



Going to the Farm Show is this Charolais bull, VDL Kingpin, owned by V. D. Leisure, Harrisburg, Pa.



One of the jenny donkeys used in training the cattle to lead patiently waits in her exercise lot until her time comes to work. Note how the ground slopes in the lots so that the cattle get the proper exercise in their pens.

## Livestock fitting se

By KENDACE BERRY  
LEBANON - Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Orley, Lebanon R4, have been offering a business service to farmers since April of 1977 and they're taking their business to the Pa. Farm Show. They own and manage the Keystone Cattle Service, a fitting service for potential show and sale cattle.

Basically, what the Orleys do is get cattle ready for shows and sales. They cater towards the needs of smaller beef breeders that have top cattle and would like to have them prepared for shows or sales, and can't afford the time or help needed for that goal. They also work with cattle from larger herds.

The cattle are selected for their potential and each is handled and fed according to its individual needs, to bring the animal to its peak performance for either the show season or a sale, whichever is desired. The animals must also be halter-broken and trained to lead.

The Orleys have worked with Herefords, Polled Herefords, Charolais, Simmentals, Maine-Anjous, and Chianinas, and added that they would happily fit Angus and Shorthorn cattle.

The first step in training the cattle is to halter break the animals. The cattle are

first broken to be tied at halter, and they are tied to a fence with a six inch rope with swivel snaps at both ends. When they will stand quietly, it is time for them to learn to lead.

For this, a jenny donkey is used. The beef animal is tied with a short rope to the jenny's halter, and wherever the donkey goes, it has to follow. This way the cattle learn to give in to the pressure of the halter, and start to lead. According to Mrs. Orley, the two animals seem to communicate and come to terms. Some animals learn to lead very quickly, while others may take as long as three days.

Every animal that comes into the Orley barn is first quarantined, for the protection of the other cattle. The animals are started on a basic health care program, with the owner's consultation.

Most of the Orley operation takes place in a special show barn which they had built to their own specifications. Located on the side of the hill, each pen has an exercise lot, 15 feet by 200 feet, with a slope to insure that the cattle get proper exercise. The open-sided structure is modelled so that the animals are in the open air without being ex-

posed to the weather. Their environment resembles the natural one. Orleys believe this set-up helps reduce stress in stock.

Cliff Orley, an American International Charolais Association member, has had 15 years experience showing cattle, having worked every major breed show up in Ohio, and besides in 4-H, worked for Farms, noted business. He has worked herdsman and manager was the research here at Penn State. He graduated from Ohio State University and did his graduate work Penn State. While at State, he was on the team there. He has coached the University of Kentucky livestock team.

His wife, the former Heistand, is a Lancaster County girl who in words, "grew up on cattle". The daughter of a livestock dealer and buyer, she was active and has always had a love for animals.

At the shows, the Orleys and their work crew are constantly busy. Each animal is washed, combed, brushed, cleaned. At night,

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