

Tractor pulling season

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Harrington, Del., and the following Saturday (May 13) the gates will open again at The Buck. Other tractor pulling sites this year include Cumberland Valley, Lebanon, Kutztown, and Grantville where either tractor pulling associations or special events chairmen are responsible for putting the show on the track.

Pulls will be held regularly at some of the locations, such as The Buck, which boasts the only tractor pulling stadium in the country. Some other pulls

will be a once and done affair. On May 29-30, for example, Muncy-Chief Hybrids will sponsor the \$24,100 tractor pull at the Penn National State Fair at Grantville, just off of Interstate 81, exit 28. Activities get underway at 1 p.m. on the 29th and 30th, with evening programs both days beginning at 7 p.m.

To further illustrate the popularity and crowd drawing power of tractor pulling contests, we point out the Kutztown Fire Company truck crew will sponsor their contest on May 26, beginning

at 7 p.m. at the Kutztown Fairgrounds.

While contest organizers are making their preparations for the tractor pulling season, the drivers themselves are tuning their engines, and making modifications to place them in better competitive positions. Tractor pulling involves more than horsepower and weight. It involves mechanical ingenuity, balance, and great driving skill. While their machines — which frequently develop more than 1000 horsepower — scream to life, the driver gives full attention to the track, the wheels, his steering, a cluster of gauges, noises, scents, and vibrations. If he expects to win, he has to be in "direct communication" with his machine. Drivers develop a real feel for their equipment until it almost becomes as though the driver and machine are physically linked to each other.

Amos Stauffer, one of the pioneers among tractor

pullers in Lancaster County, exemplifies the "fine tuning" of both man and machine. While admitting that many adjustments and modifications are basically "just guesses," he and others like him have the ability to interpret results of adjustments and modifications until a winning combination is found. By doing so, men like Stauffer increase horsepower as much as ten-fold.

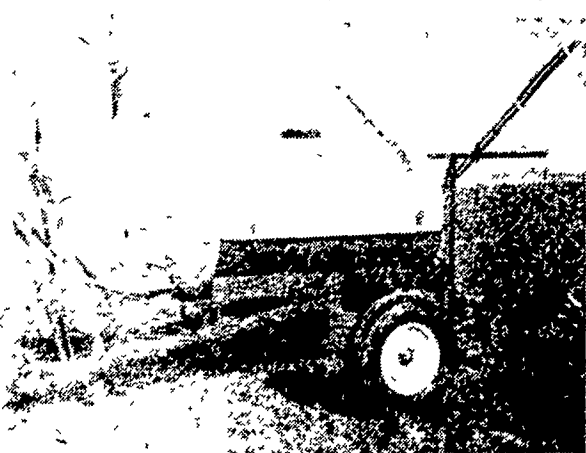
Stauffer and his sons have won several national tractor pulling contests, running air-cooled Deutz Diesels. One of the younger Stauffers, Mark, helped introduce tractor pulling in Europe last Fall when he demonstrated the power of his tractor at an international even in the Netherlands.

For more information on tractor pulling, and scheduled events in your location, consult your area tractor pulling association, or write to the Pennsylvania Tractor Pullers Association, P.O. Box 157, New Holland, Pa. 17557.



Amos Stauffer prepares his "Fido" for the upcoming tractor pulling season.

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Beef cattle prices

(Continued from Page 1)

early March. At auction after auction, the price is up. The market pages inside provide details.

According to marketing specialists and market observers, the new level of beef prices is expected to hold steady, a development which they've been predicting for months.

Higher prices have been in marketing forecasts for more than six months, with the chief reason being lower cattle numbers.

Higher prices continue to be recorded all across the nation. This week's Pennsylvania summary, (see market pages, inside) shows the trend: Fewer cattle are going to market while prices are rising. Feeder cattle numbers show the same trend.

The new wave of rising prices for cattlemen, which comes after two years of comparatively low prices, is causing retail butchers to advise their customers to stock their freezers now.

According to the National Livestock and Meat Board, considerable interest in cattle prices is being generated as a result of the new upswing. But it's not like the interest and even protests that were generated

a few years ago during the beef boycott.

In the NLMBR newsletter, dated May 1, the organization says:

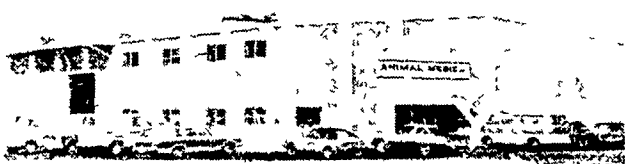
"The phones keep ringing. The calls come from network and local radio-television news wire services, metropolitan newspapers, news magazines. The editors, reporters, news directors want more information on rising meat prices — especially rising beef prices. Some are straight telephone

interviews. Others are calls to arrange face-to-face interviews on various aspects of the meat price story.

"Significantly, to date the news people have been seeking the kind of basic facts about the livestock and meat industry which help them explain to consumers why supplies are down and prices are up. They are seeking information about the factors that affect meat prices — not demanding to know who is making unfair

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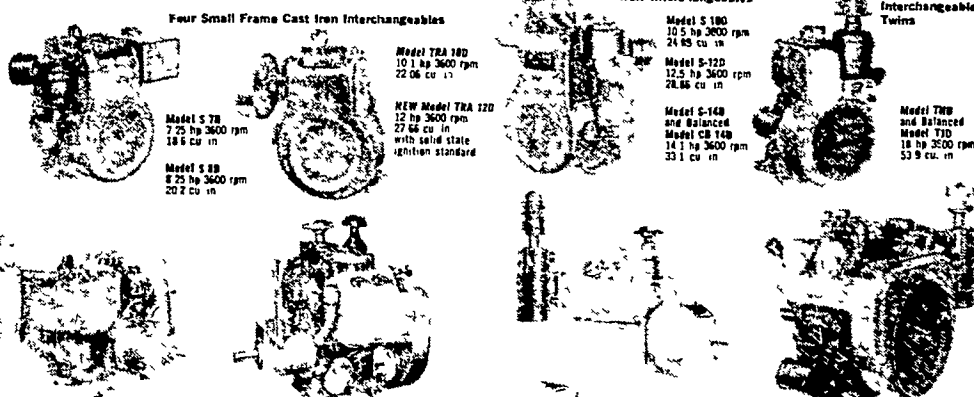
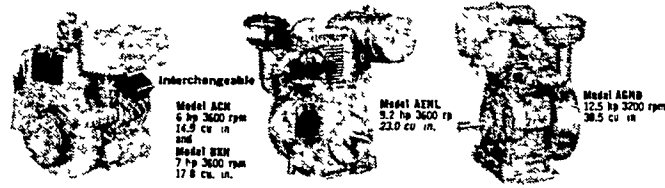
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