

● Keener
(From page 1)



CUTTING AND CRIMPING alfalfa is a continuous operation on the Clarence Keener farm at Manheim R3 Keener. On the tractor in the foreground mows while his herdsman, Calvin Lord crimps the legume before it wilts. The hay is batch dried in the barn with a fan system. One of the next improvements on the farm will be a wagon drying system for the hay crop. —L. F. PHOTO

any grass which is kept clipped with a rotary mower to force new growth to encourage the cows to eat more.

When the cows are milked in the evening they get a mixture of home grown grains and a commercial protein at the ratio of one to five during the summer months and about one pound of grain to four pounds of milk in the winter.

In addition to pasture, grain, and green chopped alfalfa, the dairy cows receive corn silage and a small amount of hay. All this variety keeps the cow interested in eating and gets more feed into her, Keener be-



LEVEL VALLEY PABST LILLIE in the barn for her noontime milking seems to be asking what that guy is doing with that little black box. Even though she does not seem too familiar with a camera, Lillie is no stranger to the milking machine. She has produced a total of 16,045 pounds of milk and 611 pounds of butterfat in the first 240 days of her lactation and is still in a good flow of milk. —L. F. PHOTO



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lieves. This week Keener was making the first cutting of DuPuits alfalfa from a field which is four years old. Last year the field was harvested five times. "We should have made this hay 10 days ago," Keener said, "But the weather held us up like everybody else."

Another indication that the May milk flow was no accident is the continued high production from the herd during the past several years. During 1958 the herd average was 474 pounds of butterfat per cow. It slipped slightly during 1959 because of some breeding difficulty,

but Keener is shooting for near 500 pounds per cow this year.

If present indications bear out, the goal should not be out of reach.

One cow in the herd, Level Valley Pabst Lillie, has produced 611 pounds of fat in 16,045 pounds of milk in just 240 days and she is still in a good milk flow. "It looks like she might make 700 pounds this year," Keener says.

Lillie and two other cows are on three-times-a-day milking, but the rest of the herd is milked only twice. One of the first calf heifers (Turn to page 6)

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