



Members of the Lebanon County Holstein Club visited Round Oak Farms, home of the famous Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation, a bull who left his

mark on the Holstein breed. They also visited seven other top dairy operations in Virginia on their two day tour.

Lebanon farmers visit Round Oak, other Virginia dairy farms

LEBANON — Forty Lebanon County Holstein breeders and agri-business men visited breeder herds in Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley recently. The two day

tour featured stops at eight well known herds throughout the state.

The first stop was at Har-Vue Farm, operated by Jack Hardesty and Sons. The 300

cow herd has a herd average of 17,000 pounds of milk and features a large number of Excellent and Very Good cows.

The Hardesty sons, all

graduates of Virginia Tech, are enthusiastic students of breeding good cattle and know the herd as well as their own family.

Other herds visited on the tour were: Roc-Hil-Val Farm, owned by Bernie Frye; Rocby Holsteins, owned by the Nelson Gardner family; Mid-Rock, owned by W. G. Blose; John Hunt farm; Oak Green Farm, owned by Richard Harris; and Round Oak Farm, owned by the Ronald Hope family.

The tour was highlighted

by a visit to Round Oak at Purcellville, Virginia. Well known as the home of Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation, a nationally known herd sire, the herd featured about 30 Elevation daughters, of which 23 are classified Excellent.

Overnight accommodations were arranged for the tour participants at the Sheraton Motel in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Everyone attended an evening banquet at Lloyd's Steak House. Guests of the evening were Mr. Jim McKenna, Rockingham County Agent and John Miller, Executive Secretary of the Virginia Dairymen's Association.

McKenna presented a discussion of the nature and development of the dairy industry in Virginia and its importance to the economy of the state. Miller gave a detailed explanation of the development of a valuable working relationship between dairymen, dairy organizations and the land

grant college. A strong leadership and cooperation has been developed and nurtured among these segments of the industry.

Arrangements for the Virginia tour were made through the cooperation of the Lebanon County Holstein Tour Committee and Dairy Specialists at Virginia Tech and local county agents in the counties visited.

Club Tour Committee members are: Irvin Horst, Ray Sattazahn, Raymond Getz, Clifford Groff, Kenneth Sellers, Albert Moyer and Newton Barr.

Cooperating county agents were: Lance Kauf, Clark County; Ned Conklin, Shenandoah County; Jim McKenna, Rockingham County; Roy Heltzel, Culpeper County; and Bill Harrison, Loudoun County.

Gerald Jones, dairy specialist at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, coordinated the tour in cooperation with Newton Barr, Lebanon County Extension Agent.

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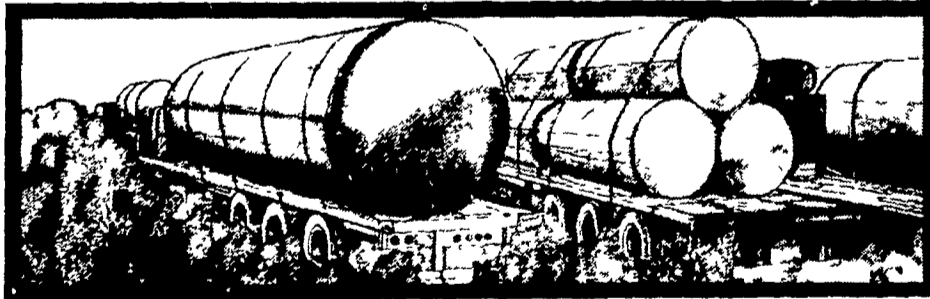
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The Round Oak operation today boasts about 30 Elevation daughters, of which 23 are classified Excellent. Farmers had ample opportunity to inspect udder attachments and toplines on the tour.



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