

Lancaster Farming goes to Lancaster County Winery

BY PAT KAUFFMAN
WILLOW STREET —
Housed in a converted bank barn, Lancaster County Winery is a perfect place to visit when your time is limited.
In this the second day-tripping article, Lancaster Farming visits the new owners and tours this winery located in the rolling hills

south of Lancaster.
Lancaster County Winery is owned by Suzanne and Todd Dickel. They with the help of their children, Edward, 14 years old and Lynne, 10, devote much of their free time to the project. In addition, they have a full time vineyard manager and a fulltime winemaker.

Visitors to the winery



The sign in front of the winery clearly states their hours and uses the red rose logo that goes on all their wine.



Acres of grapes cover the farm providing a pleasant place to browse when visiting the winery.

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enter the upper part of the barn where the wine-tasting, party and display areas are located. Rustic beams, tobacco lathe lattice work, and a spacious wooden bar are attractive and inviting.

In the sales area, the wines produced here are housed in attractive wooden wine

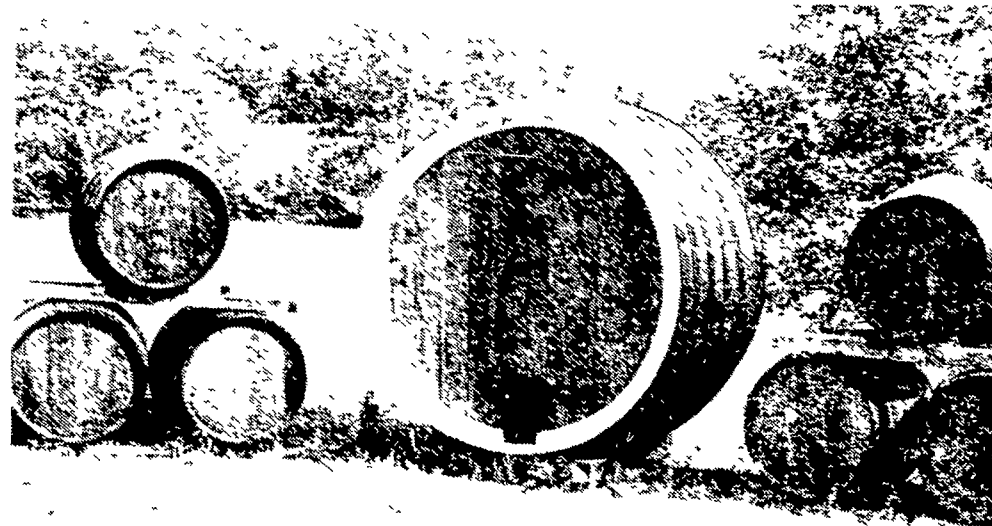
cases and accessories and small local gift items are displayed for sale.

Visitors are given a tour of the lower part of the barn where the crushing, filtering and storage equipment is located. There in the cool cement-floored wine cellar, the process of harvesting and clarifying the grapes unfolds.

Last year, the first for the owners, they harvested 35 tons of grapes. Using 8 people dawn-to-dusk. They managed to harvest 4 tons per day during the peak of their harvest.

With the help of Arnold Lueck, the county agent, and Carl W. Haeseler with the grape research laboratory in Northeast Pennsylvania the Dickels have attempted to bring the vineyard into stronger production. They

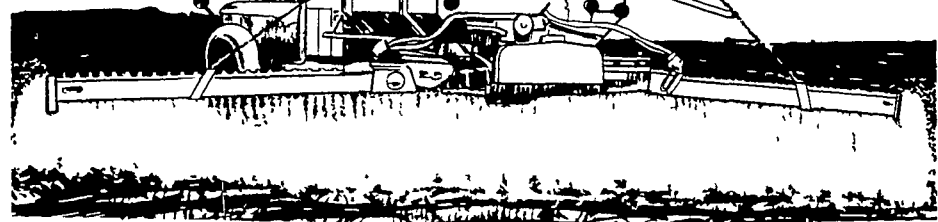
have hopes this year of harvesting 50 tons of grapes. Bulk milk coolers, familiar to dairymen are used as storage areas for the musk. They have an added feature the new owners like,
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Some of the heavy oak barrels that were once used at the winery are still on display. When using the barrels, it is necessary after each batch for a man to crawl through the hole shown (about the size for a cocker spaniel) and scrub out the interior.

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