

University of Delaware dairy cows coexist peacefully with their urban neighbors. That's Chrysler Corporation's Newark assembly plant in the background.

Cows get urbanized at U of D

NEWARK, Del. — Across the street from the Chrysler plant, up against the Metroliner tracks, and just upstream from the Brookside housing development sits the University of Delaware dairy farm. It's a pastoral scene worthy of a National Grange calendar, smack in the middle of urban Newark.

How long can the cows remain without interfering

with urban society? Just as long as they keep putting their best hooves forward, says University of Delaware Extension dairy specialist Dr. George F. W. Haenlein.

The University of Delaware goes to great lengths to keep the bovines on their best behavior and to keep the neighbors happy. The cows are kept attractive and clean; manure isn't spread on the fields when the

wind is directed toward Brookside; wastes are kept out of the stream; and the most of the breeding is accomplished by means of artificial insemination. So, the neighbors just enjoy the peaceful cultivated landscape and the chance to show children where milk really comes from.

But managing dairy cattle in a small space without polluting the environment is not an altogether simple matter. First of all, the land itself is valuable as development property. Since the University has already used some of it to build the football stadium, the remaining land must be used very efficiently. Dr. Haenlein realized that a 12-month feeding system would

free the operation from its dependence on vast amounts of grazing land. But he also realized that stored silage has an odor which might offend the neighbors. So Delaware Extension horticulturist Dr. Charles Dunham was enlisted to design odor-masking screens of trees. Now the cows have their feed year-round, and once again the neighbors' sensibilities are spared.

The farm machinery and the manure disposal system at the University dairy farm are scaled down to the appropriate size for the limited space they must occupy. Manure disposal is done in accordance with city standards, with one unusual feature. In a university

setting, manure is saved for scientific research by agricultural engineers.

On the whole, however, the University's dairy farm is more like than unlike the ordinary dairy farmer's operation. It is run "in the black" with only the amount of labor that it can support economically.

Like the ordinary dairy farmer, the University researchers are always looking for good ways to cut costs. One way they do this is to experiment with money-saving feeds. For example, by interplanting soybeans with corn, the researchers hope to produce more farm-grown protein at a lower cost without sacrificing yield.

Haenlein enjoys the challenge of adapting technology to the needs of the University's special urban location. After all, he notes, it's only a matter of time before farmers in lower Delaware and elsewhere will be facing similar pressures. He wants them to know in advance that it is possible to farm economically on a smaller scale, surrounded by houses and factories. The University of Delaware is doing it.

Cleona firm delinquent

CLEONA — Tri-County Produce, Inc., Cleona, has failed to pay a Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) reparation award of \$1263 set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in favor of a Pennsylvania shipper for two truckloads of potatoes shipped in October, 1976.

According to officials of the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, the firm failed to answer the charges, and USDA ordered it to pay the amount claimed.

The PACA establishes a code of good business conduct for the produce industry. Under it, all interstate traders in fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables must be licensed by USDA, which is authorized to suspend or revoke a trader's license for violating the Act.



U.S. ag trade

(Continued from Page 111)

to strengthen buying power in foreign countries with limited financial resources.

The success of any export promotion program depends to a large degree on a favorable policy environment here and abroad. The major components of the overall U.S. export strategy to provide this favorable environment include efforts to (1) improve the international trade climate, (2) meet foreign food assistance needs, and (3) develop foreign country information systems. Action in these broader policy areas serve as the general guidelines for the design and operation of specific export promotion programs such as market development credit arrangements.

The United States continues to have strong interests in establishing a more liberal world trading environment that would permit our efficient agricultural producers to expand exports at reasonable prices, to give

U.S. consumers access to a broader range of commodities at reasonable prices, and contribute to the growth of the developing countries.



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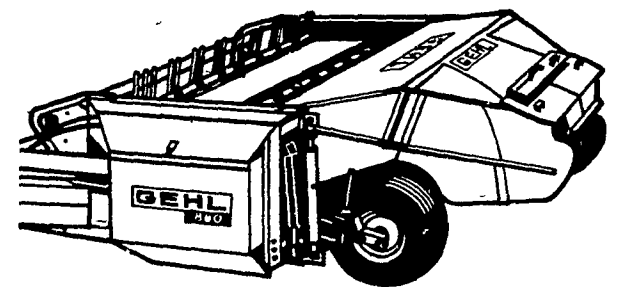
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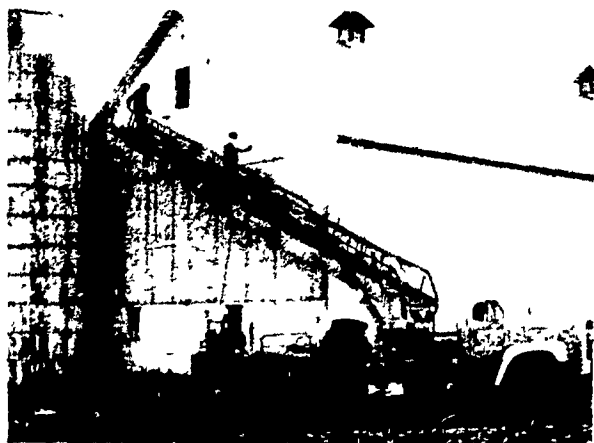
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