

Spring Bottom Farm

(Continued from Page D12) broken—with cows, it's 30 minutes. "Brood cows are the produced the calf one hour after the water bag has

secret to the business," said Darcey. And in his breeding program, Darcey keeps in mind what he is ultimately selecting for.

"I use 40 percent AI, rather than bull service," he said. "For milking ability and good udders, I use Klondike Anx 31X. I never sell these calves—they're all replacements."

Another bull he uses for its inherited milking ability is SR Victor 2. And on his first calf heifers, Darcey said he uses BBL Victor semen. He said the 1973 national champion bull tends to breed smaller calves which helps to reduce calving complications.

Other bulls in his AI breeding program include top names in the Polled Hereford breed, like Victorious, Vindicator, Hurrah, Enforcer, and Transformer.

Royal Leige, the 1978 Farm Show Champion Bull, is a herd sire that Darcey said is still trotting around the fields at Spring Bottom these days.

The progeny dropped at Spring Bottom Farms is proof that Darcey is doing something right. His trophy room in his farm office is

lined with ribbons and plaques of wins and over 100 championships at shows and fairs like the Maryland State Fair, Eastern National, Keystone International Livestock Exposition, Farm Show, Delaware State Fair, and the Virginia State Fair.

Darcey also said he shows at local fairs, like the ones in York and Shippensburg. "You can sell a lot of cattle at these small fairs. Showing is the cheapest way to sell cattle—you can spend a lot of money in a hurry advertising in periodicals and magazines, and you might not get a single call," he said.

At last year's Keystone International Livestock Exposition, held in Harrisburg, Darcey's late junior yearling heifer went on to be tagged the grand champion female of the show. VH Westy Hilger 07 was also the reserve junior champion of the show.

Spring Bottom's champion held her title at this year's Farm Show. She was named the champion senior heifer and went on to be tagged the grand champion. Spring Bottom Farm was recognized as the show's premiere exhibitor.

At the National Show, held in Louisville, Kentucky,



One of Darcey's newer additions to his Polled Hereford herd traveled to Spring Bottom from Mountain.

Darcey proudly stated that their 'Westy' stood 17th in her class. "She was in the class that the grand champion female came out of," he added.

doesn't mean as much to me now as it used to—I guess it's because I'm getting used to it. My big thrill now is winning a BIG show, but I

Darcey said, "Winning

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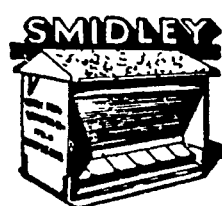
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