

# Galen Crouse selected Master Farmer 1980

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chased my share in cattle  
and equipment," the Lan-  
caster County dairyman  
notes.

Being a lease farmer  
hasn't stopped him from  
genetically improving his  
herd. He purchased several  
"fancy" cows in the last  
three years and had 70  
embryo transfer calves on  
the farm. His bulls are sold  
for breeding and the embryo  
transfer heifers are added to  
the dairy herd.

"We're investing money in  
cows. Barns and silos don't  
reproduce. We built the  
facilities first, now we're  
working to improve the  
animals that use them,"  
Crouse emphasizes.

In 1978 he purchased  
"Windy Mont Matt Kathy"  
for \$15,000. The investment  
proved to be a good one.  
"I've sold two calves out of  
Kathy for \$8000 each when  
just four months old. They  
paid for her, you might say,"  
he says.

This cow has 10 offspring  
by embryo transfer due in  
February. She was the third  
cow of the Holstein breed to  
produce 1000 pounds of  
butterfat and 23,000 pounds  
of milk at two, three and four  
years old. There are 31 off-  
spring from the cow and

Crouse has sold four of her  
bull calves for stud prices.

Encouraged by the  
profitability of that "fancy"  
cow, the Master Farmer  
purchased others.

"It isn't any more work to  
have good cows — so why not  
have good offspring to sell?"  
he asks.

For the embryo transfer  
program, Crouse deals with  
a firm that supplies the host  
heifer and does all technical  
work involved. He estimates  
total costs at \$1900 for each  
live calf.

With 310 acres of land, the  
Lancaster County dairyman  
is kept busy, as are sons,  
Philip, 21, and Neal, 18.  
Philip manages the dairy  
herd and much of the AI  
work. Neal, just graduated  
from high school, has the  
prime responsibility for  
feeding the dry cows and  
young animals.

Carolyn Crouse, Galen's  
wife, is in charge of feeding  
the calves, serves as a relief  
milker, and does all of the  
bookkeeping.

All of the crops are  
produced to feed the dairy  
animals. In most years,  
yields include 6 tons of  
alfalfa per acre, 4 tons of  
mixed grass hay, 104 bushels  
of shelled corn, 20 tons of  
silage, and 30 tons of sudan-

sorghum forage.

The family is active in  
their community, but they  
don't neglect the farm. The  
secret of community in-

volvement without work  
interference is to say no,  
Crouse says.

Despite limiting outside  
activities, the Master

Farmer has been involved  
with the state and county  
Holstein Associations, Dairy  
Shrine Club, and Penn-  
sylvania Farmers'

Association.

He has been a member of  
the Shoeneck Volunteer Fire  
Department for 34 years and

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These four ET heifers out of Crouse's five-year-old Windy Mont-Matt Kathy are joining Crouse's top-notch herd. Their mother's production records have been in the 22,000 to 24,000 pound range,

earning her an EX-90 rating. The limestone quarries are background for these fine black and whites.



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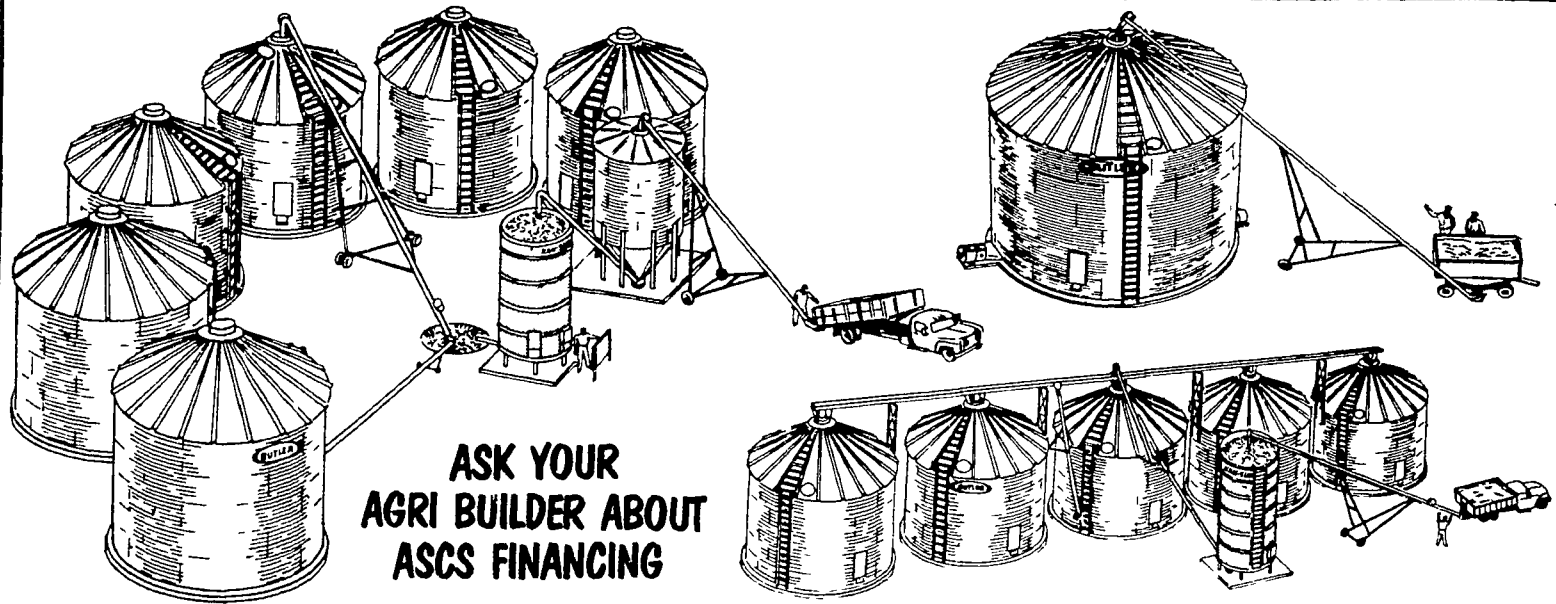
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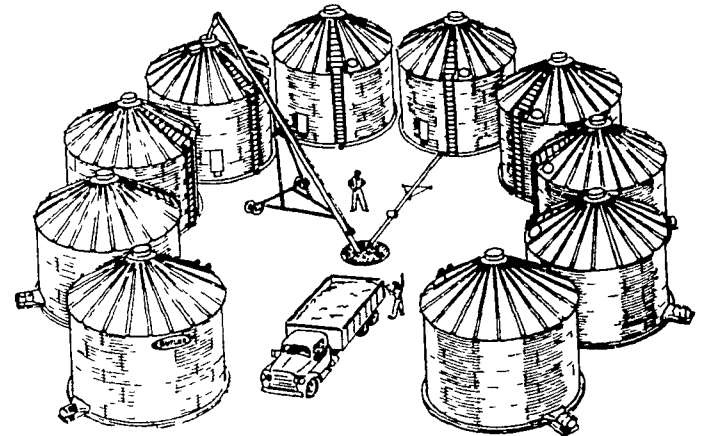
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