Lancaster Ferming, Saturday, January 9, 1982 Orndorffs horse around at Farm Show

GINGER SECRIST MYERS Staff Correspondent

McKNIGHTSTOWN - Nine years ago Larry "L.B." Orndorff and his wife Regina, Pine Valley Ranch, bought a registered Belgian filly and a grade Belgian Stallion. That was when they caught the "fever".

"Belgian horse fever" that is and as the Orndorff family prepares to exhibit their prizewinning equine beauties at the 1982 Farm Show for the sixth year, it is evident to anyone who talks with L.B. that their fever has never cooled off.

L.B., his sons Brad and Richard, in preparation for their trip to and a horse training associate Ken Reid of Hanover, have been busy for weeks preparing the three mares and three stallions that make up the Orndorffs show string. They have been groomed daily and taught to lead and pose properly for the show. Corrective hoof trimming and shoeing has all been done in advance of the competition.

Mrs. Orndorff has been busy getting the show equipment in shape and preparing all the decorative ribbon used to braid the horses' manes and tails - all this

Harrisburg on Friday and the horse judging competition next Monday.

Although son Bradley will be showing for a neighboring farm, Pheasant Hollow Farm, L.B. says that he doesn't really mind. You see, L.B. sold Pheasant Valley Farm their entire showstring including a filly "Sherrie" who was Grand Champion Filly at the 1981 Expo plus six of his 1981 foals, all by his own breeding.

Says L.B., "Actually the better they do, the better we do since it all promotes our breeding stock. And,



Larry "L.B." Orndorff, left, and horse trainer Ken Reid, right, take a pair of Pine

Valley Ranch Belgium mares out for a workout as a hitched team.



Pierce's Sonny Don is one of the stallion entries for the Orndorff's L.B. is expecting six foals all sired by Sonny later this spring.

since all the animals are related we can combine our entries and get into more of the group classes." Next year the Orndorffs say they hope to have enough horses to enter a six-horse hitch team plus individual class entries.

As to why the Orndorffs exhibit at the Farm Show, L.B. quite emphatically puts it, "There's no money in showing. In fact my wife figures that it will cost us close to \$700 for the week including transportation, meal and such for the family and horses. But, it's fun and you meet a lot of nice people. It's sort of like our vacation."

It's also good advertising. Orndorff who sells almost exclusively by private treaty finds that the Farm Show brings in buyers from Canada and Virginia and even helps the grade horse sales business.

Says Orndorff, "We receive calls for horses all year long. They see our name in the Pa. Draft Horse Journal or at Farm Show and they call us or just stop in.

"It's amazing how horse prices have gone up in spite of the economy. Horses that were selling for \$1,600 seven years ago are now bringing around \$7,000 a piece. The demand for quality breeding stock is high and if you can't sell them around here, just take them west to Ohio or Iowa and they snatch them right up.'

Although L.B. buys and sells horses and livestock for other

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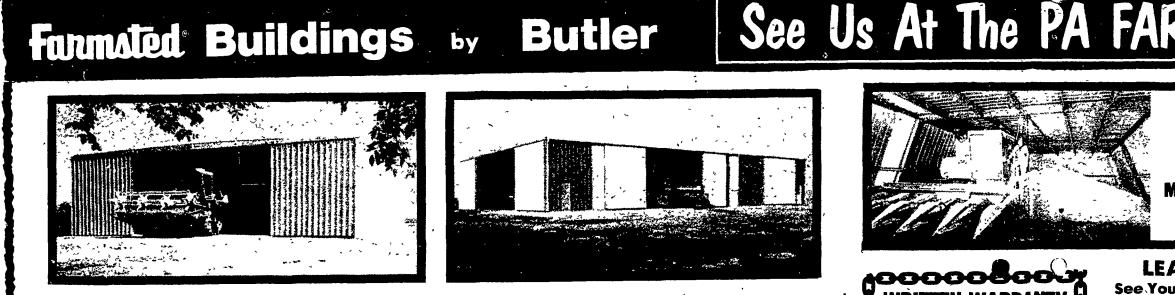


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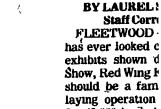


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