

## Pseudorabies spreads

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born dead or the incubation period can range from four or five days to a week or 10 days.

Pseudorabies is a herpes virus disease and prior to 1972 had primarily caused problems in western states where cattle and pigs were running together.

Heifers can develop the "mad itch," in which the animals rub themselves raw on solid objects or even chew their tails off. The animals go down within a brief period of time.

Then, in mid-1972 the virus apparently changed and started causing clinical illness in pigs, too. It is called pseudorabies because it imitates rabies in other animals, with central nervous system and respiratory signs.

The first confirmed case came to light in late-February in southeastern Dauphin County, according to Dr. Cable.

Problems developed in mid-March in the Lancaster County breeding operation. Of the nine locations which received animals from that operation in recent months, one has thus far been released from quarantine.

"The herds which received animals are quarantined," Dr. Cable said.

"They are being tested and as negative results are determined, they will be released from quarantine. One negative result concerning a gilt has been received and that quarantine has been lifted."

A confirmed diagnosis on the most recent case in Lebanon County was just made on Monday.

Pseudorabies is most acute in young nursing pigs and where it is transmitted to other animals, such as cattle, sheep, dogs or cats.

In these instances, it is generally fatal within a couple of days.

The effect on older pigs is not as individually serious, but they can become carriers of the disease.

A live vaccine, which is permitted in some states, is not allowed in Pennsylvania, according to Dr. Cable.

It is felt that the vaccine

can actually contribute to the spread of the disease through animals treated with it.

Pennsylvania's measures, according to Dr. Cable, include quarantine, testing, isolation of the herds, slaughter of those animals where test results are positive and continuing retesting until negative results show the quarantine can be lifted.

"We're trying to trace all animals that may be involved," Dr. Cable said.

"So far, it has been limited to the three infected herds.

"Thus far, there is no indication that people who received breeding animals have had problems in their herds. But we are continuing to test samples."

Dr. Cable urged that any producers suspecting the disease should contact their veterinarian immediately.

He outlined symptoms to look for:

In suckling pigs, acute paralysis can develop, with death within 24 hours.

In breeding stock, a lot of abortions and mummified pigs are an indication, along with nervous system signs, such as convulsions, depression or even blindness.

In cattle and sheep, the "mad itch" develops, where there is licking, frantic biting and rubbing against solid objects until infected areas, such as the back and sides, can become lacerated, swollen and raw. The animals go down into a coma and death results within a couple of days.

In cats and dogs, there also is the intense itching and death generally results in a couple of days.

Besides stray cats and dogs, wild animals, such as possums, racoons and even birds, can become infected and be carriers.

## Brown Swiss cow sets new milk, fat records

NEW LONDON, Wis. — The Brown Swiss breed has a new world champion in milk and fat — Century Acres Laz C619223.

Calving on January 20, 1979 at 5 years 4 months in 356 days she produced 38,439 pounds milk, 4.4% test, 1695 pounds fat and 1272 pounds protein. Laz holds the breed's milk records both two times and three times milkings and the two times fat records.

Tested the first time 20 days after calving "Laz" gave 78 pounds milk with a 5.5 percent test. During her lactation she had 5 tests over 100 pounds with a peak of 135.5 pounds milk and a 4.2% test on July 21, 1979. In 305 days Laz had 33,680 pounds milk and 1471 pounds fat. This also was a new record for the breed.

Century Acres Laz C 15

bred and owned by William J. Faskell, New London, Wisconsin and made her record on the Faskell farm located in northeast Wisconsin.

Classified "Excellent", Laz is sired by the homebred bull Century Acres Noble Colonel 153269. Her dam, Century Acres Cheryl 529190, was also bred by Faskell.

The former Swiss Champion was Green Pasture's Rayetta who has held the record since 1974. Rayetta's 305 day and 365 day records were 31,900 pounds milk and 1401 pounds fat, and 36,160 pounds milk and 1611 pounds milk, respectively.

The 365 day former Fat Champion since 1968 was Larry Doris 350995 who had 29,396 pounds milk and 1637 pounds fat.

Liz's record only adds to the celebration and excitement of 1980. The Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association of the U.S.A., headquartered in Beloit, Wisconsin, is celebrating its Centennial Anniversary this year.



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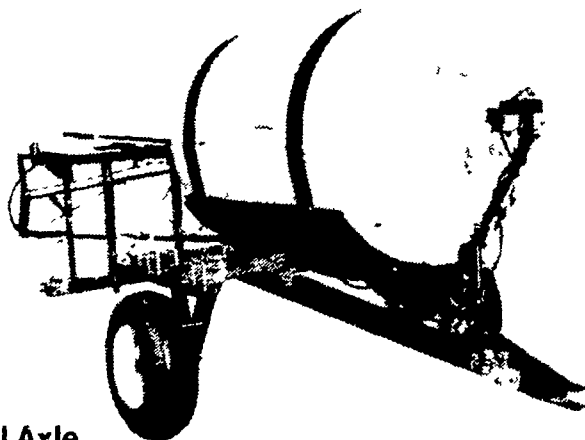
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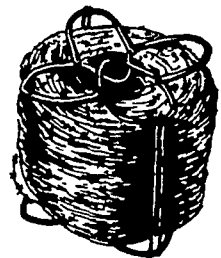
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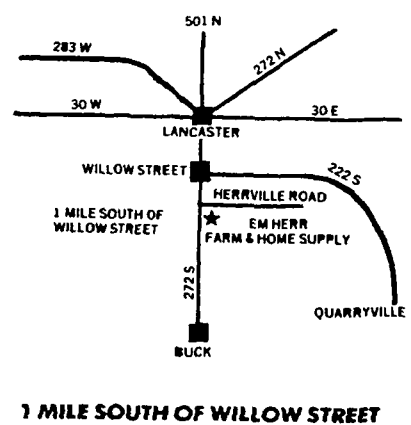
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