Soft-spoken progress toward better production

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN SCHAEFFERSTOWN - Both father and son talk in quiet, softspoken tones when discussing their dairy farm operation along

Flintville Road west of Schaef- ticality. ferstown. And balancing their moderation in explanation are words equally

Perhaps, these two characteristics also best describe their recent progress toward production laced with down-to-earth prac- gains, which have taken place

Don Krall, of Lebanon County, is surrounded by a sea of curious black and white in pasture. He and his father, Arthur, operate dairy farm along Flintville Road, which has had consistent production leaders among Cedar Crest Young

Farmers for the past three years. This year, the father-son team captured a pair of firstplace awards for high individual milk production and largest average herd increase.

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along with expansion of facilities and herd size recently.

Arthur Krall and son, Don, mark the fifth and sixth generations on the family farm in southern Lebanon County.

It's a misty, drizzly morning and both are busy in the barn following morning milking.

Arthur Krall pauses in his cleaning chores.

"This row of nine stalls doesn't have a gutter cleaner so I just take it over to the next gutter," he explained.

We ran into quite a bit of rock and decided not to try and put the cleaner in this one area.'

The practicality of operation shows.

Don Krall, 1973 graduate of Cedar Crest and member of the Young Farmers Chapter, had an extra bit of work this morning.

"One of the cows freshened and the calf was turned the wrong way," he said.

"After she pushed so far, I pulled it. At'first, I wasn't sure it was going to make it. But it seems okay now.'

The hushed tones of both were in keeping with the silence of the barn, now empty except for the recent mother and son on wobbily legs and a few other calves in a box stall.

For the past three years at the Cedra Crest Young Farmer banquets, Arthur and Don Krall have been among the top dairy production award winners.

In 1979, they had the top mdividual milk producer at 26,877 lbs.

Last year, they garnered a pair of seconds - runnersup in individual milk production with 26,261 lbs. and a similar placing for individual fat at 984 lbs.

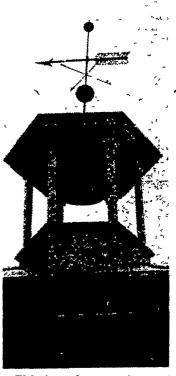
And just this week, they captured two first-place awards - the high individual fat production of 997 lbs. and the highest average herd increase of 1,393 lbs.

All were achieved in 305 days.

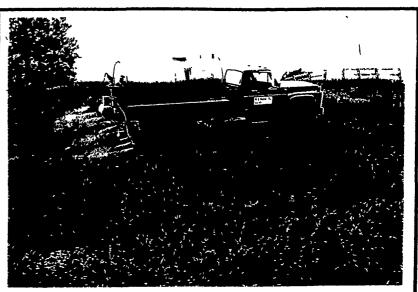
"We had a really good crop of first-calf heifers," Don Krall explained.

"These heifers, along with the better producers among the older cows, were primarily responsible for the production hike."

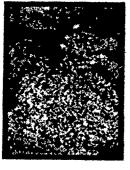
Milk production among the (Turn to Page D12)



This is a closeup of steeple with dinner bell atop summer house on Krall farm.



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