

# Lancaster County Holstein Breeders Tour Observes Lancaster County Farms



Paul B. Zimmerman, back to camera, center, holds the interest of members of the Lancaster County Holstein Breeders Association during the tour at his farm, as

he explains some of the practices he employs as he cares for his herd of excellent cattle.

county barns in the past two to three years.

Groff installed facilities to handle a new feeding system. Last year he stored high moisture corn, and reports he is feeding this high moisture corn with good results. This year he plans to add haylage to his system.

The Groff herd consists of 60 head of Holsteins.

The John Harnish Pondbank Farm was the last stop for the group. Harnish is the youngest farmer included on the tours.

The Harnish herd consists of 100 cows, housed in a comfort stall barn. The outstanding set-up included a pipeline milker. His set-up for young stock includes heated calf barns for winter, and exhaust fans for summer efficiency.

All four of the farms visited emphasized the comfort stall, which enables them to stay closer to the cows and provides more individual attention to the herd.

The tour committee consisted of J. Mowery Frey Jr, 401 Beaver Valley Pike, Lancaster, chairman; Curtis Akers, Quarryville RD2, and Clyde Buchen, Manheim RD3.

### Let Cows on Pasture Slowly

Dairymen should not hurry to let their cows out on green lush pasture during early spring, remind Extension dairy specialists at Pennsylvania State University. A sudden change from winter feeding to pasture feeding can cause mastitis. The specialists suggest feeding some hay and grain before dairy cows go out to pasture each day early in the season.

Three bus loads, a total of 110 persons, enjoyed the Lancaster County Holstein Breeders annual tour of Lancaster County farms and agribusinesses this week.

The group left from Lancaster Shopping Center at about 8 a.m. The first stop was at Weaver's Poultry Processing Plant, New Holland.

The first farm visited was Cocalico Holstein Farm, home of the Paul B. Zimmerman's Ephrata RD1. The Zimmerman herd of 36 head is housed in a spotless barn. The herd, the highest classified herd in the State, was the number one herd in Lancaster County DHIA records in 1971.

The 54-head herd of Carl Martin, Ephrata RD1, was the second stop on the agenda. The herd consists of home-bred Registered Holsteins. Martin's Spring Shade Farm has a good feeding system for older heifers.

A very satisfying family style meal was enjoyed by the group at the Akron Restaurant at noon.

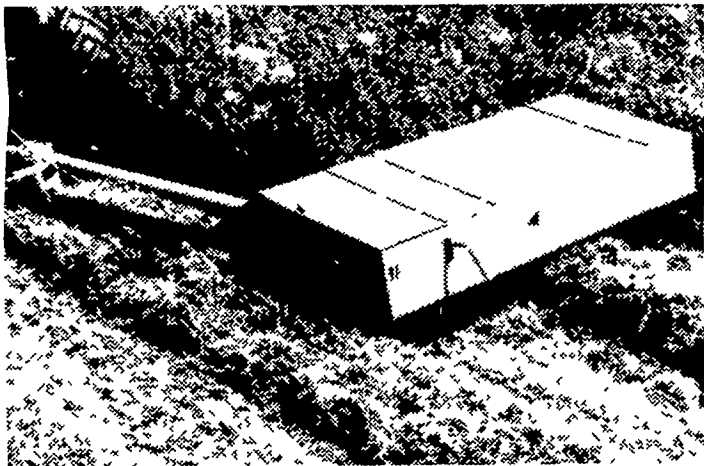
At Robert Groff's Groffdale Farm, Quarryville RD3, the group observed a new barn with pipeline milkers, comfort stalls, and liquid manure system.

A necessary addition with the liquid manure system is grates over gutters. This addition keeps the cows cleaner and there are less injuries reported from cows falling over gutters. The grates system is relatively new in the

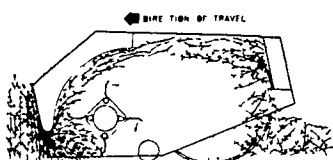
### New Look in Window Shades

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