## Top dairy production

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management, and a good culling program.

"I didn't do anything anybody else couldn't have done," Bollinger said, stating his belief.

He and his son have been breeding the cows with A.I. since 1944 and they've raised nearly all their animals, purchasing very few. According to DHIA records, they culled 24 per cent of their animals last year, and are members of DHIR.

Meyer milks 83 head of both registered and grade Holsteins. All totalled, he owns 150 head. One management practice that he feels has led to his high butterfat record is his feed testing program which he has been on for four years.

During a Lebanon County progress report, Greg Solt, county Extension agent, noted that Lebanon County ranks third in Pennsylvania for milk and butterfat production. The county average per cow pounds of

milk was 14,882 pounds, up over last year's average by 543 pounds and over the state average by 740 pounds. According to Penn State's records, the increase for this year was the largest single increase Lebanon County has experienced in any single year up to this point. Average butterfat for the county was also up by 20 pounds and was over the state average by the same amount.

In a statement predicting the outlook for Lebanon County dairying in the future, Solt envisioned positive advances taking place due mainly to three things: a total balanced, all in one feed ration which challenges the animal; genetic upgrading through artificial insemination; and increased production through the use of the somatic cell counting.

"By using A.I., we put the genetics of the top cow families in our herds and we end up with cows that are 95 per cent made up of the best cow families," stated Solt.

"But, feeding is our main problem--we're not challenging the cows enough," he stated. The key to this as Solt sees it is the total balanced, all-in-one feed ration through which only one mix, composed of grains and roughages and perfectly balanced with minerals and vitamins, is fed to all cows.

To prepare this mixture. forages are tested, bodyweight and production of cows are taken into account, and a production level is aimed for. The mixture is then made and fed to all cows. Findings show that cows will limit themselves to the amount of feed they actually need, balancing their ration to the amount of energy they expend. The results are as good, and sometimes better, with this method as with other feeding programs.

The somatic cell count, which detects subclinical

TO CHAIN SAWS

mastitis, is predicted to be the greatest improvement in dailying sir, aculicial insemination. For the past 18 months, Lebanon, along with several others counties in Pennsylvania, has been on a pilot program with the machine. The program was recently officially accepted and a second machine purchased. It will now become a statewide program with only 20 per cent of the dairymen on test able to use it. Therefore, all Lebanon County dairymen were encouraged to put their name on a waiting list to be accepted.

Harold Bollinger, state director, also reported to the group that the DHIA recently hired an administrative assistant who will work at the state level. Included in the evening's

events was the recognition of 33 herds with over 600 pounds of butterfat. These 33 herds represented one-third of all herds on the Lebanon County DHIA. Those herds were: Dale Hostetter and Sons, Annville R2; Bennetch Bros., Myerstown R2; Arnold Acres, Lebanon R2; Donald G. Hoffer, Lebanon Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 5, 1977—115

R4; Mervin Horst, Newmanstown R1; Edwin E. Funck, Jonestown R1; David Brandt, Annville R1; Raymond and Marlin Getz, Myerstown R4; Issac E. Zimmerman, Lebanon; Clarence Mase, Lebanon; Sonnen Acres, Richland R1; Hubert S. Miller, Myerstown R2; Albert F. Moyer, Lebanon; M. Luther Bennetch, Newmanstown R1; Kenneth I. Sellers, Lebanon R4; Hershey Bare, Lebanon R2; Clifford Groff, Lebanon; Reuben O. Martin, Myerstown R2; Simeon K. Zook, Newmanstown; Mark C. Patches, Lebanon; Phares Z. Musser, Newmanstown R1; Harvey T. Bomgardner, Annville R3; Abram T. Lefever. Jonestown R1; Robert Martin, Myerstown

R2; Vincent A. Wagner, Jonestown R1; Norman Kline, Myerstown R2; Enos N. Leinbach, Myerstown R2; Warren L. Lentz, Lebanon R1; Luke I. Patches, Lebanon R7; Daniel B. Shirk, Newmanstown R1; Harold Wampler and son, Lebanon R4; Ferndale Farms, Lebanon R1; and Lewis M. Werner, Fredericksburg R1.

The ribbons for these awards were presented by the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association.

Also during the meeting, the election of two directors took place. Harvey Bomgardner, Annville R3, and David Brandt, Annville R1; were elected to fill in spots in two associations.

## It's accident season

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and other groups who may find it helpful. She expressed great appreciation to the Extension service for helping develop the slide set.

The slide set emphasizes all areas of potential danger on the farm, from unguarded power take-offs, to standing in front of a tractor wheel while talking to the driver, to "baby'sitting" while doing work around the farm. It pointed out that slow moving vehicle emblems which are

faded or improperly displayed are of little use.

Safety on the farm is of importance to every family member, and the slide set urges that each member be made constantly aware of potential hazardous situations, pointing out that children learn good and bad habits from their parents.

The narrator on the slide set suggests that everyone give his farm a safety check. After all, "When was the last time you expected an accident?



Saturday 7:30 to 3:00

## **Auto Service Tips**

Protecting the cooling system of your car assures top engine efficiency. The cooling system carries heat away from the engine—in one hour's driving, enough to keep a six-room house at 70 degrees in zero weather for almost a full day. Check cooling system on a regular basis. Follow manufacturer's instructions as to coolant-anti-freeze.



