

# Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Several misconceptions and unfounded rumors have emerged from last week's article on Mr. King's brucellosis problem.

We would like to clear the air and set all the facts straight for everyone concerned.

We purchased the herd of cattle directly from a farmer in New York who had raised many of the cows from calfhood.

After purchase all the cows and heifers were TB and brucellosis tested by a licensed veterinarian and a valid interstate health certificate was issued by the state of New York.

Upon arrival of the cattle we sold the entire herd on a state inspected dispersal with state issued individual health charts which Mr. King received.

After we learned that some months later Mr. King had reactors in his herd and one of the dispersal cows was among them we supplied the names of every buyer at the sale who made purchases to the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Animal Industry. After they retested every cow in every herd they announced no further brucellosis had been detected. In fact, we found several of the animals had been resold through

one of highest pedigreed dispersals in Pennsylvania last year.

What it all boils down to is not where Mr. King contacted the disease for with a disease like brucellosis an outbreak can appear to be spontaneous with no provocation. No dairyman or livestock broker can guarantee any animal free of a disease that extends beyond any feasible test and isolation period. The best protection is to buy from a reputable licensed source. Above all insist on a valid health chart.

We sell no animals on any dispersals that have not been tested to the requirements of the law, all our auctions are conducted along the guidelines set forth by the state of Pennsylvania.

David Fite  
Shady Lane Dairy Sales  
R4 Quarryville

Dear Editor,  
I'm a "hired man's" wife and there is certainly no shame in that, but that phrase strikes a discordant note deep inside. Your call for fair pay was great but how about going one step further and call for a fair attitude?

Dedication, conscientiousness, and efficiency is earned by the

(Turn to Page A39)

## Farm Calendar

Today, March 28

Berks County Horse Expo, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Penn State's Berks Campus Student Learning Center.

Maryland Co-operative Milk Producers annual meeting, 10 a.m., Hunt Valley Inn, Cockeysville, Md.

Red & White Holstein Sale, Guernsey Sales Pavilion, Lancaster, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 29

M M Smith retirement buffet dinner, 1 p.m., Lancaster Bible College, 901 Eden Road.

Monday, March 30

Backyard Fruit Growing, 7:30 p.m., Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.

Red Lion crop fertility meeting, 8 p.m., Red Lion Vo-Ag Department

Berks County Farmers Assn banquet, 7 p.m., County Ag Center, Leesport

York County 4-H roller skating, 7 p.m., Roll-R-Way, West Delco Plaza, York

Tuesday, March 31

Northeastern Dairy Conference, Americana Hotel of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., concludes tomorrow.

Cecil County farm partnership meeting, 10:30 a.m., Extension Office, Room 7, Court House, Elkton, Md.

Wednesday, April 1

Pennsylvania State Calf Sale, 10:30 a.m., Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg  
Lancaster Conservation District

Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Farm & Home Center.  
Mt Joy FFA banquet.  
Delaware swine health meeting, 7 p.m., State Highway Dept., Dover.  
Hunterdon County, N.J. ag board meeting, 8 p.m., Extension Center, Flemington  
NFO meeting, 8 p.m., 3014 Bristol Town Rd., Warrington, Pa.

Thursday, April 2

Pennsylvania State Bred Heifer Sale, 10:30 a.m., Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg

Pennsylvania State Holstein Show, 4 p.m., Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg

Pa. Young Farmers Leadership Training for Region II, Ephrata Junior High School

Warwick FFA banquet  
Md. Cattlemen's Assn. annual meeting, Mt Airy Firemens Bldg., Rt. 27, 6 p.m.

Friday, April 3

Dauphin 4-H Leaders Banquet, 6:30 p.m., St. Marks Lutheran Church, Londonderry Twp.

Alcohol Fuels Workshop, Lehigh County Community College, Schnecksville, continues through Sunday.

Horse judging clinic, Meadow Lanes Farms, North Wales, concludes tomorrow, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. both days.

Berks County Conservation District ASCS banquet, 7 p.m., Tulpehocken High School, Bernville.

Pa. Egg Marketing Assn. monthly meeting.

Saturday, April 4

Feeder pig show and sale, Carrolls Sale Barn, Felton, Del show 10 a.m., sale 2 p.m.

Lehigh County FFA banquet, Vo-Tech School, Schnecksville.

Hunterdon County N.J. horse farm tour.

Pa. Polled Hereford sale, Washington County Fair Grounds, show 9:30 a.m., sale 1 p.m.

Md. Polled Hereford Assn's Black Eyed Susan Sale, 7 p.m., Frederick, Md Fairgrounds.

## Now Is The Time

(Continued from Page A10)

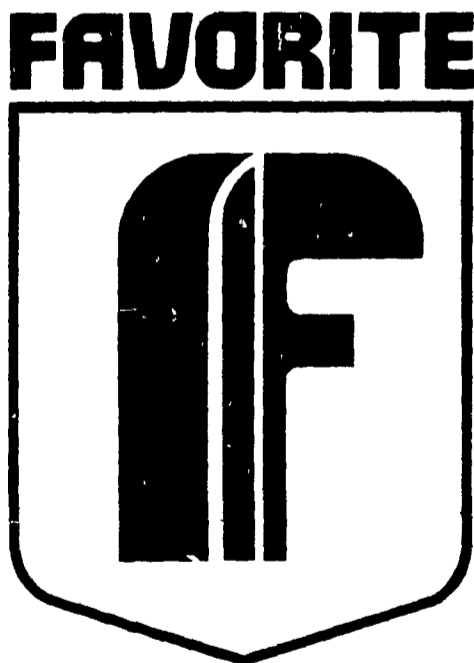
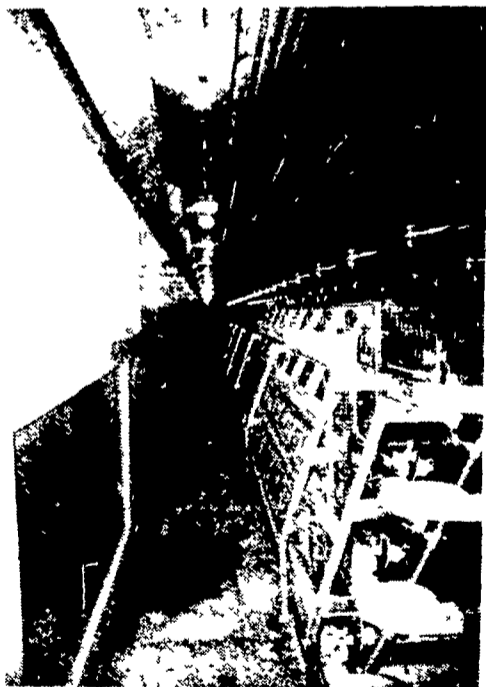
You can use the old "Rag Doll" germination method where you place the seed between two pieces of burlap - roll it and keep it moist. Then count the seeds that germinate against the total and determine the percent germination.

Our dairy agent, Glenn Shirk, reminds us to clean up our county's highways. The debris that has been discarded along our highways is not only unsightly; it is a threat to the life and health of our farm animals. As cattle graze these areas, they can inadvertently consume discarded debris. A greater danger exists when these fields are mechanically harvested, as most of them are.

In the harvesting operations, the debris is picked up, along with the forage crop, ground into small particles, and mixed with the harvested forage crop for consumption. Much of this debris is sharp and indigestible. Muscular contractions cause the particles to puncture the stomach wall and pierce the animal's heart, causing severe hemorrhaging - and death. This condition is known as hardware disease.

So, pick up trash now, before it becomes concealed in tall grass. If you are driving, keep your trash in the car and dispose of it in an appropriate manner. You'll be keeping our county beautiful, and you'll be protecting the life of those animals that are working to put food on your table.

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