

Foremans Are Building a New Holstein Herd on an Old Farm

The Jay Foreman farm at Lutz RD 1 is centered around a growing herd of Registered Holstein cows. The Foremans now are milking around 45 cows and have a total of about 80 head of Holsteins.

They are in the process of building a new 30 by 60 foot block heifer barn for growing replacement calves. A 24 by 40 foot corn barn was built two years ago. Foreman hopes to go to about

a 65 to 70 cow milking herd within three or four years. Along with the increased herd he hopes to go to a high moisture corn and haylage system.

The 120 acres now being farmed include about 40 acres of corn, about half of which is harvested as silage. 30 acres of hay, 15 of wheat and barley and five of tobacco.

The rest is meadow land. Foreman feels it does the cows good to eat out and get fresh air and grass in the summertime. He feeds no silage in the summer, but does in the winter. He raises 95 per cent of his own replacement cattle.

The Foreman farm is a family operation, which includes his wife, Joyce and father, Veinon.

Mrs. Foreman does nearly all the milking. A vacuum tank was installed in 1964 and a glass pipe line system including some 296 feet of glass pipeline in the barn, was installed within the past year.

Due to changing regulations the Foremans also added additional systems to strain milk under gravity rather than vacuum. The milk is shipped to Lehigh Valley.

Lehigh Valley pays an additional 10 cents per hundred pounds of milk each month to producers with less than a 20,000 bacteria count. Since 1964, a period of six years they have received the bonus every time except for five months.

Foreman actually bought the farm this year from the elder Foreman, who bought it in 1962.

The Foremans pride themselves in doing most of the work themselves. With only a small amount of help on the block laying, they are building the new calf barn themselves, using boards sawed from trees grown on their own farm.

When the farm was originally purchased in 1962, it contained an old barn used for beef, horses and cows. Foreman and his father did 95 per cent of the work in converting it to a modern 40 stall cow barn. The work included removal of one section of 22-inch stone wall.

The entire property has a long history as a farm.

The house itself, a stone house, was built in 1794 with a frame addition about 100 years old.

The house is located only about 100 feet from Snavely's Mill, a well known landmark, located on Hammer Creek.

Hammer Creek runs through the Foreman property and the Foremans take advantage of its water for irrigation, mostly on hay, with some on corn and tobacco.

Lightweight 40-foot sections of aluminum four to five inches in diameter are used in the irrigation system.

While irrigation hasn't been of much use for the past couple of years, Foreman recalls when irrigation was very important.

Last year the Foremans raised nine acres of tobacco. It's down to five this year and he plans to "slowly eliminate all of it."

He explained, "It's a nice pile of money when it comes, but it's a 12-month ordeal."

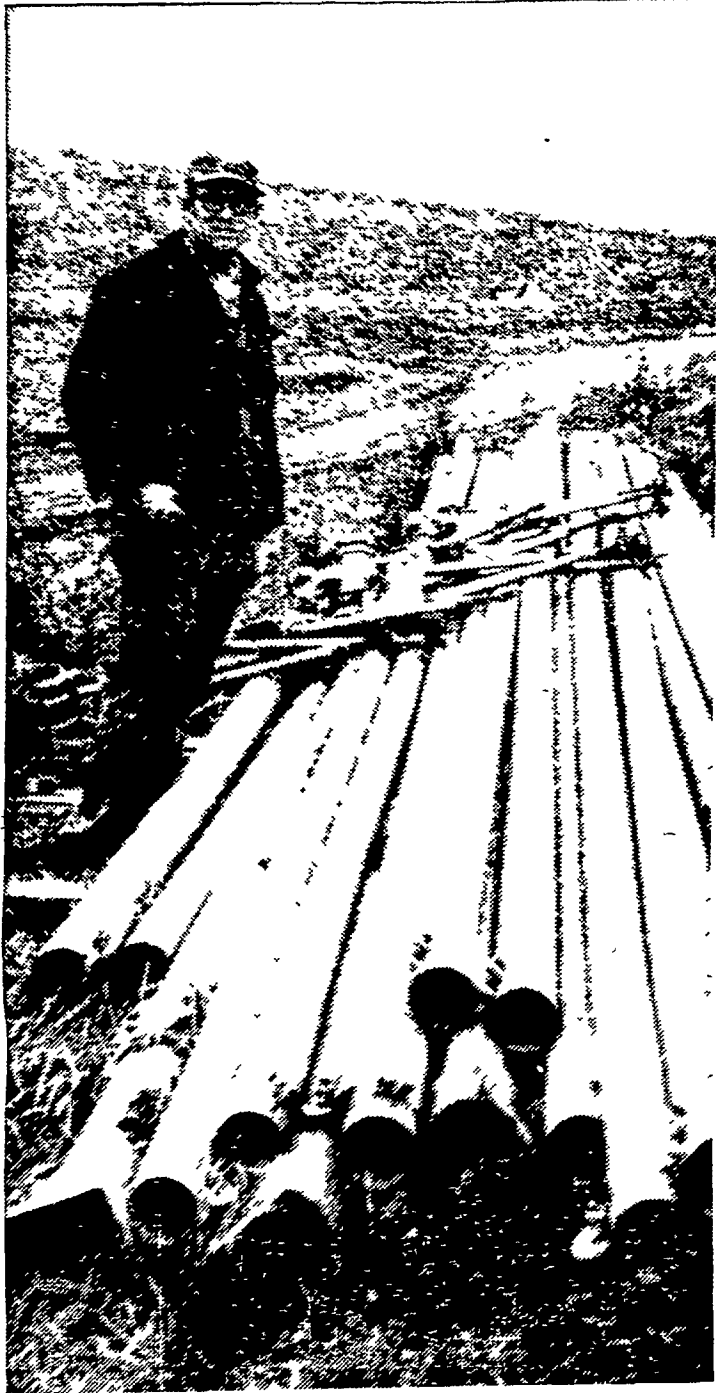
Asked about his response to the corn blight and his planting intentions for 1971, he said he expects to plant about the same acreage in corn, about 40 acres, as in 1970.

He said he experienced little trouble with blight in 1970, but had "some corn rootworm." He plans to use a chemical at planting time to combat rootworm.

He also plans to no-til some corn again next year. He thinks no-til is "great in its place" but doesn't think it is adaptable to all crops or to all types of farm



Joyce Foreman gets ready for the morning milking. She does most of the milking and her care with cleanliness is usually rewarded on the milk check. Daughter Vicki is helping.



Jay Foreman surveys a pile of lightweight irrigation pipe on his farm, wondering if next year will be the kind of year that it will again make it an important part of his farming operation.



Foreman pats his top milk producer, Lynn The Registered Holstein averages over 20,000 pounds per year.

operations. Each farmer has to decide if it fits into his own farming operation, he believes.

He likes no-til because of the slopes on his own farm. Much of the Foreman farm is class two and three land.

He noted he had some barley in no-til this year and had almost no soil loss during the summer's extremely heavy rains.

In his dairy feeding operation, he grinds and processes his own feed. He buys oats concentrate and beet pulp.

He explained that the beet pulp is a filler and causes the

cows to drink more water. The water consumption is supposed to increase milk production.

Foreman has been active in the Manheim Young Farmers since 1962, and was recently elected president.

This year he was elected treasurer of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers. Previously he had served two years as state public relations director.

He is also active in the Brunerville Fire Company.

The Foremans have three children: Kenneth, seven, Vicki, four, and Sidney, 20 months.



Foreman displays a lath of tobacco at his barn. He had a five acre crop this year.