

Several dozen cows were tied in their stalls at one end of the dealer's barn. Their tails were washed and combed, and they stood on rubber mats sprinkled with wood shavings and sawdust. The gritty "barn snow" in the litter alley crunched beneath my boots as I slowly walked along with my eyes scanning toplines, udders, feet, and legs.

"Bosco" was the first to catch my attention. She was a tall, rather lean, individual, with a straight topline and sharp withers. Stepping alongside of her. I patted her rump and plied her hide. Although she wasn't an "Ivanhoe" daughter, she had some of his features, and to me that spelled "Dairy Character."

"What's the price on her?" I asked as I stepped across the gutter. Without hesitation the dealer snapped back "600" and awaited my reaction while steadfastly rolling a wad of chewing tobacco around in his mouth. "Six-hundred is a bit high." I countered as I walked around the front to get a good look at the spotted cow's head and neck. She was a friendly cow, and I liked her too -- it was just a matter of haggling over the price, which was a sizable amount in 1968.

Standing right next to "Bosco" was a cow I instantly recognized as one I wanted. Although small in stature, she looked like she could really produce milk. Every feature about her was perfect in my eye and I was reluctant to ask for her price for fear of having to pass her by. Inquiring about owning her was almost like asking the prettjest girl in the county for a date.

Surprisingly, the dealer had her price pegged at \$550 and the good news allowed me to look for one or two more cows. I felt like a little king; "Bosco" and "Pat" would be great additions to the herd.

Buying replacement cattle is often risky, but it's necessary until a dairyman has his own young stock to choose from. It's a test of one's knowledge of cows, and with a pile of money riding on the outcome, it's a bit exciting. Like anything which has a note of adventure attached to it, the rewards and satisfactions are great when you find out that the right decision was made.

Such was the case when "Bosco" and "Pat" came into my life on the farm.

LFRKAWK

SPECIAL

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What's New . HIGH-YIELDING ALFALFA VARIETY

BLOOMINGTON, III. - A new wilt-resistant, winterhardy alfalfa variety -Funk's G-747 — is now available for 1976 planting from Funk Seeds International.

The new variety was developed from parental strains noted for persistence, resistance to bacterial wilt and other disease diseases, and good forage appearance. It is adapted to the northern and central areas of the United States where Vernal and Ranger are presently grown. Forage production from G-747 has exceeded Vernal and Ranger in a great majority of the tests conducted by Funk researchers over a period of years. At times G-747 has out-yielded the two established varieties by more than ten percent. It is more resistant to downy mildew than Ranger or Vernal. In resistance to

bacterial wilk, G-747 is equal to or slightly better than Vernal. It has about the same dormancy as Vernal, with possibly a greater

degree of winterhardiness, based on tests to date. Seed for spring planting of G-747 is now available from Funk's G dealers.



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Let your dealer show you today's best tune-up for hard-working tired udders, with the special Wayne dry-cow health and feeding program. Also, the precise steps to take to prevent most freshening-time problems.

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Allied Mills Inc Chicago IL 60606

PAT NO. 3.135,279

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