of 31,600 tons.

### Baby Pig Losses Can Be Lowered

Veterinarians at the University of Illinois say that the swine producer has only himself to blame for many of his baby pig losses. Faulty care and poor sanitation are two major reasons many swine producers lose as many as 30 per cent of their pigs before weaning time. Baby pig losses could be lowered through periodic cleaning and disinfecting of equipment that offers hiding places for viruses, bacteria, and worm eggs which cause common swine diseases.

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