

# Md. farm visitation day set for June 25

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Maryland's annual statewide Farm Visitation Day has become a national phenomenon. And this year's twelfth annual version on June 25 promises to be bigger and better than ever.

If the weather is pleasant, upwards of 25,000 youngsters and adults are expected at the 23 participating "Welcome Farms" scattered through nine of Maryland's 23 counties. Local committees have

been active in the nine counties, planning details for hosting the event at each of the designated farms.

The general plan is that participating dairy farms will offer free cold milk as a refreshment, at least to visiting youngsters. In some cases, free samples of other dairy products will also be offered, as well as free recipe leaflets. Up in Frederick county, the 4-H Cow Gals and Guys

organization will attend to this detail.

Most non-dairy farms will offer other forms of free refreshments, such as lemonade or fruit punch.

General open house hours on Farm Visitation Day are 1 to 5 p.m. Many of the participating dairy farms will offer an opportunity for visitors to stay later and observe the evening milking.

In some cases, milking operations will already be under way before the 5 p.m. closing hour. At least one participating dairy farm — in Cecil county — regularly begins its evening milking at 2:30 p.m.

For the first time in its 12-year history, Farm Visitation Day will have farms open for inspection on the Eastern Shore, below the Sassafras river. These will include three in Talbot county — all in the Easton area. They will offer a first-hand look at broiler-growing grain and dairy farming.

Southern Maryland farms will offer the traditional look at tobacco, grain and livestock. And the U.S. Naval Academy dairy farm at Gambrills (Anne Arundel county) will again be hosting visitors, as it has every year since Farm Visitation Day began in the state. New this year will be the chance to visit a dairy goat farm in

Calvert county, including a goat-milking demonstration at 5 p.m.

Directions to all participating farms are listed in a free Farm Visitation Day brochure, available from Extension offices and public libraries in the nine participating counties — Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Cecil, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Talbot and Washington.

Additional information is available from the office of Roy D. Porter, Extension coordinator of special communications at the University of Maryland in College Park. His telephone number is (301) 454-3712 or 454-4064.

Farm Visitation Day is sponsored each year by the University of Maryland's Cooperative Extension Service and the statewide Farm-City Committee. All major farm organizations in Maryland are represented

## Grain reserve reaches 493.3 million bushels

WASHINGTON, D.C. — There were 493.3 million bushels of wheat and feed grain in the grain reserve as of June 9, according to Ray Fitzgerald, administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). Fitzgerald said the reserve, as of that date, had 346,935,452 bushels of wheat, 23,794,440 bushels of barley, 85,824,397 bushels of corn, 28,651,874 bushels of oats and 8,091,977 bushels of sorghum (4,531,507 hundredweight). The figures cited by administrator Fitzgerald were based on a telephone survey by ASCS.

The grain reserve takes wheat and other grains off the market for a period of up to three years, or until market prices reach stated levels.

## Soviet grain studied

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Three U.S. grain study teams are scheduled to visit the Soviet Union this Summer to assess crop conditions and outlook.

G. Edward Schuh, deputy assistant secretary of agriculture for international affairs and commodity programs said the visits were scheduled under terms of the U.S. - USSR Agreement on Agricultural Cooperation.



These young Holstein cows present symbolic welcome for the nine dairy farms scattered through six counties which are participating in June 25's twelfth annual Farm Visitation Day in Maryland. Youngsters, and their parents, who visit the dairy farms are welcome to pet young calves, sample milk products, and perhaps even see cows being milked. Dairy products rank second only to broilers as the leading source of farm income in Maryland.

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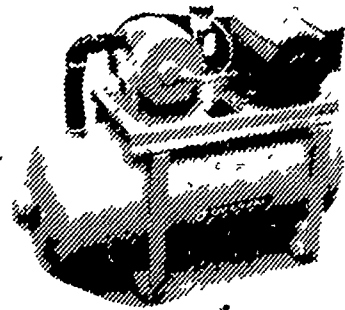
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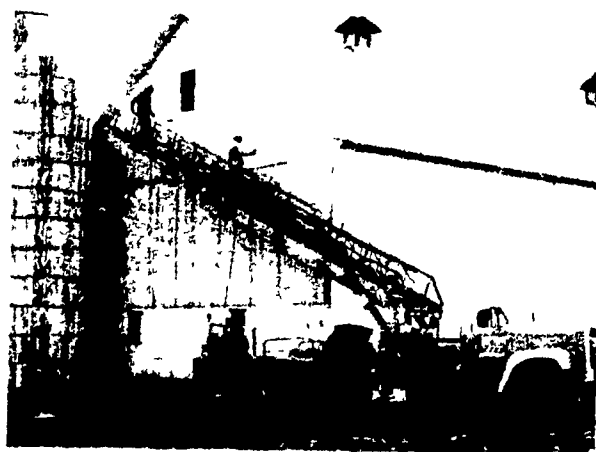
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