Eighth generation

(Continued from Page D2)

1

have liked to have added several full sisters to his herd. Unfortunately, Oscar was "one of those buils that didn't get to stay around long enough," and he left the Hubert Miller herd in Lebanon County after only a short lifetime.

Over the years Mae has produced some outstanding daughters, including Willow Maple Ideal Mary who turned in a record to rank her as the third-place senior 4-year-old for milk production in 1980.

When Mae was a 2-year-old, Harold Bolinger decided it was time to bring the next generation into the operation. Because Donald had been working on the farm since he graduated from Schaefferstown High School in 1961, he was more than ready to join in the Willow Maple operation on a 50:50 basis.

From early on, Donald followed in his father's footsteps and learned the skills needed to be successful in the dairy business. During his school years, he participated in 4-H and FFA activities and was awarded the American Farmer Degree.

This willingness to learn and try new things to improve their business led the Bollinger partners -tc ET — embryo transfers — in 1979. Their choice for flushing was, of course, Mae.

The Bollingers weren't disappointed in their first attempt with ET, either. For Mae produced eight calves - six bulls and two heifers, all by Marvex. One of the heifers is currently in the milking string, and the bulls were marketed both locally and abroad.

Their - experience with - ET however, taught the two dairymen a valuable lesson. They quickly learned that bull calves occur more frequently than heifers, and that selling these buils can be a "hassle."

As a result, says Donald, there will be no more ETs done on the Bollinger farm "until a heiter calt can be guaranteed." Along with the expense of the procedure, the Bollingers stated the ordeal could be "hard on cows" and getting them bred back could be difficult.

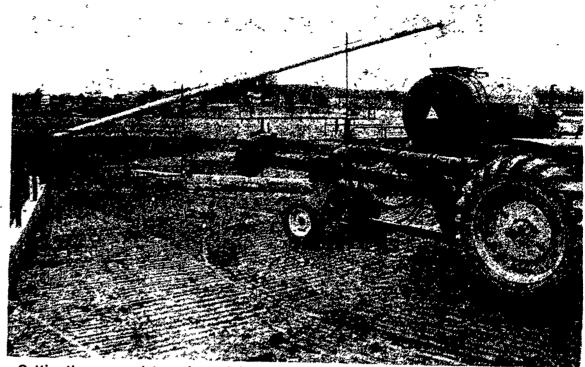
Any reproduction delays would mean a setback in genetic progress in the herd, but more importantly, it could mean a lag in milk production - the mainstay of the operation. Since the Bollinger rolling herd average hasn't been below the 20,000 pound mark since 1977, any drop would be a step backward.

The Bollingers contribute the past four years of top production to their feeding program; and the "cornerstone" of the feeding program is testing.

"Our forages are tested every two weeks," explains Donald, "and we are given a new ration every two weeks." 'These rations are made up for each age group of cattle on the farm, including young stock and dry cows.

Another factor in their top production records is the efficient mastitis control in their milking string. But this was not always the case, Donald recalls.

He explains how the herd developed a severe outbreak of mastitis in 1975, two years after the Willow Maple milking string was introduced to a total mix ration from Agri-King.



Getting the manure into and out of the pond is accomplished with this Husky pump. It carries the manure from a holding pit to the

"Our average production had shot up to 13,000 pounds,' remembers Donald, "and that's when we started having problems.

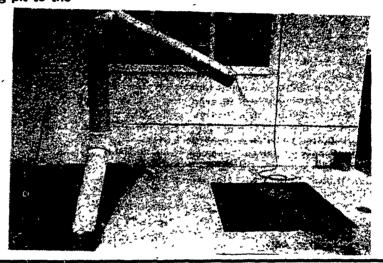
"We changed the milkers, the pulsators, and still we had the mastitis. Finally, we sampled each cow's four quarters and sent the samples to Dr. Burleigh Anderson, a veterinarian from Loysville, Perry County."

What he found was a 10 percent coliform infection. The bacteria had taken hold while the cows were under the stress of increased production and improper milking equipment.

(Turn to Page D4)

pond, agitates it, and then loads it into the manure wagon when it's time to spread.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, December 12, 1981–D3





unannumenter 743-Liquid Cooled Diesel

741-Air Cooled Diesel annan 742-Liquid Cooled Gas

Heavy Duty, 1300 lb. Operating Capacity

COMPARE THE FEATURES:

1300 lb. capacity with dump reach up to 36" When you work a Bobcat, you'll feel the power at the wheels for manuverability and throughout full load cycles stability

🗹 DURABILITY

Compare operating weight to load capacity, compare drive chain size, axle thickness, steel, welding, protection for hoses, engines, radiators and the superior Bob-Tach system for attachments Inside and out Bobcats feature fine tuned engineering

~ SERVICABILITY



Tip up rollover protection structure for easier accessability to hydrostatic components & steering linkage, 3/8" steel rear door on pin hinges makes routine maintenance a snap, bigger batteries and starters, dual element air cleaners.

🗹 SAFETY

CLARK

BOBCAT...#1

Seat bar for additional operator safety, convenience and comfort. Rugged rollover protective structure construction, pedal locks; dual headlights; rear road and work lights; spark arrestor muffler.