John Henkel

disease control because of his unique market outlet to pharmaceutical firms. "There also is less mortality in the farrowing and Research nursery unit, and we can preserve our reputation for selling quality sows also are sold for research breeding stock to other breeders,' he notes.

Raising hogs has been a way of life for the Henkels for three generations. His grandfather, then his father, also were in the hog business in Secaucus, New Jersey, once considered the hog feeding capital of the United States.

The award winner, however, left the farm and earned an animal husbandry degree from Rutgers University. After serving two years in the U.S. Army, he returned to Rutgers to earn a master of science degree.

"I spent the next four years managing the swine operation on a large institutional farm in New Jersey, then decided to start my own business," Henkel relates. "Joseph Little, my former partner, and I made a trip to Lancaster County and purchased the present small farm now known as Willow Glen."

While showing their Yorkshires at local fairs, Henkel and Little discovered their swine were infected with rhinitis, a serious disease. This was the start of a strict closed herd concept of disease control in effect today.

"It took two years to rebuild the breeding herd. In the meantime, the old herd was sold, buildings were disinfecte, and new, homegrown replacements were put in the regular quarters," Henkel says. I worked away from the farm to help make ends meet."

It didn't take long for word to get around that Willow Glen Farm had quality pigs. The Master Farmer was contacted by the first phar-

Here are two new Farmcraft hog feeders that aren't new at all, because we tested them for mans months in the toughest laboratory of all—actual use and abuse by big, mean hogs in confinement buildings—and these feeders came through with a minimum of wear

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referred by a pathologist who helped with the clean-up process. Now a number of firms are his

Research pigs vary in age from a few days to 5 or 6 weeks. Some period and several health checks."

"Research animals must not be

presents a creep feeding problem. Feeds on the market today contain medication so we use our own custom mix," he says. From a health standpoint, outside or new boars must originate from an artificial insemination mating with Willow Glen Farm sows or from a specific disease free, breeding farm after an extended isolation

Henkel sells about 20 percent of purposes. Henkel personally his production as breeding stock to delivers them to as far away as nearby producers. The remainder New Jersey, usually on a weekly is sold as market hogs to a local butcher.

Daily chores are performed

fed medicated feeds, which either by the Master Farmer or

On just 30 acres of land, Lancaster County's John Henkel has built an outstanding breeding herd of purebred Yorkshire swine. The 1981 Master Farmer markets his swine to pharmaceutical firms — requiring utmost disease control at maceutical firm after being the farm located at R1 Strasburg.

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Ron Butt, who was hired this past year. Mrs. Henkel also fills in where needed, ordering supplies or answering the telephone.

Like all Master Farmers, Henkel is active in numerous county and statewide organizations. He served

as president of both the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association and Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council. He also was vice president of the Pennsylvania Livestock Association (Turn to Page A35)

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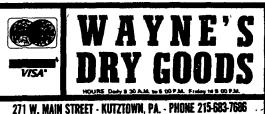
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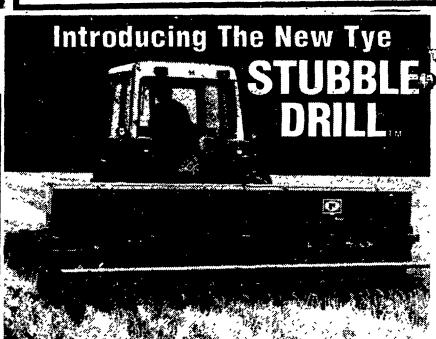


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