

Mastitis drug available

The antibiotic combination of penicillin and Albamycin (novobiocin) shows a high degree of effectiveness in combating clinical and subclinical mastitis in lactating cows, according to research data released by TUCO, Division of The Upjohn Company.

Penicillin and Albamycin are currently the only antibiotics approved by the Food and Drug Administration for combination use in lactating cows. The combination is available as Albacillin from TUCO.

The combination is particularly effective against *Strep. agalactiae* and *Staph aureus* the two types of bacterial responsible for an estimated 95 percent of the nation's mastitis cases.

Laboratory Tests

In laboratory tests, staph and strep isolates were taken from cattle in five geographically distant locations. Of the 476 *Staph aureus* isolates, 470 were sensitive to Albamycin and 293 were sensitive to penicillin. None of the staph isolates was resistant to both Albamycin and penicillin in the laboratory tests.

Of the 433 *Strep ag* isolates tested in the laboratory, 383 were sensitive to Albamycin and 427 were sensitive to penicillin. Of the 433 isolates, only one was resistant to both Albamycin and penicillin.

Field Trials

Field trials were also

conducted in dairy herds located in five geographical areas. A total of 468 quarters were treated with Albacillin two times at a 24-hour interval.

Of the quarters treated, 133 were determined to have subclinical *Staph aureus* infections. A cure (eradication of *Staph aureus* measured three weeks post-treatment) was achieved in 89 percent of these cases. Of 48 quarters infected subclinically with *Strep ag*, 94 percent were cured with Albacillin.

Limousin field day held

NEWVILLE - The Eastern Limousin Breeders Association is sponsoring a field day on August 24, to be held near here at the Keystone Limousin Farm. The event will feature distinguished speakers, movies, and the viewing of approximately 100 head of Limousin cattle.

Featured speakers include Gary Minish, professor of animal science at V.P.I.; Robert Kimble, director of the Meat Animal Evaluation Center at Penn State University; and Robert Vantrease, executive vice president of the North American Limousin Foundation, Denver, Colorado.

A sale will be held the following day, August 25, starting at 1:00 p.m.

Of the clinical mastitis cases, 155 quarters showed a *Staph aureus* infection and 64 percent were cured with the antibiotic combination.

Most researchers agree that anything over a 50 percent cure rate in staph-caused clinical mastitis in lactating cows is outstanding. Clinical *Strep ag* infections were counted in 132 quarters and a 95 percent cure rate was achieved.

Overall results, including clinical and subclinical cases, showed that Albacillin cured 75 percent of the *Staph aureus* cases and 95 percent of the *Strep ag* cases.

TUCO recommends that Albacillin be used in the second step of TUCO's 4-point Modern Mastitis Management Program which includes, 1) proper operation and maintenance of milking equipment, 2) quick treatment of clinical flare-ups, 3) use of a teat dip, and, 4) a program of dry cow therapy.



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Winterization available

In an effort to conserve energy and reduce heating bills, a sizable amount of money has been allocated to Lancaster County by the Dept. of Community Affairs.

The Housing Development Corporation of Lancaster County is implementing a winterization program to provide insulation, caulking, and weatherstripping to low income homeowners.

The Pertinent facts are:
1. The project is called Winterization.

2. To be eligible the income level must be 5,000.00 or less.

3. Families with dependent children may be cer-

tified even if their incomes are over 5,000.00.

4. The homeowner may also qualify for a Farmers Home Administration low interest (1 percent) loan to provide other necessary improvements to their property.

5. The home must be owner occupied.

6. Applications are available at H.D.C. office, 240 E. Orange Street, phone 397-3787. Farmers Home Loans can be processed here also.

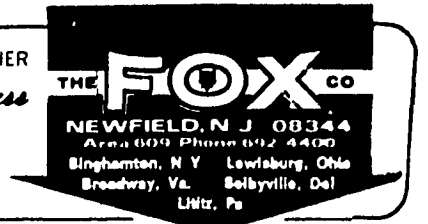
Berks Dairy Club

The Eastern Berks Dairy Club recently held a meeting at the home of George Schuler.

The members discussed the upcoming Kutztown fair and discussed entry blanks for the event.

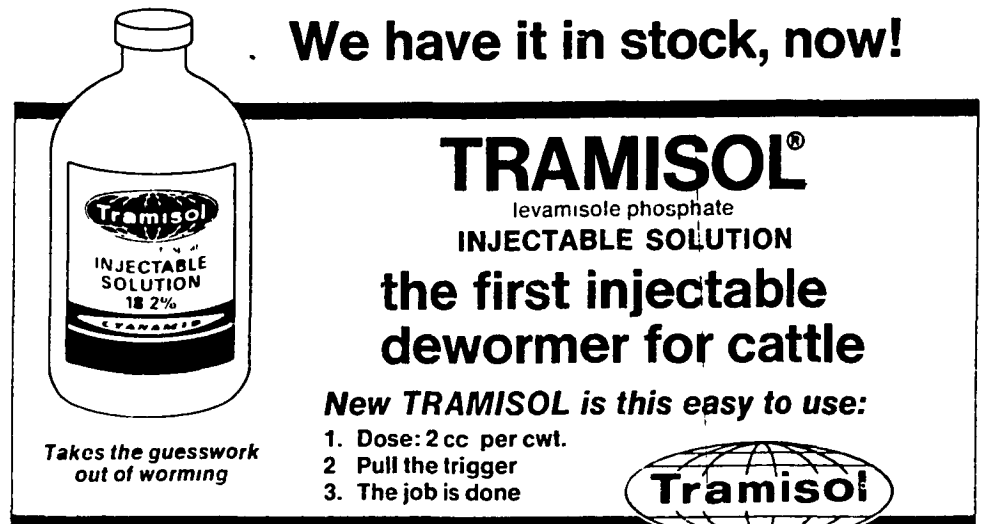
The next meeting will be held at the Kutztown Fair on Aug. 22 following judging by the members.

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