

Unique greenhouse

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he the greenhouse floor to about 70 degrees.

This one-of-a-kind warm-water, floor-heating system is the key component of the research project. The system, designed at Rutgers University engineering research laboratories, was constructed by Bryfogle. PP&L crews built the supply and return pipeline system between the plant and the greenhouse.

An anthracite-fired backup boiler, which provides heat in extremely cold weather or during periods when the plant reject heat is not available, has seldom had to be used. In addition, the warm floor of the greenhouse appears to provide a better growing environment than a conventional greenhouse, and employee comfort

is considerably improved.

A variety of plants, including poinsettias, pot mums, chrysanthemums, Easter lilies and gloxinias, already has been successfully grown at the greenhouse.

The greenhouse heating system uses less than one percent of the waste heat from the Montour plant. If the experiment continues to be encouraging, the greenhouse could eventually be expanded to as much as 20 to 40 acres, Pfeiffer said.

Rising energy costs have crippled the greenhouse industry in the Northeast, which has traditionally relied on fuel oil for space heating.

The rising costs have driven many greenhouse operations out of the Northeast. Southern states and foreign countries with warmer climates have been able to capture

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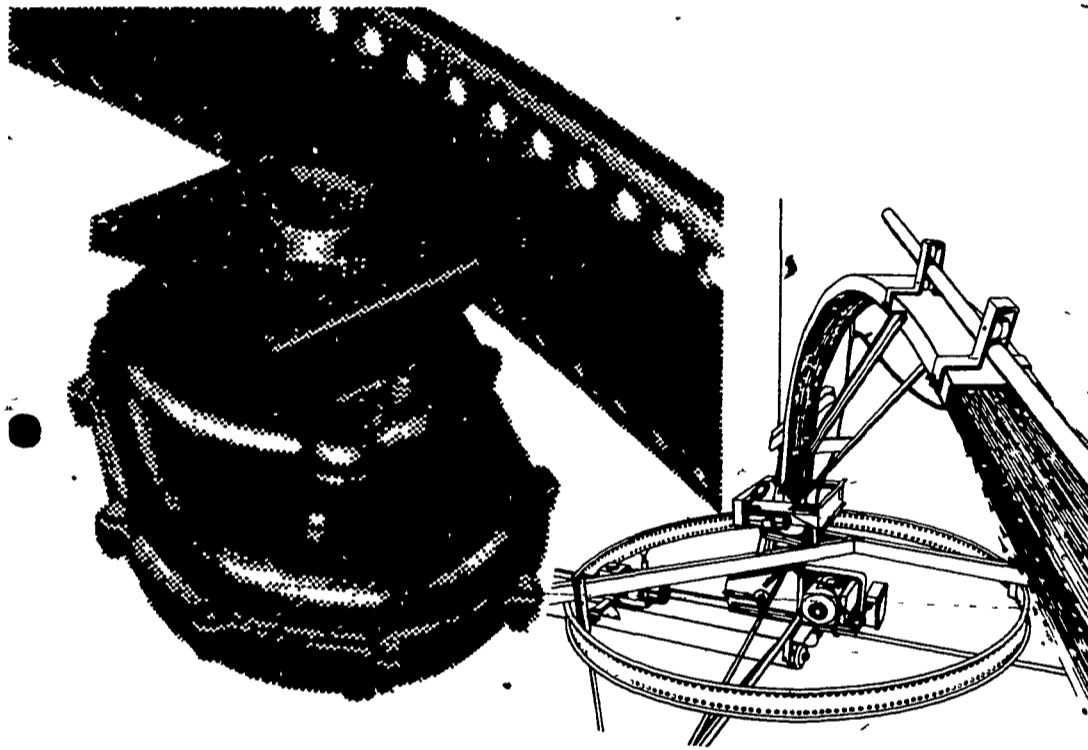


Chrysanthemums abound in the 2.75-acre greenhouse, which has been fully operational since last December near Danville, Montour County. Owned by Kenneth G. Bryfogle, Jr., the greenhouse complex has been used to raise a variety of other flowers, including poinsettias, fuchsias, Easter lilies and gloxinias.

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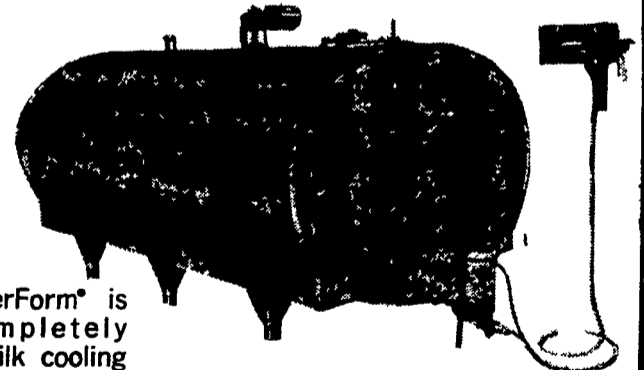


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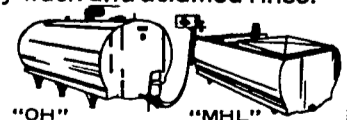
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