

Pa. Angus Assn. Reports Successful Field Day at Twin Oaks



This is the Berks County team which placed first at the livestock judging event at Twin Oaks Farm last Saturday. In addition, Jim Holcombe, Mohrsville RD1, second from left, was the top junior individual and was

awarded an Angus calf from the Twin Oaks herd. On the left is Kathleen Muth, Alburts. On the right is Jim's sister Kathy and father Paul.

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development of testing programs so that the industry can better determine how to develop the type of animals it needs.

He also said that the bigger cattle have more frame, more feed efficiency and a little higher lean-to-fat ratio. He said the Angus industry must improve both birth rate and size, "but otherwise the breed is very sound."

Lester Burdette, Penn State University livestock specialist, stated, "If you're not in the Angus business to make a profit, that's all right, but don't come to me for management assistance."

To increase profits, cattlemen must, according to Burdette, sell more calves, use a good bull to increase the growth rate of their animals, improve the quality of the animal, neither underfeed nor overfeed, have a small corral for ease of handling animals and use a set of scales.

Richard Whaley, Queenstown, Md., explained his farm cow management program.

Fred Frey explained that the Twin Oaks operation centers around 200 cows and the farm has about 500 to 600 head on hand at any given time.

The herd is a purebred Angus herd sold strictly to other breeders as foundation stock.

The farm has been breeding purebreds since 1948, but has gained national prominence only in the past two years, Frey noted.

Some of the farm's outstanding bulls have been winners in recent years in top national shows.

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New Beef Carcass Inspection Slated

Inspection of beef carcasses for cleanliness—a program developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to expand current surveillance of beef carcasses—becomes mandatory in Federally inspected plants August 2.

Officials of USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service said the new beef carcass inspection requirement is an effort to provide increased consumer protection. It is a quality control program using statistical sampling to detect defects that may result from improper handling, cleaning or trimming of animals on the kill-

floor and in dressing areas of the plant.

The new program will provide inspectors and plant operators with specific standards on how beef carcasses should be handled to avoid contamination. It will also give inspectors definite criteria for accepting and rejecting beef carcass lots, based on nationally uniform statistical sampling procedures.

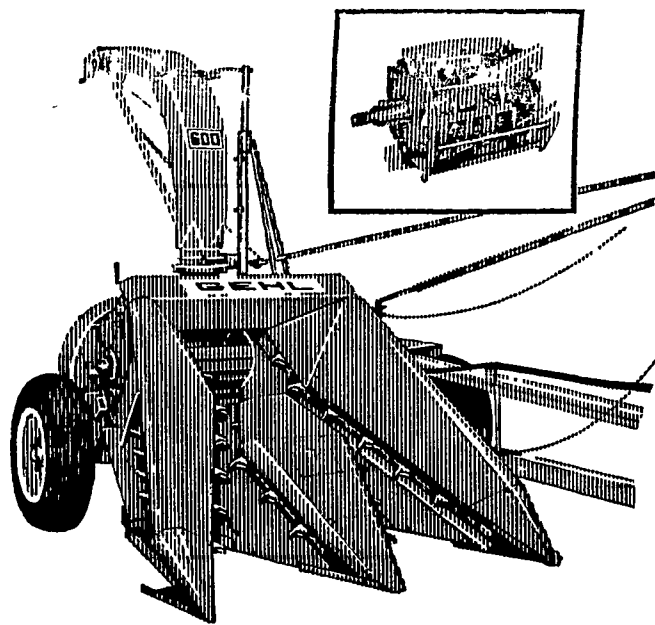
Beef carcasses must pass this inspection before they can be shipped to processing plants, retail outlets and other commercial channels.

Officials said many cattle slaughtering plants already conduct quality control programs which may, under USDA guidance, be adapted for this inspection program. Such review by a plant of its own product must meet C&MS requirements and will be subject to regular Federal monitoring.

Nearly four years of planning preceded the enactment of the new program, officials said. Studies conducted in plants across the country demonstrated the need for it. Statistical sampling procedures were developed. Federal inspectors received special training in sampling techniques and in techniques for observing and evaluating defects.

An in-plant "dry run" was conducted for more than eight months to assure that inspectors were adequately trained and to correct problems that had not been recognized during planning.

An official instruction detailing procedures and requirements of the program will be sent before August 2 to all Federal inspectors and plants slaughtering cattle.



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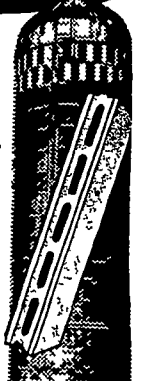
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