

Dairy photo album



LANCASTER — There's something about the back of a dairy cow that holds an attraction for all kinds of hitch-hikers.

At least, that's the assumption that can be drawn from quite a few photos received in the recent Dairy Month Contest.

The accompanying photos are just a sampling of these cow-back candids.

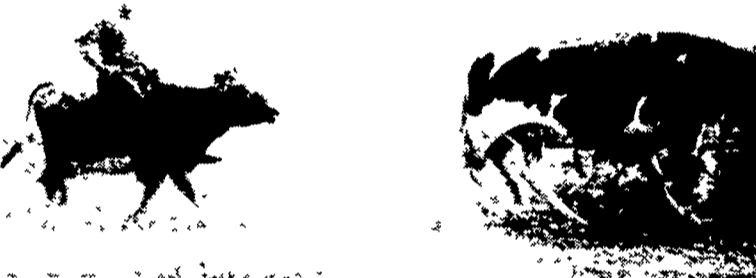
First of all, calves and kittens seem to have an affinity for each other. The photo of the calf with ear tag 67 and the dozing kitten was submitted by Kenneth C. Morrow, R1, Loysville, Pa.

And then, mature cats prefer the backs of grown cows, as shown in the photo received from Malcolm Hamilton, R2, Johnsonville, N.Y. After all, there's more room to nestle down in that cozy mid-back depression between the bony bumps of the shoulders and hips areas.

Also, when you're perched atop a milker, it's only a quick leap down to be ready to take advantage of a leaking quarter.

While cats may prefer their cow-back position generally during the winter to take advantage of the extra warmth of the built-in heating pad beneath them, youngsters might use the back as a place to catch the rays in a sunny pasture.

No sandy beach or poolside deck chair was ever more comfortable than stretching out on the back of a resting black and white, as shown



in the photo sent in by Chris McGillvray, R3, Newville Pa. That's Eric and Kevin with their favorite cow. One is taking advantage of his rural recliner and the other is waiting his turn.

And another photo sent in by Malcolm Hamilton, of Johnsonville, N.Y. shows a very practical use.

Dating back to the 1950's, the photo shows Malcolm using a cooperating Guernsey to drive home the herd for evening milking.

"We pastured our cows then in a field over a quarter mile down the road," Mrs. Hamilton explained.

"Malcolm would ride cow-back to bring them home."

No that's a real Eastern-style cowboy.

In any event, you gotta admit that cows generally are very patient and docile photographic participants.

Not one of these was heard to say:

"Aw, get off my back."

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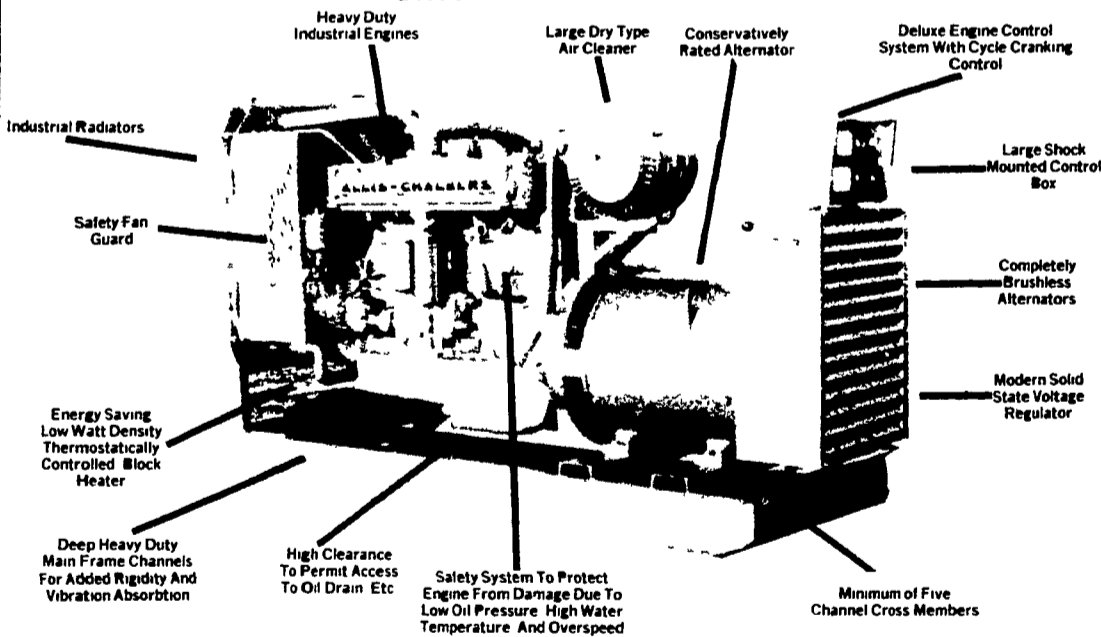
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