New Swine-Breeding Technique

artificially, a.U.S. Department of Agriculture physiologist reported this week.

Dr. Roger J. Gerrits of USDA's Agriculture Research Service suid that this judgment is based on more than four years of research at Beltsville, Md., and Miles City, Mont., conducted with more than 1,000 sows. He was speaking to the Second World Conference on Animal Production held at the University of Maryland in College Park.

"The more trials we run," Dr. Gerrits said, "the more we become convinced that estrous synchronization is no longer an experimental treatment, but is, in fact, a practical program for the producer. Not only controlled experiments, but also supervised field tests conducted on various farms since 1964 have proven this."

Collectively, data compiled by Dr. Gerrits show that when sows were synchronized with a feed additive experimentally labeled ICI 33,828, about 80 were bred within a 2-day period. Whether artificial insemination or natural service was used, over 80 percent of the treated animals became pregnant. Litter size averaged slightly more than 9 pigs for gilts, and 10 pigs for mature sows.

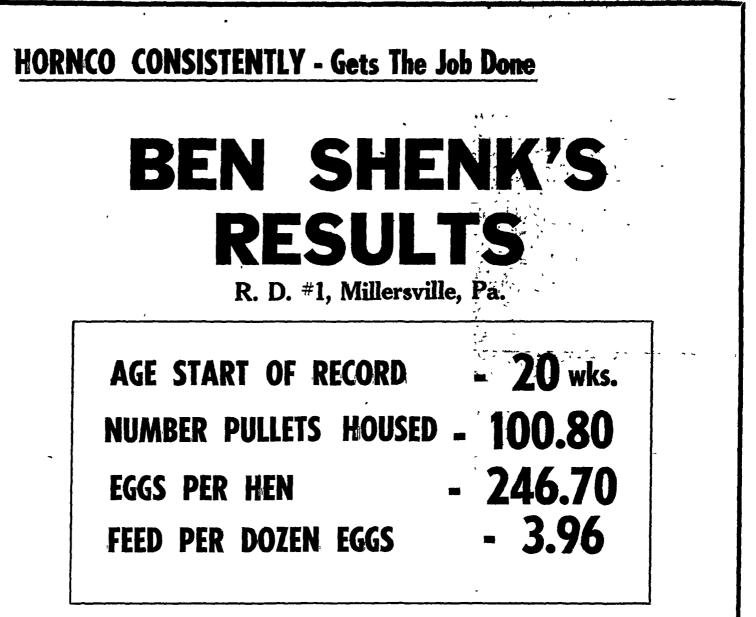
"The new technique will aid in efficient use of swine-breeding facilities where pigs are farrowed several times a year," Dr. Gerrits said, adding, "It reduces overhead expenses for building and equipment and permits marketing hogs on a yearround basis to avoid syclical changes in the price of market hogs Perhaps even more important, buildup of disease in swine breeding can be avoided more easily with synchronized groups of sows."

Another advantage of estrous synchronization is that it makes artificial insemination more practical. In one visit, an inseminator can breed a whole group of sows to boars with proven capac-

June milk production in Pennsylvania amounted to 275 million quarts, the State Crop Reporting Service says. This is 121 million fewer quarts than were produced in June, 1967.

Soldiers Eat More Per Capita Than Civilians Food use on a per capita basis in the military exceeds that of little more than 2% of total U.S. "It's too bad that the future

Modern, specialized swine- ity for siring pigs that gain rap- the civilian population in the food use. As a result, total do- generations can't be here to help breeding operations will run idly and efficiently and yield United States. Military food pro- mestic food use per capita ex- us spend their money."—Fred more smoothly and economically high-quality meat upon slaugh-if estrus (heat) is synchronized ter, Dr. Gerrits concluded. 67 was 19% higher than in 1957- civilian use — 1.7% since 1957- Citizen.



MR. SHENK SAYS:

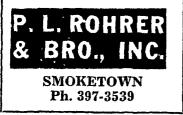
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