

Milk price boost 'far short'

Washington, D.C. — The dairy price support increase, announced March 22 by the Carter Administration, is "far short of what is needed but is a definite improvement over the existing figure or the level advocated by the Council on Wage and Price Stability," Tony T. Dechant, president of National Farmers Union said.

Noting that manufacturing milk prices had declined almost \$1 per hundred pounds since January a year ago and that the milk-feed price ratio has worsened by 15 per cent in that same time, Dechant said the stated increase of 74 cents per hundred pounds to \$9.00 represents "slightly more than half of the increase needed to keep pace with rising costs and to keep dairying a viable industry."

"At the same time, the new figure is some improvement over the existing level of \$8.26 (76 per cent of parity) or the \$8.13 support level urged by the wage and price council," Dechant said.

Acknowledging that USDA said it would take another look at the situation in six months, Dechant said that would be too long a delay and indicated Farmers Union would continue to urge Congress to raise the statutory minimum to 90 per cent of parity or \$9.67 per hundred pounds.

Dechant said he was pleased that USDA intends to remove the "cheese tilt", in the USDA buying levels so that producers of butter and nonfat dry milk would be treated with cheese processors.

Stein joins HFAA

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Keith L. Stein has accepted a position with Holstein-Friesian Association of America as a program director in western Pennsylvania. Stein is responsible for coordinating Holstein programs and services in this area as well as conducting personalized on-the-farm assistance to breeders.

Stein brings to this position a background in dairy management. Since graduation from Ohio State University in 1974, he has been assistant dairy herdsmen for the university's herd, where he gained experience in herd management, herd health and practical experience in artificial insemination.

He served two years as DHI supervisor in Berks County, Pennsylvania, following graduation from high school.

Stein holds a bachelor of science degree in animal science from Ohio State University and an associate degree in applied science from the State University of New York, Agricultural and Technical, at Alfred.

Keith and his wife Shirley and infant son have relocated in the Indiana, Pennsylvania area.

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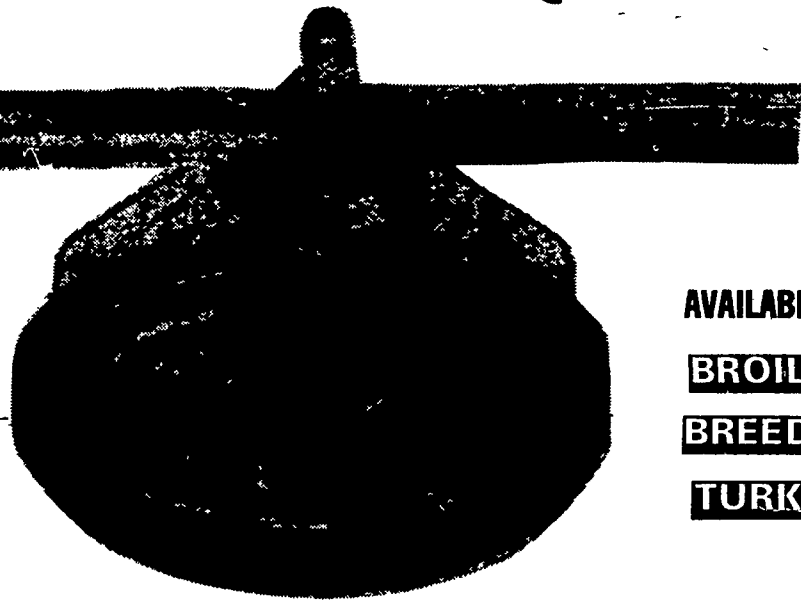
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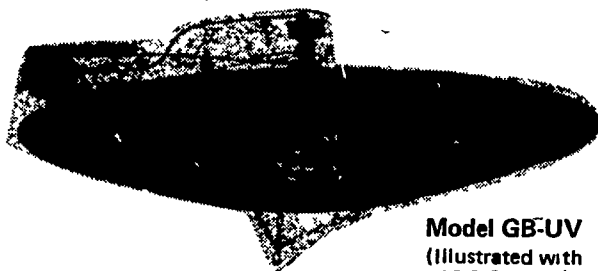


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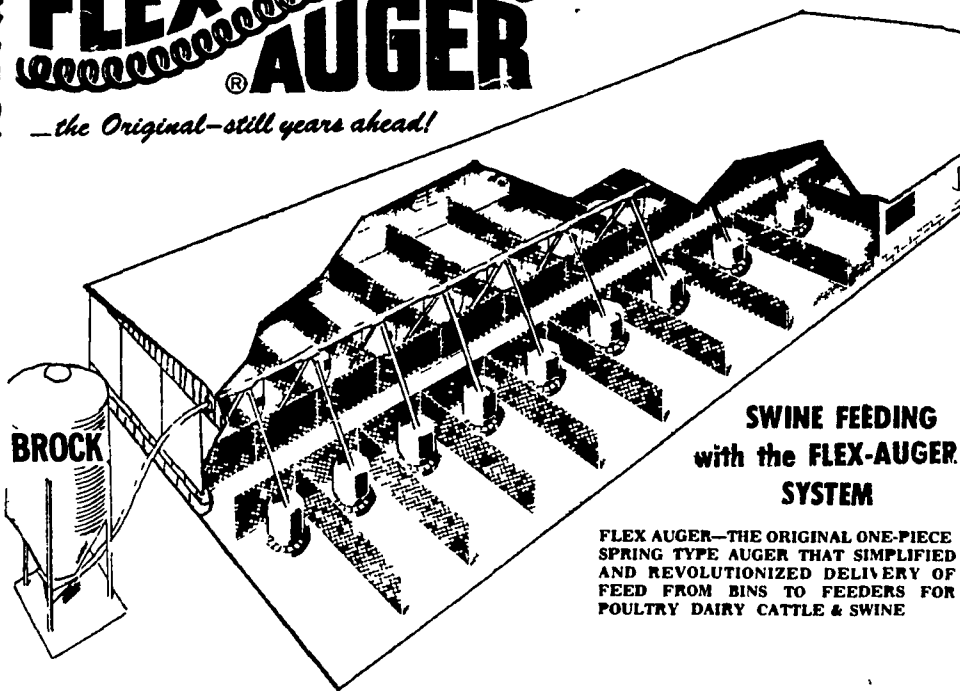
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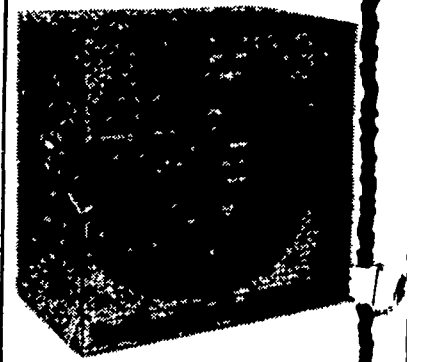
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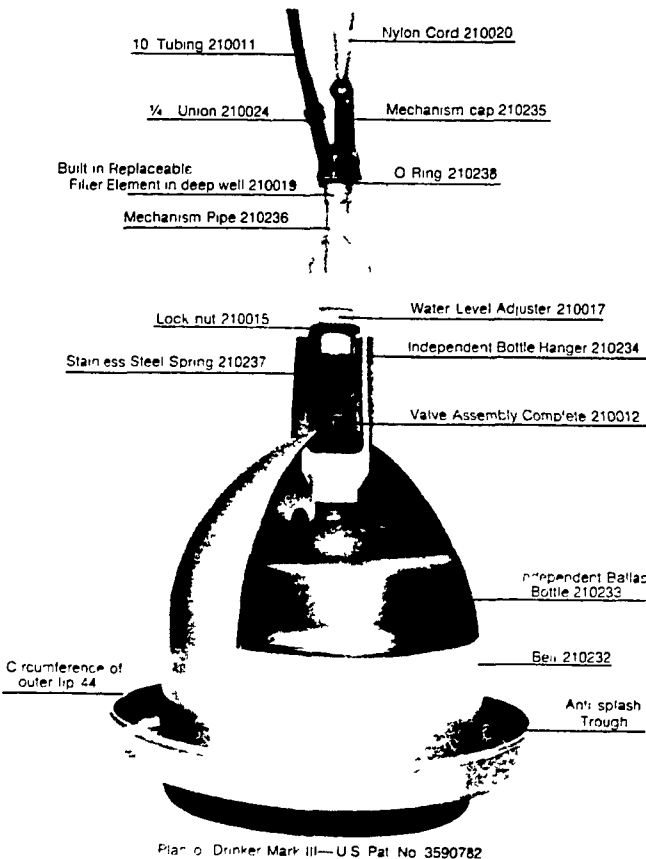
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