

## Goat milking contest winners



Take one milking goat, three novices and mix in a contest of who can milk the most in a time period. The Montgomery County 4-H Celebrity Goat Milking Contest produced these winners at the recently held 4-H Fair. From left to right are: Lee Puphal of Frazier, Montgomery County nutrition agent, third; Tom Campbell of Norristown, President of the Montgomery County 4-H Cabinet, first; and Fred Day of WNPV Radio Station in Lansdale, second.



Brief answers  
to short questions

### Sheila's Shorts

By Sheila Miller

**Dog Days, Cat Nights**  
It's hard to believe it. Here we are in the month of October already.

Shorter days and cooler nights send signals to the drowsy brain that those hot, humid days that seemed to last forever during the Summer are just about over.

From Dog Days to Indian Summer - the traditional descriptions of our changing seasons have passed down from generation to generation.

My childhood memories are filled with tales and folklore passed down from my Pennsylvania Dutch grandparents. But here's one I never heard of and neither did Iris Hoke, of Hightown, Virginia.

She recently wrote to me and asked what the Old Farmer's Almanac of August 11-17, 1980 meant when it announced "Cat's Nights begin now".

When I found out what Cat Nights meant, I was sure

glad they were over in August...especially since Halloween Night is just around the corner.

According to Randall Tenor, of the reference section of the Pennsylvania Public Library in Harrisburg, Cat Nights are linked up to Irish folklore and witches.

He explained that the belief is that on eight days of August, witches can turn into cats. But on the ninth day - somehow linked to the belief that cats have nine lives - the witches can no longer become frightening felines.

And, although Cat Nights fall about the same time of year as Dog Days, Tenor says there is no link between the two.

He added that for anyone who wants more information on this Irish folk talk, the Old Farmer's Almanac staff will be happy to assist. Write Yankee, Inc., Dublin, N.H. 03444.

### A Question of Digestion

Recently our editor, Curt Harler, traveled to Illinois to visit the DeKalb research facilities. In his accounts of his visit, he mentioned a new compost making machine that has attracted the attention of several Lancaster Farming readers.

The Brill Digester System is distributed exclusively by American Digester Corporation, 20416 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225. Their telephone number is 313/882-1325.

In case you missed reading about it on page C-28 of the September 13, 1980 issue, the American Digester Corporation describes the Brill Process as one that "uses animal waste and a bio-degradable absorbant such as sawdust, ground cobs, shredded paper, hay or straw which absorbs the fresh natural liquid and is composted by natural bacterial action. No auxiliary heat is required."

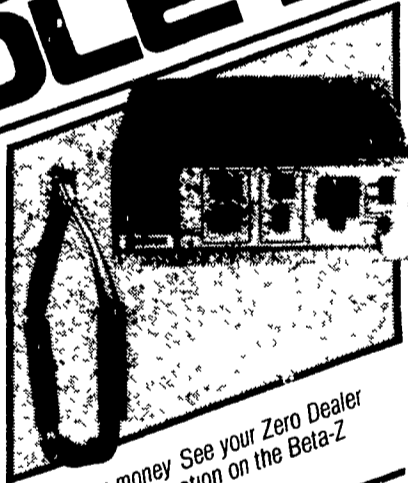
The corporation claims that "in only twenty four to seventy two hours the Brill Digester does the work of six months natural bacterial action. It results in rich, fluffy, easy to handle, germ-free, weed-free, non-combustible organic compost, they advertise.

For more information, contact the American Digester Corporation.

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\*Produced for Zero by Intraco, Inc.

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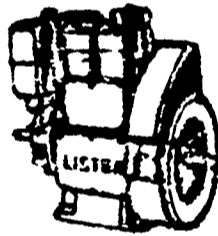
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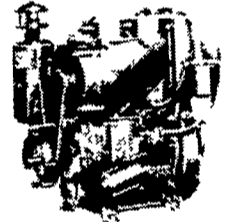
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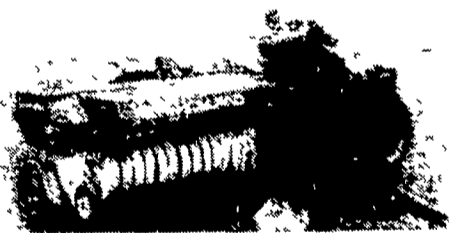
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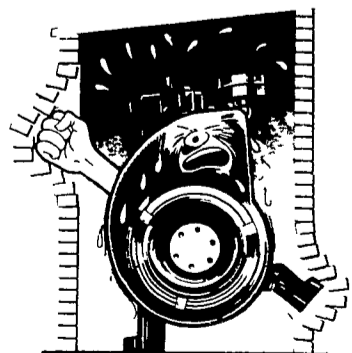


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