

Worming

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milk per cow per year by worming at freshening," says Lee Majeskie, Maryland Extension dairyman "And that looks pretty good on the bottom line."

If that "average" dairyman treats each of his 80 cows at freshening, Dr Miller estimates it'll cost him approximately \$300. A 40,000 pound overall increase from the herd will gross \$4800 with milk at \$12 per cwt.

Subtract the cost of the wormer and the increased feed required and net profit is at least \$4000 per year on milk alone.

Majeskie adds that by deworming the cows 50 to 60 days after calving, or at their lactation peak, there is a good chance production can be increased as much as 100 pounds per cow more.

"Dairyman with herds producing above the state average will see less of a production increase, but deworming can still be a very profitable investment." He recommends consulting a veterinarian to determine the best program for individual dairies.

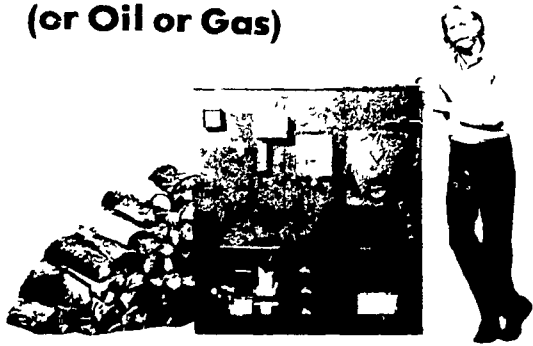
The Maryland study also indicated that young stock are more likely to have a heavy worm load. Dr Miller says this is due to the way these animals are housed and fed compared to lactating cows.

So, by deworming replacements on a regular basis, they'll grow faster and will be better prepared for calving and lactation.



On the average Maryland dairy -- 80 cows with an annual herd average between 12,000 pounds and 14,000 pounds -- deworming at freshening can mean a 500 pound increase in milk production per cow, according to Maryland extension dairyman Lee Majeskie.

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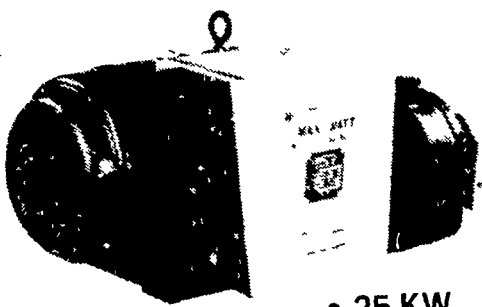


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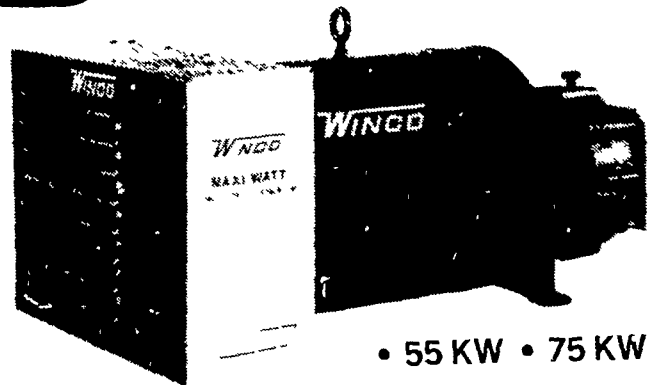
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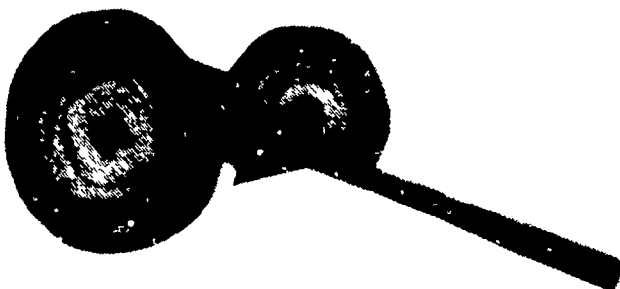
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