

## York Co.'s Joseph Stump earns Master Farmer award through successful dairying

YORK — Joseph C. Stump of R10, York, has proven that it is possible to operate a highly successful farming enterprise with a "mixed bag" of products.

The sale of raw milk and homemade meat products at the farm store; selling or leasing 40 to 50 dairy bulls each year; and cash receipts from 1,093 acres of crops are just some of the ways the York County farmer diversifies his efforts to make a profit.

And for his business expertise and management efficiency, Stump has been named a Master Farmer for 1981. He will receive the award January 12 at a special luncheon in Harrisburg.

He also will be inducted into the Pennsylvania Master Farmers' Association whose membership consists of all former award winners. The program, established in 1927, is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Farmer magazine, Harrisburg, and Penn State's Cooperative Extension Service.

"Milk sales at the farm store remain at a constant 350 gallons a day, six days a week," Stump says. "This makes up about two-thirds of the farm dollars."

Over 400 acres of grain corn and 255 acres of wheat are mostly sold. Sixty acres of corn silage, 60 acres of oats, 45 acres of barley, and 250 acres of alfalfa, clover, and mixed hays are fed to the cattle.

In 1981, the 110 registered Holstein cows produced an average of 16,536 pounds of milk according to Dairy Herd Im-

provement Association records. While the herd more than doubled during the last 10 years, production also has increased by 1,400 pounds per cow.

Stump sells most bulls to Amish farmers at 12 to 15 months of age. He also leases several bulls each year for \$100 per head. About one-half of the Master Farmer's herd is bred by bulls, the remainder by artificial insemination.

The Stump Acres Farms operation is truly a family affair. Mrs. Stump supervises the farm store; son, Dennis, 21, manages the dairy herd; and Jerry Yohe, 26, who has been a member of the family since he was 12, supervises field work and machinery repairs. Another son, Terry, 15, helps part time as does daughter, Katrina, 6. Sherrilyne, the oldest daughter, has made nursing her career.

The Master Farmer purchased the 110-acre home farm in 1960 in partnership with his brother, John. In 1963, John moved to Berks County where he owns his own farm. Today, the award winner owns four other farms within two miles of Stump Acres and rents another 700 acres.

The modern facility consists of a dairy barn with 90 free stalls, double six herringbone milking parlor, a 20 by 60 silo and bulk feeder, liquid manure system, farm, office, and masonry brick farm store.

"Raw milk sales were short of sensational when we opened for business on Memorial Day, 1967.

We received 70 cents a gallon then, far short of the \$1.50 a gallon we get today," Stump emphasizes.

Extras sold at the store help pay for the overhead and store help. These include ground dairy beef, bologna, homemade breads, doughnuts, ice cream, eggs, and snack foods.

Pennsylvania is one of the few states to allow the sale of raw milk. The Stump herd is closed voluntarily to minimize the chance of bringing disease on the farm. Customers wash their own jugs and bring them to the farm for refills.

The Master Farmer hasn't purchased a cow or heifer since 1963 and only two bulls during the last 10 years. In addition to raising his own herd replacements, he has sold 141 heifers and cows for breeding stock since 1978.

In 1975, Stump's corn yield averaged over 200 bushels per acre, which earned him a third place in the State 5-Acre Corn Contest. And he's won blue ribbons for his hay crop, both at the local fair and State Farm Show.

The York County dairyman served as president of the Pennsylvania Raw Milk Producer-Distributor Association since 1972. Mrs. Stump serves as the organization's secretary.

He also was president of the York County Holstein Association, has been a director of the county DHIA and York County Farmers Association. He served on the York



Keeping his 1,093-acre dairy operation rolling is a fulltime job for York County dairyman Joseph Stump and his family. Stump, who operates a successful raw milk and homemade meats farm store was selected as a Master Farmer for 1981.

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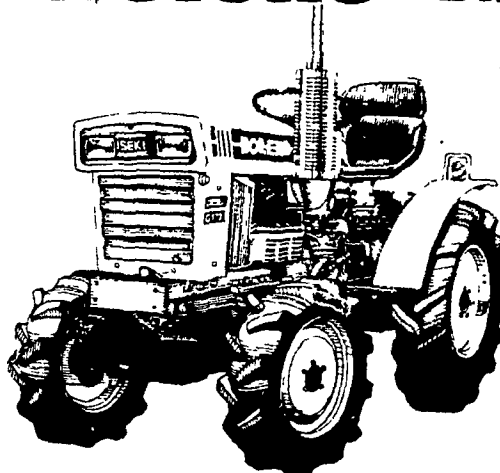
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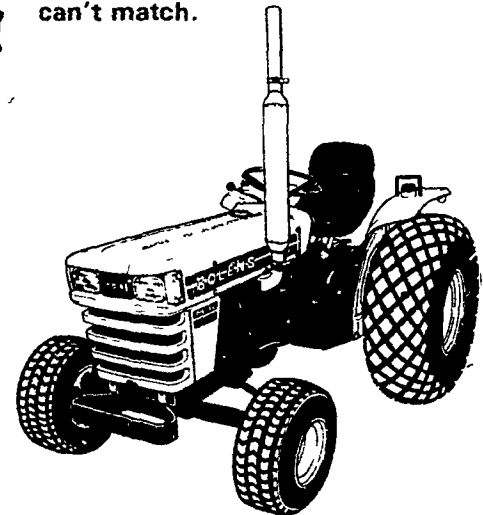
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