

Delta marks centennial farm tour

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DELTA — The Delta Centennial Celebration kicked off with a bang last Saturday with area farm tours. Over 1000 people rode on tractors and hay wagons to visit six different farms.

First stop on tour #1 was Thompson's Farm Dairy. This farm, showed an example of a farm and processing plant together.

Owned by David Thompson, the milk produced by the cows is processed in the plant and then sold at their new 'Thompson's Farm Dairy Store'. A representative of Jim's Surge, Quarryville, was there to explain how a milking machine worked. ABS breeding service also had a representative there to explain artificial insemination to tourists.

Next stop on the tour was Sleepy Hollow Vegetable Farm. Owned by the Mel Fifer Family, this farm features pick-your-own fruits and vegetables. Sleepy Hollow Farm consists of 100 acres of ground.

Vegetables grown include sweet corn, strawberries, tomatoes, peppers, cantaloupes, and beans.

A hog and beef farm was the last stop on the first tour. The Joe Ailes Farm has been in his family for 100 years. The hog operation consists of raising the baby pigs to

about 220 lbs. until they are marketed.

The beef operation consists of mainly raising steers to butcher weight.

On Tour #2, the first stop was S. David Stewart's Stewartridge Farm.

Stewart has an outstanding herd of over 100 milking Registered Holsteins. Having the high herd in York County for both milk and fat last year, has enabled him to market some of his young cattle overseas.

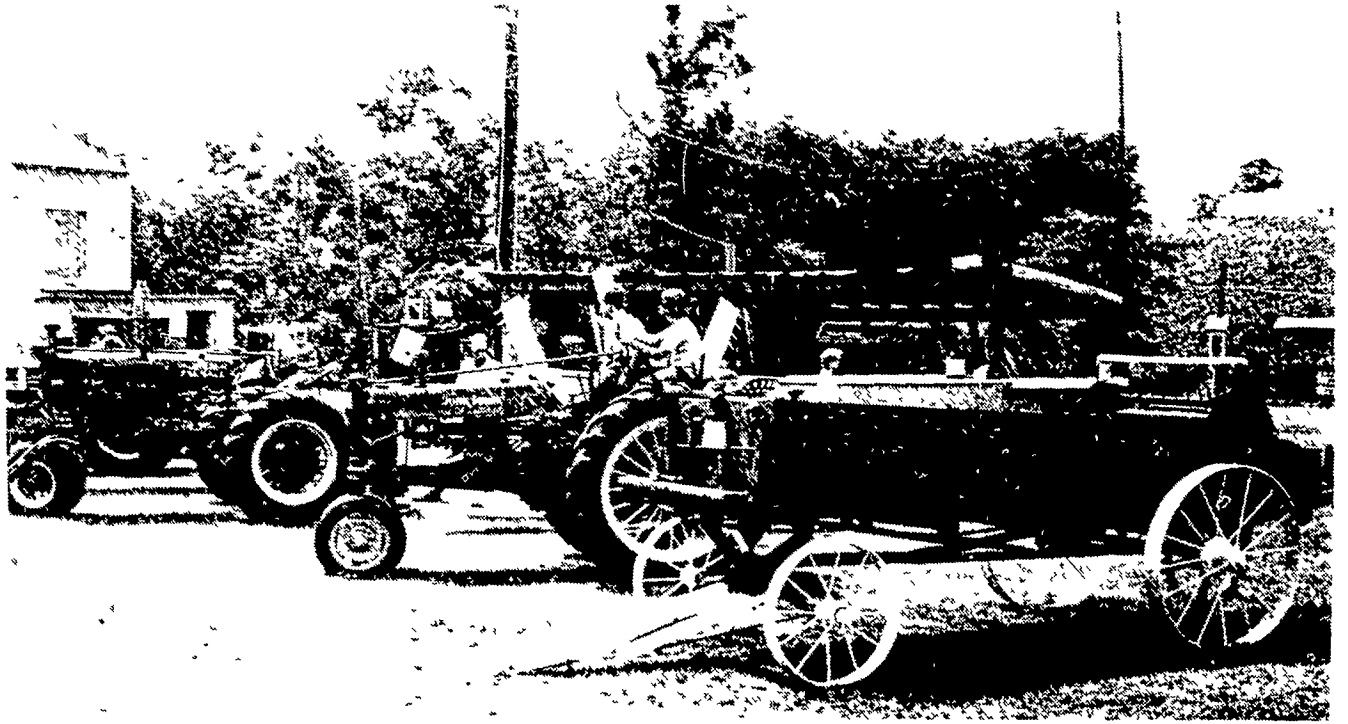
Almost all that the dairy cattle eat is grown on Stewart's 600 acre farm.

Susquehanna Orchards, owned by the Cooper Boyd family consists of 6000 fruit trees on 100 acres of and The Boyds raise cherries, peaches, and apples. Once an apple tree is planted, it will usually live for 35 to 40 years.

A tour of the orchard was followed by a movie on the production of apples.

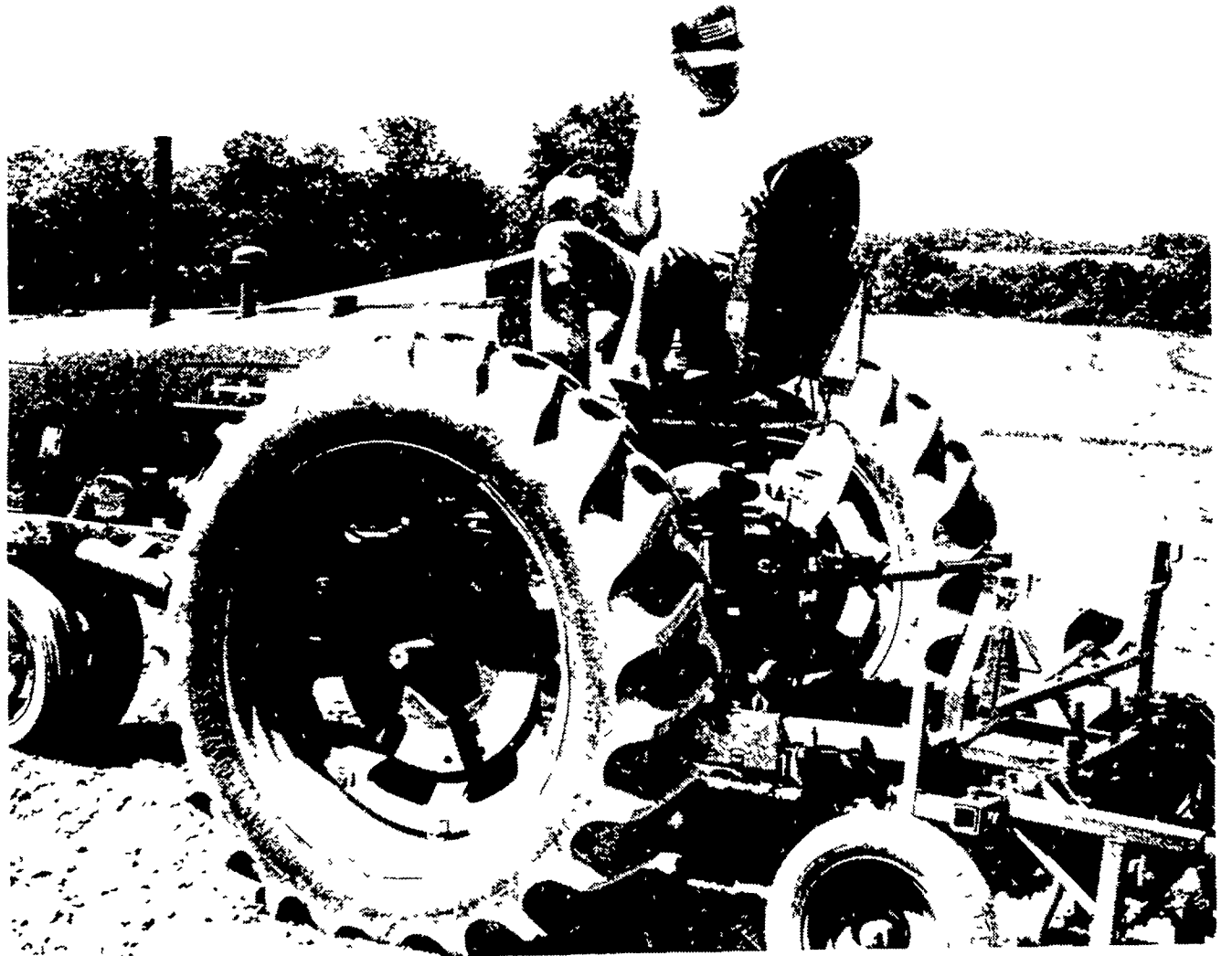
The Baldwin Beef and Swiss farm has been in operation for 25 years. They raise the hogs up to approximately 220 lbs. before they go to market. The Baldwins also have a herd of 30 Angus and Charolais cows.

They raise their steers up and sell them locally for butcher. The Baldwins have a very old double decker barn, with 2 hay floors plus the stable area below.

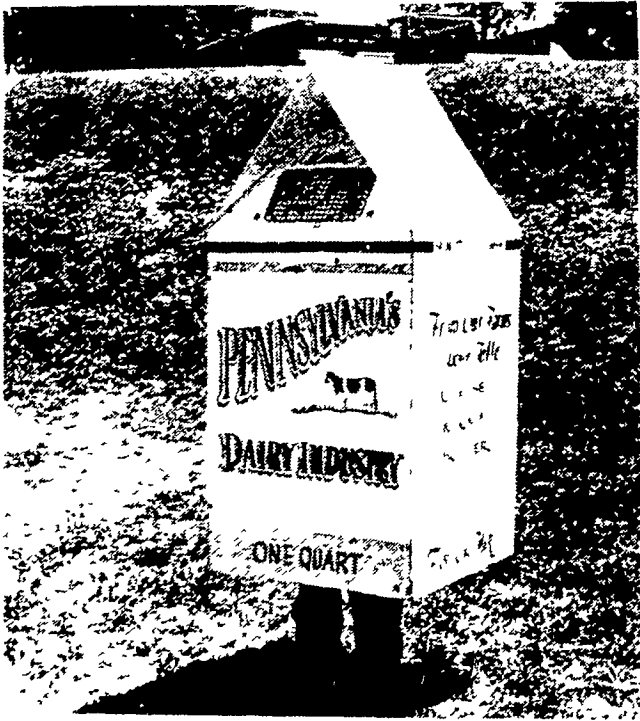


Antique farm machinery was on display at the Delta Community Center as part of the community

Centennial Celebration honoring area farms and farmers.



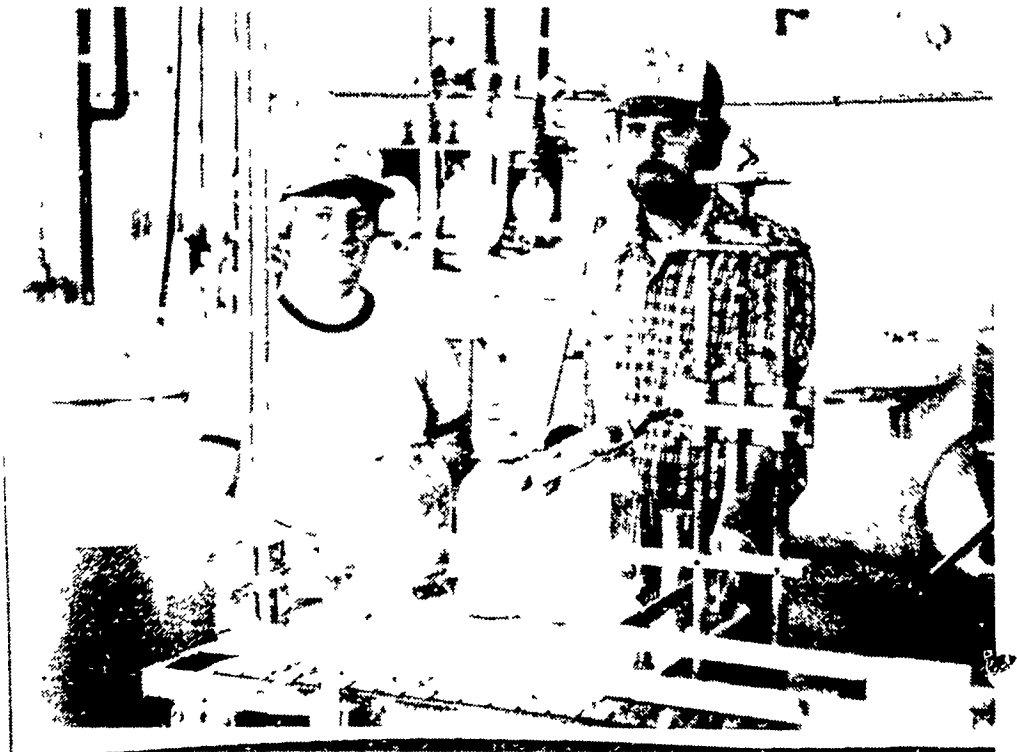
Demonstration of putting down plastic mulch were featured at Sleepy Hollow Vegetable Farm.



Marton the Milk Carton walked around at the centennial exhibition.



Cooper Boyd, owner of Susquehanna Orchards told visitors about his apple trees and how to take care of them.



David Thompson, owner of farm and plant, at Thompson Dairy Farm and Jean Jones who works in processing plant, explained the in's and outs of dairying.