

## Udder Washing Methods Explained

Washing and drying the cow's udder prior to milking is an important part of a farm sanitation program. It is the first step in assuring a good quality raw milk supply, says Sidney E. Barnard, Extension dairy specialist at The Pennsylvania State University.

Use a clean pail made of rubber, plastic or stainless steel. Rusty tin coated pails may cause off-flavor problems

Make up a proper strength sanitizer solution using an iodophor sanitizer. Iodophors are less irritating to the skin than chlorine and have a color indicator. Change the solution when the light brown color disappears, says Barnard.

Sponges and cloths occasionally cause high bacteria counts. Sponges and cloths remain wet between milkings, harboring bacteria and may contaminate the milk. Use individual paper towels to assure good quality. If you don't like paper towels, use a clean cloth each milking. Have an ample supply and put them in the household washing machine and dryer before reuse, urges Barnard.

Washing and drying the cow's udder stimulates milk letdown. It also provides a sanitized udder and teats for attaching the milking machine.

Consumer acceptability of fluid dairy products depends on raw milk quality. Properly wash and dry your cow's udder before milking to assure good quality milk, adds Barnard.

## Cull Low Producers To Save Feed Costs

Dairymen facing short supplies of feed and high prices should look at the records of their dairy cows to help ease a critical situation, says County Agent Herbert C. Gilmore, Extension dairy specialist at The Pennsylvania State University.

Low producing animals will consume almost as much feed as profitable cows without returning any profits. Feed saved by culling low producers can more profitably be fed to the higher producers.

Records of DHIA herds show that a minimum level for a profitable cow would be 10,000 pounds of milk or 400 pounds of fat per year. Cows producing below this level will not return enough money after paying the feed cost to pay the other costs of production, explains Gilmore. Many herds will find this level of production too low so each herd owner should set his own culling level by studying his production records carefully.

Feed costs are increasing very rapidly and more than ever it does not pay to feed low producing cows, adds Gilmore.

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Ten-year-old Theresa Navarro hands a check for \$8,050,000, payable to the United Nations Children's Fund, to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. Theresa and her fellow students at New York's P.S. 173, Raphael Strauss (left) and Wendy Brumsey, joined millions of U.S. youngsters in the annual Trick or Treat collection for UNICEF last Halloween. Other contributions and income from the 1972 sale of greeting cards by thousands of volunteers brought the total raised by the U.S. Committee for UNICEF over the past 20 years to more than \$83 million.



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## Empty Plastic Containers Not Safe For Gasoline

Handy plastic bottles and jugs are now being used as containers for many household products. Most of these containers will not hold gasoline safely, cautions the Cooperative Extension Service Farm and Home Safety Com-

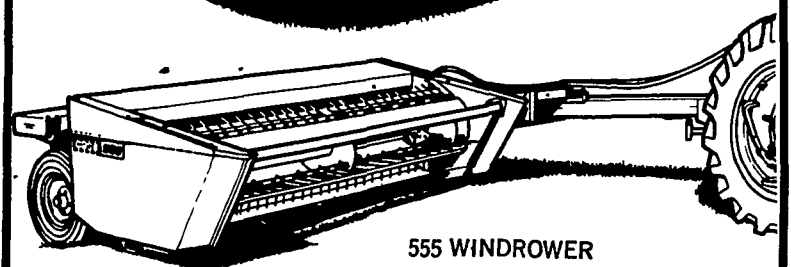
mittee of The Pennsylvania State University.

This is because gasoline can leak through the thin spots, especially during hot weather, causing these plastic containers to crack. Use metal containers for gasoline storage.

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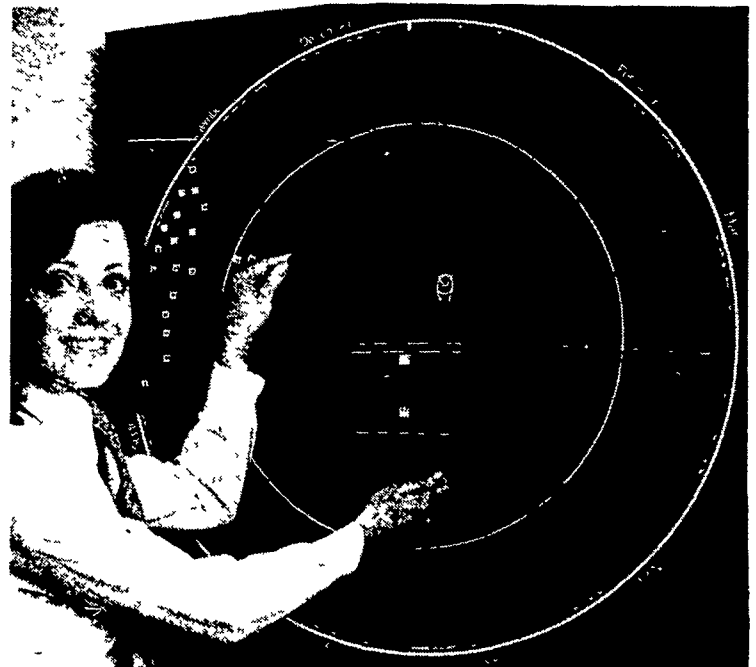
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