

Makes strides in Standardbred business

the foresight to see the merits of the loose housing, remodeled the barns, ranchions and manure s.

the barns have had a face-lift and a cream-colored coat of new paint. They have been planned, and varnished and or box stalls. Clay has nailed in to cover the te floors. And brass adorn the iron bars stretch across the oak

exercise lot and glass viewing area will be a potential buyers a pleasant environment to the Lauxmont Farms' mares run, unhampered by ponies. And 22 miles of fence, coated with white paint shipped in Kentucky, bound the rest of pasture. Kohr has a locust post in the was cut on the farm. accommodations for many horses.

In the future, Kohr said he to keep about 300 on the farm. He is excited about turning the farm strictly into a Standardbred breeding business. His part of the state has been a great area. And, in our case, the pastures are a asset because it he horse exercise."

One stud, Tarport Adios, will be standing in Wrightsville, while the other Lauxmont studs will be kept on the farm in New Jersey.

The reason for the New Jersey stud farm, said Kohr, is because the Pennsylvania stakes are "very poor." At \$2,100,000, the Keystone State's Sire Stakes fall well below those of New York, at \$7,200,000, New Jersey, at \$7,000,000, and Ohio, at \$5,000,000.

"Until we make government officials aware of what's happening in the breeding industry and the stakes are improved, we'll be hauling most of our mares to New Jersey, breeding them there and then bringing them back to Wrightsville.

"It's inefficient, but it's a temporary solution to a major problem," he said.

Another problem for the horse breeding industry in

Pennsylvania is the state sales tax on horses, Kohr noted. He pointed out that, unlike other livestock purchased in the state, horse buyers must pay sales tax on any animals they buy in Pennsylvania.

As a result, Kohr said, he sold his first yearlings this past summer in Lexington, Kentucky.

Eventually, the Wrightsville farm will be strictly for horses, said Kohr. At the present time, some of the pastures hold purebred Chianina cattle and a few Herefords.

The Herefords, which were Kohr's first livestock enterprise, will be going to his ranch in Montana where he says the bull market is better. He also pointed out that it costs less to maintain his cow/calf herd out West.

"In Montana, I can feed and maintain the herd of 800 head on the 6400 acre ranch for \$120 a head per year. When the cattle were here, it cost me \$280 a year for each cow in feed costs alone. When your costs are higher than your sales, you won't be in business long."

Kohr not only made a name for himself in the Hereford business, but he is also a top name in Chianina cattle too.

"I got into the Chianina business in 1973 primarily

because carcass data I read on the calf crop of English breeds bred with semen imported from Italy. They were fantastic cattle.

"At first we were concerned that the Chianina cows would not have enough milk because of their small, tight udders. They definitely don't have that problem — we've found they make excellent range cows."

Boasting only a little, Kohr pointed to pictures hanging

in the office at Lauxmont Farms and recited some of the major show honors his cattle have earned.

"When we were showing Hereford cattle at the Farm Show in our earlier years, we had the championships six years out of seven. We also showed the top selling car load at Denver with our Herefords in 1973 and 1974."

Kohr said he is most proud of his national championship Chianina female, whose

picture hangs on the office wall. She took the top honors in 1978 and went on to be tagged grand champion cow with her Ino calf at side at the Calgary Stock Show in Alberta, Canada that same year.

This year's banners proclaim to all visitors that Lauxmont Farms exhibited the grand champion female and the reserve grand

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Ronald Kohr takes care of business from the Wrightsville, York County farm where he lives with his wife, Laura, and his six children, ranging in age from 9 to 21.



The Lauxmont Farms bull, Ino., was recently brought in from their main Chianina farm in Missouri. Breeding of the pureblood imported Chianina cows kept in York Co. is done artificially, with a clean-up bull exposed to the cows late in the season.



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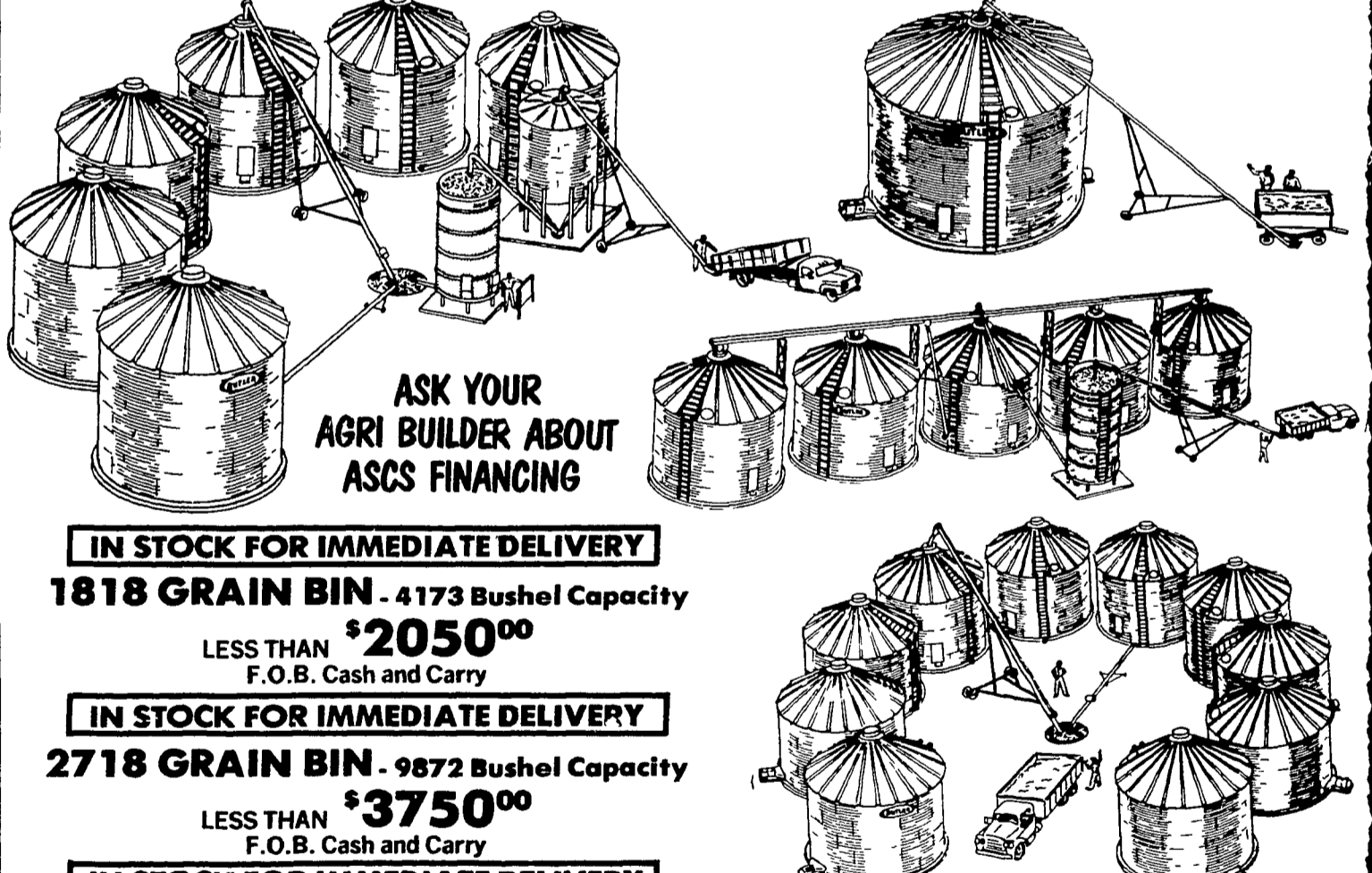
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