

Let's Take a Look at Dairying

by Max M. Smith

June is dairy month throughout the county and a good time to inspect the important place this major agricultural enterprise holds in our general economy.

Here in Lancaster County our farmers are milking 67,000 head of cows each year with a total milk production of 438 millions pounds, worth \$22,077,000 last year.

This leads the state of Pennsylvania both in number of cattle and value of the product. In addition, this value of milk produced last year was the highest of any agricultural product sold from Lancaster County farms.

The dairy business rates as one of the most popular types of agriculture here as well as throughout the country; it provides steady income provides work for many members of the family, furnishes a good market for farm grains and roughages, and dairy products continue to be vital in the diet of our rapidly growing population.

The dairy cow is one of the farm animals with the ability to convert a minimum amount of grain and roughages into an edible product for human beings; she is adapted to all parts of the country and will respond to gentle and humane care and attention.

Many successful dairymen are in the business because they like to work with the dairy cow, obtain a great pride of accomplishment from raising their own animals and actually know and understand the characteristics and make-up of each animal on the farm.

The general out-look for the dairyman today reflects a trend of expansion in size of operation, greater production costs, and continued demand for his product.

Without a doubt many smaller dairy farmers are faced with selling their herd or expanding with more cattle to spread their overhead cost. Throughout the country today census figures show there to be less farmers and greater amounts of commodities produced.

This same thing is true in dairying; fewer herds and greater total milk production.

Many labor-saving devices are being forced upon the dairy farmer today in order to stay in business with his larger operation and in face of a scarcity of good farm labor.

Mechanical barn cleaners, milking machines, silo unloaders auger self-feeders, bulk milk tanks, and pipeline milkers are all getting quite common on the modern farm.

These are all great aids in reducing the need for hand labor; however, they do increase the investment and need a greater volume of production in order to meet the costs.

The great emphasis for improved grassland farming practices and the place of quality roughages has been brought to the front in the past decade, this has been a step in the right direction for the dairyman for he needs this type of feed for more efficient production.

Research has shown that feed nutrients from quality roughages are cheaper than feed nutrients from other feeds and grains. The dairy cow is one farm animal ready to utilize products of this trend; making her one of the most common farm animals.

Great strides have been made in recent years in the improvement of the dairy cow and her production ability; the average dairyman is doing a better job of raising his calves which means larger cows for his future herd.

The contribution of artificial breeding must be mentioned as a great factor in making it possible for the average farmer to raise better cattle. With this method of breeding the herd owner is able to breed his cows to superior, proven sires that most individual dairymen could not afford.

Production testing (DHIA) of the milking herd takes the

the quality milk-handling methods. The milking machine, pipeline milker, the bulk tank, and improved barn ventilation and milk house sanitation methods all contribute to a cleaner, high quality product.

All farm enterprises have their ups and downs and find many producers getting in and out at frequent intervals however, in the dairy business we find more stability and a farm business that is giving thousands of farmers throughout the country a decent living.

Furthermore, these farmers are producing a product that is used in every household and in face of a grow-

THE EARLY spring potato crop in Florida and Texas is now estimated at 3,301,000 cwt., about 1,402,000 cwt. below the 1958 crop and 54,000 cwt. below average. The late spring spud crop is estimated at 22,125,000 cwt. if the forecast holds, it will be 10 per cent below the 1958 crop and the average.

ing world population it appears that the dairy business possesses a profitable future.

Classified Ad
Get Results

to streamline **BU**

SINCE **STARLINE**



you can add more cows with
... MECHANIZE WORK
... MODERNIZE HOUSE
with
A STARLINE BARN CLEANER
Fully automatic endline models or the economical

STARLINE BARN EQUIPMENT

- VENTILATORS • WINDOWS
- FANS • STALLS
- WATER BOWLS

Ask for a FREE Starline-Engineered barn

L. H. Brubaker **L. H. Brubaker**
LITITZ, PA. 350 Strasburg
LANCASTER, PA.

More farmers each month prefer to buy their

- ✓ HAY ✓ STRAW
- ✓ EAR CORN



from us for better value and all around satisfaction. At farm or delivered, any quantity as your requirements may be.

PHONE STRASBURG OV 7-3211
ESBENSHADE TURKEY FARM
PARADISE, PA.

May We Introduce You TO THE Finest In DAIRY Feeds?

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE 'til June 6th

Farm Bureau DAIRY FEEDS

14% DAIRY Rich In Molasses High In Crimped Oats	14% FITTING RATION Completely Balanced Coarse - Palatable - 40% Pellets
16% DARI-FLO Highly Palatable Coarse Textured - 40% Pellets	32% MILKMAKER High in T-D N's Fortified with Vitamins & Minerals

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS APPLY TO "4" FEEDS LISTED

Qualified Fieldmen are anxious to Serve and Assist You in Designing a Profitable FEEDING PROGRAM. For Prompt . . . Courteous . . . Service . . . Call . . .

LANC. COUNTY FARM BUREAU **SETTING THE PACE IN SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE** 1934 1959
OWNED and CONTROLLED by Lancaster County FARMERS

"It Takes More Than Pasture"

Keep Your Herd In Peak Condition

— FOR —
TOP PRODUCTION
— WITH —
Farm Bureau Profitmaker FEEDS



Lancaster EX 4-0541
Manheim MO 5-2466
New Holland EL 4-2111
Quarryville ST 6-2125