

Temperature, cow age affect grazing behavior

MILES CITY, Mont. — The breed of cows had little effect on grazing patterns during winter, but their age and the weather did, report USDA scientists. Cows grazed less as temperatures dropped below 20 F. and at minus 30 F., three year olds grazed ap-

proximately two hours less per day than six year olds. There was no difference between two crossbreds, Pinzgauer x Hereford and Angus x Hereford, in this study.

Range scientist Don C. Adams and animal geneticist Lamar

Reynolds, with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, also report that the colder it gets, the longer cows wait before starting to graze in the morning; but at minus 30 F., cows started grazing between 6:30 and 7 in the

morning; but at minus 30 F., they waited until about 10.

The scientists strapped vibratory recorders to cows' necks to record their activity. These instruments were originally developed for recording the number of hours trucks and other

industrial machinery operated per day.

A pendulum attached to a pen swings when the recorder is jiggled. By studying the pen etchings made on a slowly rotating graph, the scientists were able to determine when and how long cows grazed.

Adams and Reynolds recorded cow behavior from Dec. 1 through Jan. 15, a period when temperatures ranged from 38 to minus 30 degrees. Weather data provided by a local airport about a mile from the study site was compared to cows' behavior. But of all the data, including temperature, humidity, wind velocity, barometric pressure, and precipitation, temperature was the most important climatic factor.

Cows grazed a native range pasture on the USDA Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Station, Miles City, Mont. They did not receive a feed supplement. Twelve cows were in the study.

Adams and other scientists have expanded the study this winter and will observe the effects of cow size and body fat on grazing behavior.

Delmarva Safety Seminar Feb. 22

NEWARK, Del. — The 1983 Delmarva Safety Seminar — the largest safety gathering on the peninsula—will be held Feb. 22 at the Delmarva Convention Hall on Route 13 in Delmar, Md. The meeting will start at 8 a.m. and last until 4 p.m. Theme of this year's event is "Take Time to be Safe."

National Safety Council figures for 1982 show that costs of work-related accidents in the U.S. are

staggering. There were well over 12,000 work-related deaths and 2,100,000 disabling injuries in the country last year, resulting in a total time loss of 80 million work days. Total cost of these accidents is estimated at \$32.5 billion. On an individual basis, this breaks down to about \$330 for every person employed.

This year's seminar program will cover industrial fire safety,

industrial first aid, workman's compensation insurance, alcohol and safety, an OSHA update, and a panel discussion on safety in maintenance operations including electrical and welding safety. According to University of Delaware Extension safety specialist Ron Jester, the program is designed for safety directors, supervisors, safety committee members, plant fire brigades, maintenance managers, plant nurses and other operations personnel.

Lester S. Willson, an authority on communication and motivation, will be the luncheon speaker. His talk, "I Can't Hear You, The

Water's Running," will present a new twist to a timeless subject—communications.

The seminar is sponsored by the Delaware and Maryland Cooperative Extension Services, the Delmarva Safety Association, Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. and the Delaware State Fire School. The meeting is open to everyone.

A \$10 registration fee covers the cost of the luncheon, coffee break and educational packet. To register or obtain further information contact Ron Jester at the University of Delaware Georgetown substation, 302/856-5250.

Perry Holstein Jr.'s organize

Millerstown-The Perry County Junior Holstein Club held an organizational meeting on Feb. 5 at the home of Mrs. Jane Benner, youth chairman.

Officers for 1983 were elected as follows: president, Kimberly Kreibel; vice-president, Daniel Albright; secretary, Carole Dum; treasurer, Irene Benner; and news reporter, Judith Kreibel. Also, Irene Benner, Carole Dum, Patti Dum, and Nancy Dum volunteered to serve on the calf committee which will be in charge of the donated calf sold at the Perry County Princess Promotional Sale.

The members passed a motion to allot \$50.00 for each member attending the Pennsylvania Holstein Convention in Erie. At the Junior Convention, Daniel Albright, Irene Benner, Jennifer Kreibel, Judith Kreibel, and Kimberly Kreibel will represent Perry County in the Dairy Bowl Contest.

Anyone between the ages of nine and twenty-one who owns at least one Registered Holstein is urged to become a member of this club. More information can be obtained by contacting Mrs. Jane Benner at 589-3838.

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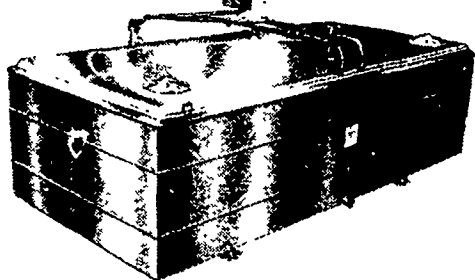


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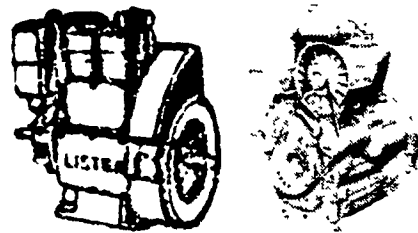
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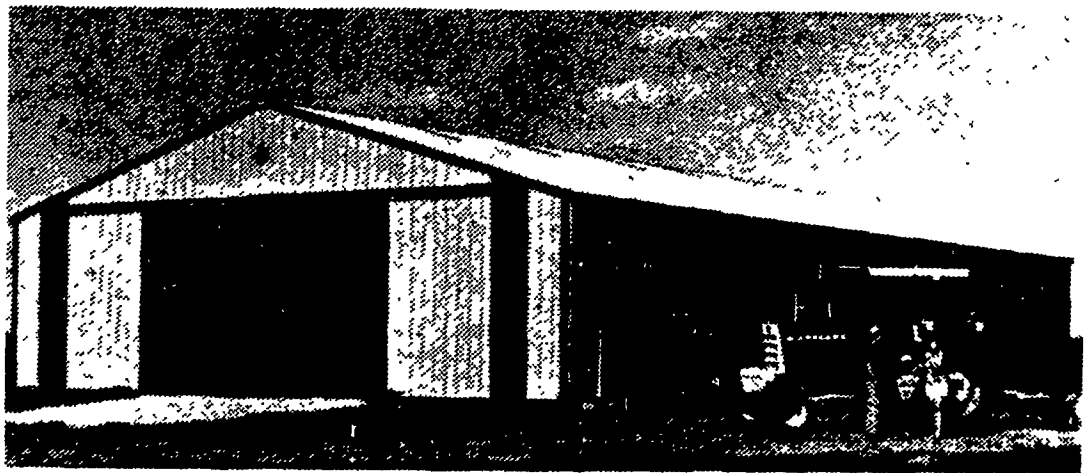
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