

Performance records computerized

HOUSTON, TEX. - New, totally computerized performance certificates of registration are now being issued by American-International Charolais Assn, providing performance data on the individual animal and his sire and dam, announces Dr. J. W. Gossett, executive vice president.

"This new certificate will be issued on animals with performance records in the association's Charolais Herd

Improvement Program on request of the breeder, thereby eliminating costly and time-consuming manual compilation of data for the certificates," he said.

Individual performance data on the animal and his sire and dam that will be shown on the performance certificate includes birth weights and calving ease, weaning and yearling weight ratios, and the number of contemporaries with which the individual was raised.

Data from the Charolais Sire Evaluation Program also will be shown on the individual's sire and grand-sire.

Dr. Gossett said the new system is a departure from conventional performance certificates in that weight ratios and number of contemporaries only are included rather than actual weights. This gives a better indication of the genetic potential of that animal under that management system as opposed to arbitrary conception of weight levels, he added.

"This type of information continues a long-standing program of emphasis upon the performance of Charolais, and now places that information on the individual's registration-recording certificate," Dr. Gossett continued. "It provides an objective description of the animal by tying together the performance of the animal with that of his parents and grandsire and their progeny for a better estimate of the papered animal's breeding

value. It is vital information for making breeding assignments and for use by prospective buyers."

Currently more than 1,000 herds are enrolled in the Charolais Herd Improvement program, representing approximately 100,000 animals. Owners of cattle enrolled in other performance organizations, such as state Beef Cattle Improvement Associations, may have that performance data fed into the CHIP system on arrangement with the Charolais association's breed improvement section, and also receive the performance certificate.

The association will continue issuance of its joint certificate with PRI, a



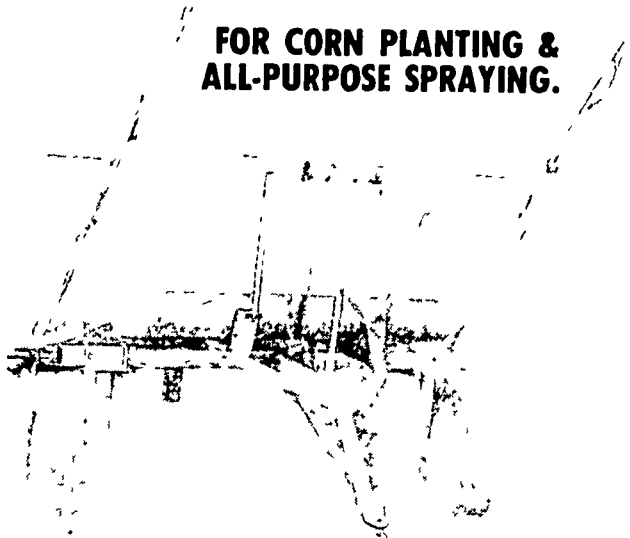
"Mad as a March hare" comes from the fact that hares are unusually shy and wild in March, which is their rutting season.

standard hand-developed certificate used for more than a decade by some breeders, only upon request of those members.

Top or Bottom
A crew of workmen were building a house. After a lot of activity, the foreman went to see the architect. "Say," he asked, "did you want this house built from the top down or from the bottom up?" "From the bottom up" was the astonished reply. "Okay." Then the foreman turned and yelled, "Fear 'er down boys! We gotta start over."

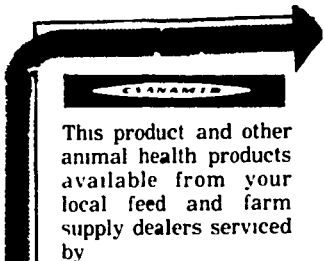
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