



THESE ARE THE FEED bunkers used by Kurtz to feed hay and silage in the field. Both are homemade. Notice that the runners on the silage trough are the former running gear from an old sleigh. The bunkers are pulled from place to place around the pasture to prevent the formation of mud-holes as the cattle feed. (LF Photo)

6-B—Lancaster Farming, Friday, May 2, 1958

each extra pound of milk and butterfat means a lot. Kurtz feels that money spent for molasses is well spent.

His experience with young on the proper handling of the stock has caused a lot of emphasis replacement heifers.

THE INITIAL experience was gained when he and a brother-in-law were buying and raising calves to get foundation stock a few years ago so that they could go into dairy farming. It was the calves that he bought and raised that gave the herd the first 500 pound average.

Some of these calves and heifers are still in the herd and are still producing a respectable record. The 529 pound average last year proves that beyond doubt.

So young stock are treated to give them the best chance to grow and build body and vigor. They are kept in the barn until about six months of age. Then they go outside into a semi-loose housing arrangement.

FEED AND HAY bunkers on skids are spotted in the pasture for supplemental feeding.

Heifers are bred so they calve as they are turning two years old. This practice can cause trouble if the heifer lacks size or has been handled improperly. Kurtz finds this is no problem in his herd.

When asked if he has any basis to compare the handling of young stock in this manner with any other method as far as disease freedom was concerned, he said he had none.

"This is the way I've always handled them," he said. "I don't know of a much better way to do it. Disease has never been a problem."

THE FEED BUNKER is hardly the exclusive property of the heifer herd, however. Liking to keep the cows out of the barn as much as possible, Kurtz uses a cart to

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J. L. Kurtz
Maintains
500 lb. Herd

(Continued from page 3)

rent price of molasses at about three cents a pound, this would mean six cents per animal per day.

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