

Silage and Urea
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he feels he can eliminate several handling charges: —Efficiency — he feels the addition makes better silage in that it acts as a preservative and gets the materials into the corn before the corn gets into the animal thus providing better distribution and utilization of nutrients. Whether his theory will bear fruit — or more important, beef — will be determined only after the completion of at least one full feeding season, but he feels it is worth a trial. Keener is also a believer in the benefits of analysis followed by supplementation, and applies this principle to feed as well as soil. For example, after his new silage crop is tested for nutrient content, he will supplement deficiencies as suggested by laboratory analysis. Because of a shortage of silage last year he made a high energy silage — that is

he cut all of the ears but only about one-half of the stalk, leaving about 20 percent of the total feeding value in the field, but putting up more acres of high-TDN silage. This year he has added two, 24x60-foot concrete silos; each will hold about 740 tons of silage. These, plus his old stave silo, plus some on-the-ground storage will take care of the entire 125-acre corn silage crop. Corn on the remaining 15 acres will be picked and cribbed on another farm.

Keener plans to feed out about 400 head of steers this season. He has recently completed and stocked a new 60x134-foot building which has some interesting features. The south side of the building remains open year-round, but sliding doors at either end, and 4x8-foot plywood panels on the north side, permit closing three sides completely. Four roof ventilators with manually operated shutters will help to remove hot air in summer, and conserve heat in the coldest weather. A 50,000-gallon, underground tank on the west end of the building is used for manure storage. Keener scrapes manure into the pit two or three times each week, but he hasn't had the setup long enough to know how often he will have to pump the liquid manure out of the tank.

This year, Keener bought his feeders at 550-700 pounds, and plans to feed them for eight months. His goal is to put them out at about 1100 pounds at a Choice grade.

He raised two forage crops on the same land this year by putting in rye for silage followed by late corn, also for the silo. He figures he lost about two weeks on his corn crop by preceding it with rye. In some years this is a little risky because cold weather catches the corn before it fully matures. But this year rain came at the right time, his silage corn is in beautiful shape and is now about two-thirds harvested.

In addition to the 140 acres potatoes. The Keeners and type farming operation which of corn and 400 head of their three children provide accounts for Lancaster County steers, he also farms 12 acres one more example of the county's number one agricultural of tobacco and 20 acres of cessful, progressive, family-position in Pennsylvania.



SHOWN GETTING THE ENSILAGE CHOPPER ready for the day's field work is Clarence Keener, Jr. Corn silage on the Keener farm is now about two-thirds harvested, and will be fed out during the season to 400 head of steers. L. F. Photo

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(Continued from Page 1) and high individual lactation was made by a registered Holstein cow in the Paul B. Keener herd at Ephrata. Lucy produced 18,323 milk and 856 lbs of butterfat with a 4.7% test. High butterfat herd for the month was owned by Christ Lapp Gap R2. This herd 364 registered Holsteins averaged 1552 lbs milk, 62 butterfat, and a 4.0% test.

Two herds tied for second place, they were the Arthur Sweigart herd from Mount R1 and the herd of Jerry Frey, 401 Beaver Key Pike, Lancaster. The Sweigart herd of 228 registered and grade Holsteins averaged 1445 lbs milk, 58 lbs butterfat. Frey's 2 registered Holsteins averaged 1357 lbs milk and 58 butterfat.

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