

Twin foals

(Continued from Page A26)

Abe and Mary began raising Percherons in 1972, but Abe confessed he's been interested in heavy horses ever since he was a boy. The family now owns 19 head altogether.

"Before we bought our first two mares from Marvin Forward, a well-known Percheron breeder in Delta, York County, I helped five other breeders get started in the business," said Abe. "I didn't think I could afford to buy my own drafts back then."

Abe noted the original mares still call the Brush Valley farm home. One of the pair of mares that Abe and Mary purchased from Forward was Duke's Miss Patsy, the dam of the twins and their 6-year-old grand champion Farm Show stallion (he's earned that title for the past 3 years).

"Patsy has always given us good foals," Allebach said with pride. "Until now, she's always had stud colts — her first-foal is Princess, the twin."

Raising Percheron's is a hard-working hobby for the Allebachs — showing in Harrisburg and Columbus, Ohio and breeding for quality is a family effort.

"The dairy cattle earn the living here on the farm," said Abe. "The horses are here for us to play with."

But, the horse do earn their keep, too, by doing small jobs around the farm and taking the family for drives. However, most of the fieldwork is done by the 50 or so 'horses' locked in the engines of farm tractors.

During the summer, the Allebachs truck their Percherons to an Antique Engine Show in the county where the horses drive an antique reaper. They are hitched to a series of wheels and pulleys known as 'sweep power' — their plodding hooves and tonnage awe-

specators who marvel at the display of horse power.

Along with Patsy, another celebrity in the Allebach stable is Buckeye Patricia. This mare, with her first foal at side (a spunky filly), was chosen as the Junior Champion at the National Percheron Show in Columbus, Ohio two years ago.

When the Allebachs were debating whether they could afford their Percherons, the cost of feeding these giants was not as important as the initial investment, they explained. Actually, if a mare in foal is idle, all she needs is hay or pasture for the most part, and only oats and supplement as she draws closer to foaling, Allebach said.

"We feed our horses some oats and a couple ears of corn now and then," he stated. "We also have our hay tested, and top dress with supplement as needed."

He added that, for yearlings who are still growing, he feeds 10 quarts of oats and an ear of corn twice a day.

"And with Patsy carrying twins, we fed her grain three times a day. She now gets 25 quarts of oats a day to support the two foals," said Abe.

Although that quantity of grain would make a pleasure horse owner's eyes register dollar signs, the amount of grain is not too great considering Percheron mares weigh between 1800 and 2000 pounds and the stallions average slightly over a ton.

Raising the beautiful drafts is a dream come true for Abe, the farm boy from Lansdale, Montgomery County, and the fact that his mare had twins only doubles his pleasure. The entire family, Abe, Mary, and children Rodney, 23, Gerald, 19, and Monica, 15 (the 1979-80 Draft Horse and Mule Queen), share a love for the powerful but gentle heavyweights of the equine world.

Auctioneering contest coming June 12

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The market that merchandised the nation's largest number of livestock in 1980 will host the 1981 World Livestock Auctioneer Championship June 12.

The St. Paul Union Stockyards marketed 2.5 million head in 1980, according to figures from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This total included 661,000 head of cattle and 1.7 million head of hogs.

The WLAC, now in its 18th year, is sponsored by Livestock Marketing Association, Kansas City, and conducted by an allied company, Livestock Market Digest, Inc., to focus on the importance of the auctioneer in livestock merchandising.

Contestants are judged by a panel of livestock owners on the criteria they look for when hiring an auctioneer. In addition to the world, runner-up and reserve champion titles, there are nine regional winners named.

Championship Chairman Dudley Kaushagen said contestants will merchandise cattle from a special

As for their selection of breed, Abe confessed he thinks Percherons are smarter and more balanced than the other draft breeds. "It's a matter of preference," he concluded.

Showcase Cattle Sale. The number of drafts and time allowed for each contestant will be determined by the number of contestants and number of cattle consigned for the Showcase Sale, he said.

The winners will be announced and prizes awarded the evening of the 12th at a barbecue beginning at 7 p.m. at the Wakota Arena, about a mile from the Union Stockyards.

Kaushagen said more than 100

contestants are expected this year. Last year's World Champion was Dean W. Schow, Paxton, Nebraska.

The entry fee is \$175 and contestants may be sponsored. Further information and entry forms can be obtained by contacting the Digest, 4900 Oak Street, Kansas City, Mo., 64112, telephone 816 531-2235.

Charolais tops sale

ANGELICA, N.Y. — A Polled Charolais bull, consigned by Mary and Bob's Farm, Hannibal, topped the Second Annual Spring Breeding Cattle Sale held here May 2.

The sale, which featured both registered and grade breeding animals, was sponsored by the southwestern Division of the New York Beef Cattlemen's Association at the Division's sale barn.

The top selling bull, BCF Distinction, was purchased for \$1,075 by Ralph Ledder of Painted Post.

There were 55 lots in the sale which grossed \$27,300. The volume buyer was Chet Popalski of

Newark who purchased eight head.

Bob and Mary's Farm also sold the top selling female, a registered three year-old Charolais due to calve in May for \$850 to Ken Wade of Perrysburg.

Jim Ford of Angelica was the successful bidder at \$825 for a ½ Simmental ½ Angus cow with heifer calf at side consigned by Shiraloken Farm of Deposit.

Two ¾ Simmental heifers consigned by John Schneider of Memphis were bought at \$760 each by Richard Popp of Castile.

William Greene, livestock extension associate at Cornell University, gave a talk on selection of breeding cattle before the sale.

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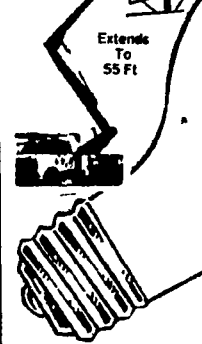
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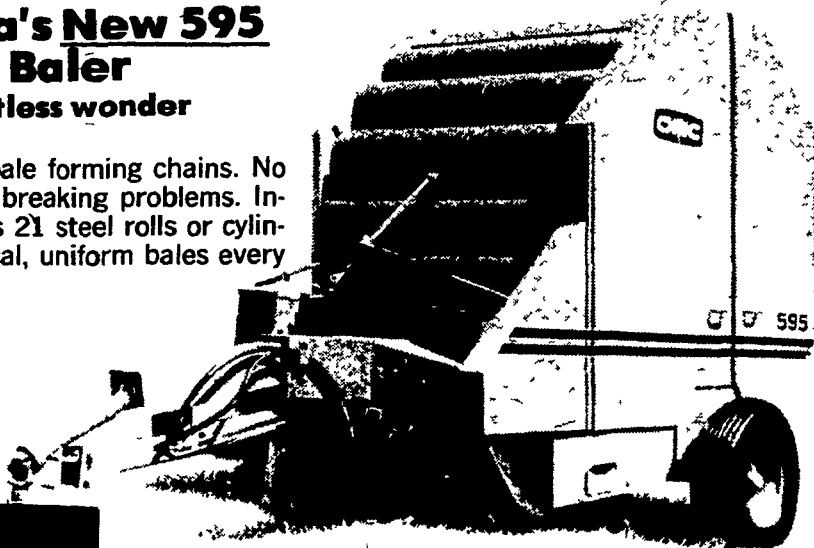
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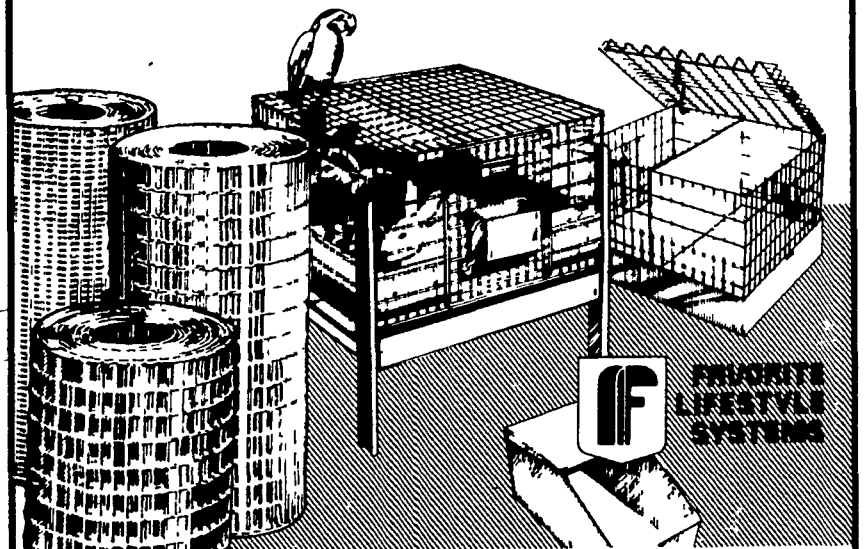
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