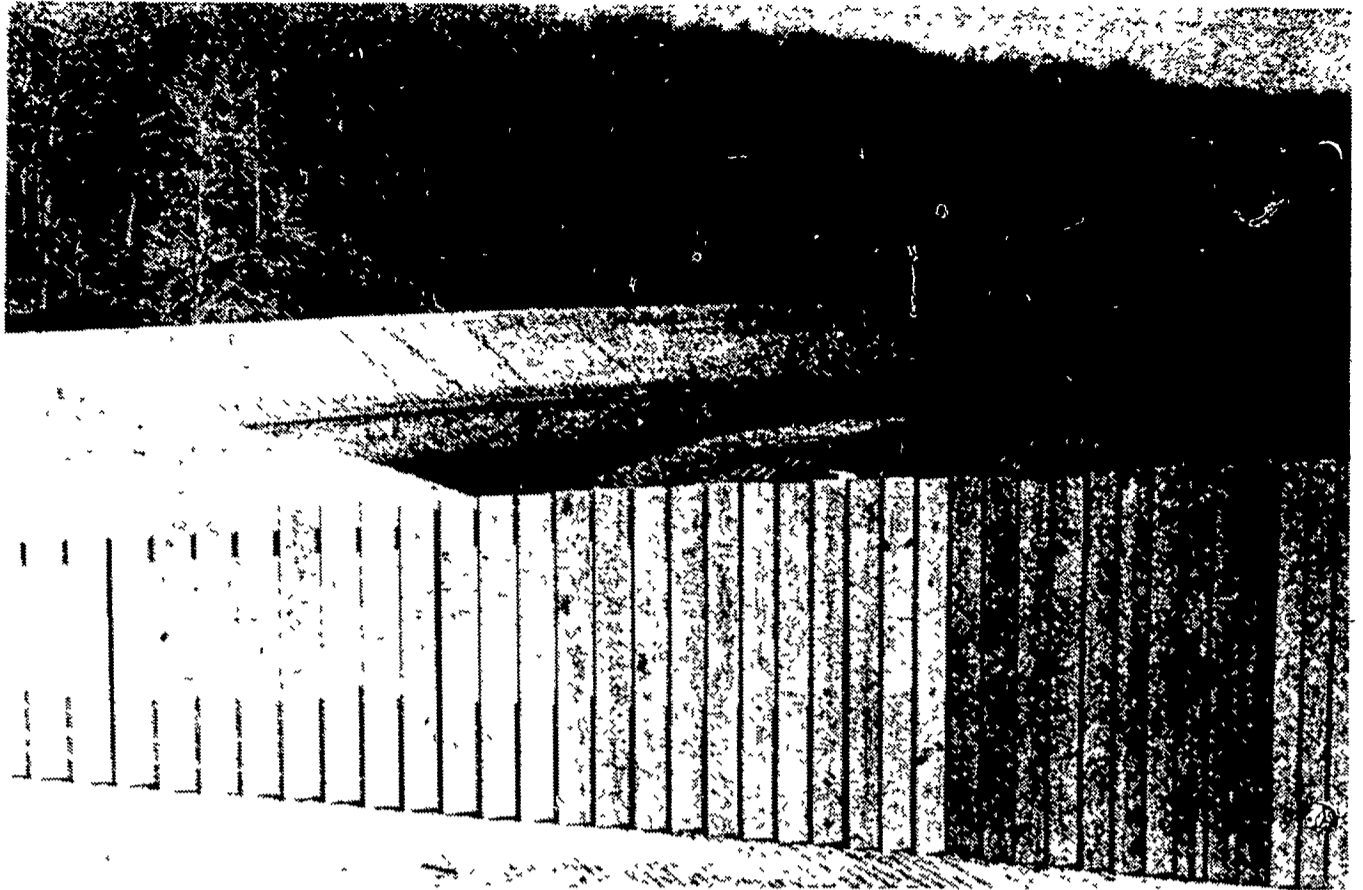
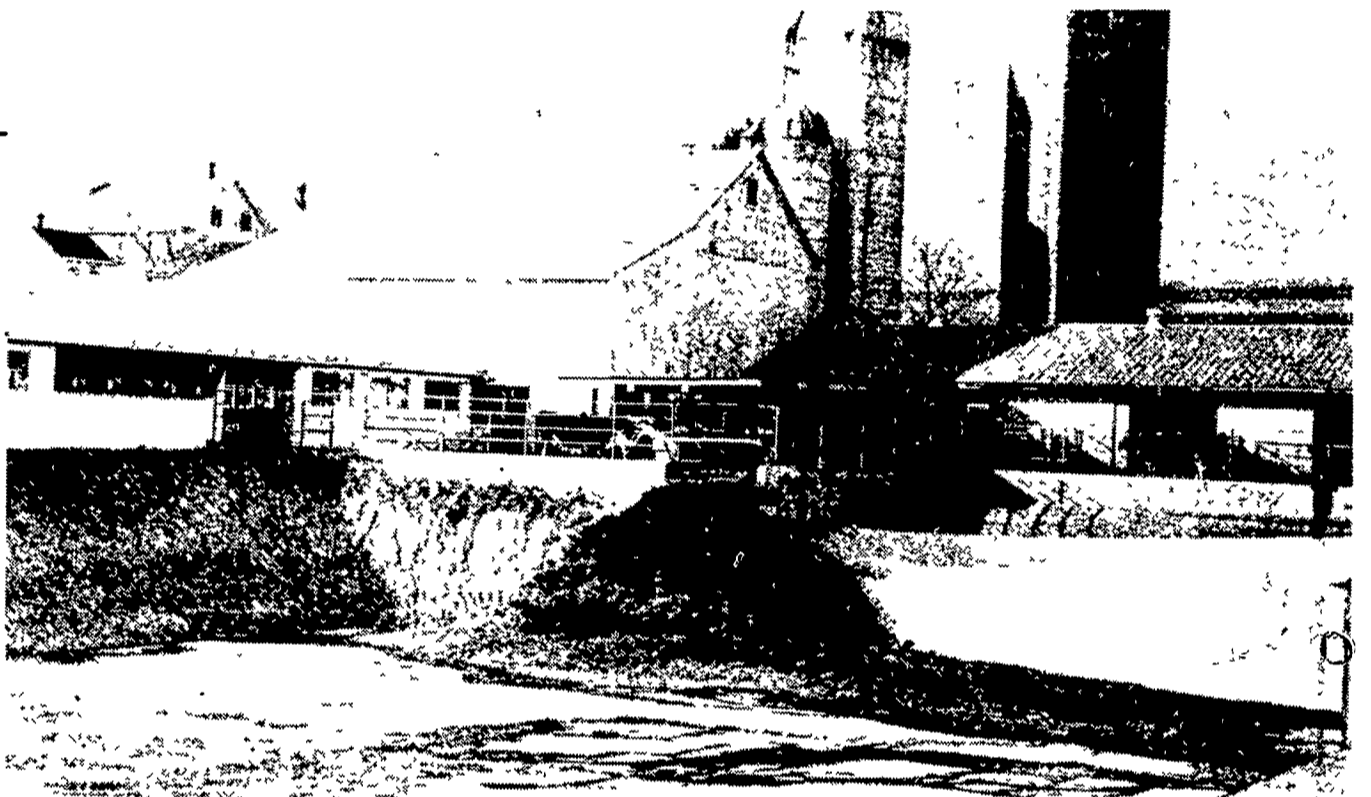


The slat dam on Bob Kauffman's farm is constructed of treated 2 by 6's designed to allow liquids to flow through while holding solids back. The entire area for solids is concreted, as is a 30-foot path connecting the solids area with the pond (shown in the background). The concrete ramp, with a 6:1 slope, is also used to get into the pond when it becomes necessary to pump some of the liquids out. The pond is approximately eight feet lower than the solids storage area, and is 12 feet in depth at its deepest point. The structures were designed and constructed with the help of the Penn State Extension and Soil Conservation Services. It also meets DER standards. Kauffman reports having had a number of visitors before the facility was even completed, and many farmers have expressed interest in constructing similar systems. Each of the two areas has earthen banks along all four sides. The pond measures 34 feet by 54 feet, while the solids area is 110 feet long and 63 feet wide. Capacity is rated at seven months for 125 cows.



Cost was one big reason Bob Kauffman chose to store manure and liquids in two large excavations near his barn. "It's cheaper," says the southern Lancaster County dairyman. Other advantages he cited while comparing his system to conventional methods, are that manure is saved, fertilizer costs are cut, and he doesn't have to worry where to spread manure during the Summer or when it rains.



They were impressed

[Continued from Page 21]

engineering consultants and DER who are working on comprehensive water quality management plans for their areas," said Kelso. "This offered them a more realistic view of what agriculture is doing to prevent possible pollution of streams," he continued. "That was the main purpose and that was accomplished. The consultants were impressed, particularly at how applicable the various manure management systems are. Also impressive were the wide range of alternatives farmers had at their disposal to promote conservation," Kelso added.

The tour included an above-ground liquid manure storage system on the Jay Garber farm, Lancaster R6, a slotted dam system on the Bob Kauffman farm, Peach Bottom, a conventional earthen-bank storage

system for liquid manure on the Don Trimble Farm, Peach Bottom, and an earthen-bank system with spray irrigation distribution on the Dave Young farm, also of Peach Bottom. All of these manure management systems allow the farmer to store the manure in an environmentally safe manner and apply it to his fields when weather conditions are favorable. Farmers without manure management systems must haul manure to the fields daily even during rain storms or freezing temperature. The potential for degrading stream and ground water with storm water runoff from manure is the greatest during these adverse weather conditions. Soil conservation practices were also viewed on a number of the farms.

The tour will be useful to the COWAMP consultant in developing recom-

mendations on managing and controlling agricultural sources of water pollution. COWAMP, in addition to agricultural sources of water pollution, is studying all major sources of stream and ground water degradation and will result in a workable set of coordinated policies, procedures, programs, projects and possible regulations to achieve desired water quality. Anyone interested in obtaining information on COWAMP or participating in a public committee that is assisting in formulation of the plan should write to COWAMP, Box 2063, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

The Lancaster County Cooperative Extension Service arranged and conducted the tour in cooperation with the County Conservation District and Planning Commission.

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