

# Hack heading PGBA is family tradition

BY TRISH WILLIAMS

**BERWICK** — When Albert Hack was elected to preside over the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders Association, at its annual meeting, it was somewhat of a family tradition. The election represents the third generation of Hack's to be elected to serve as president of the Guernsey Association. Hack's father, Clarence served as PGBA president in the 1950's. His grandfather, George Walter Hack, more affectionately referred to as 'GW', served during the 1940's. The Hack's have served the breed well through their work with purebred Guernseys and the association.

As the newly elected president, Hack has announced his plan to get the breed association involved in milk promotion. He proposes that a 15 cents deduction per hundred weight, taken out by milk handlers be turned over to a national breed organization for promotion and education. Hack would like to see cooperation among all of the breed associations on promotion and believes that they should become more involved in milk promotion.

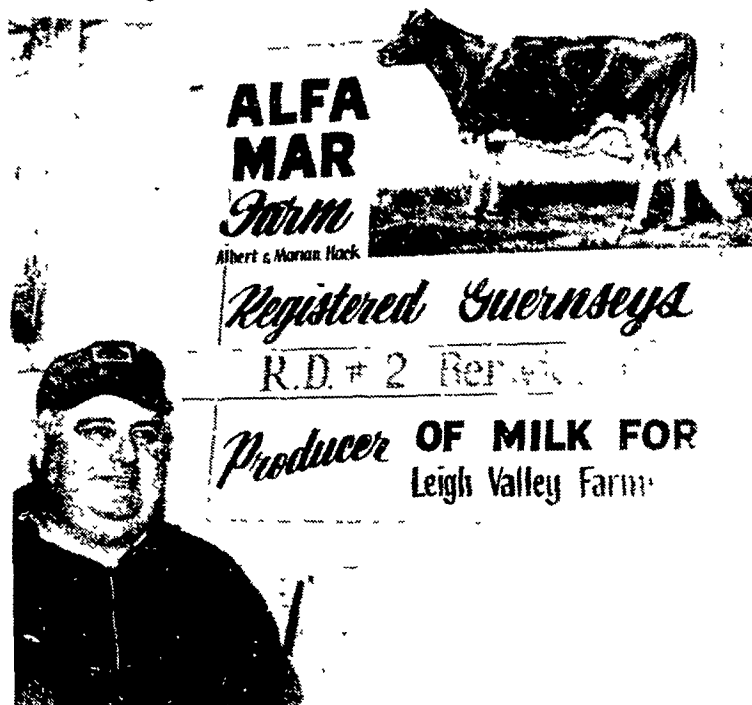
"I see no reason whatsoever, why our national breed associations couldn't handle such a program," said Hack. "I have already addressed the state association with the idea."

Realizing the small numbers the Guernsey breeders represent in terms of the whole dairy industry, Hack seeks support of the Holstein breeders.

"The Holstein breed association is the one we really have to do the selling point with, because they make up over 90 percent of the cow numbers, and volume of milk," Hack claimed. "First we have to see what happens in Congress with the pending legislation, then go from there."

No matter what proposal is finally approved by Congress for correcting the dairy surplus problem, Hack will be aggressive in promoting milk.

Last year Hack and his wife Marian, hosted a dairy day at their Columbia County farm, solely for the purpose of promoting the dairy industry and dairy products. Over 500 people attended the event day, that lasted from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Helicopter rides of the surrounding farm country were popular, as were young calves for the children



Albert Hack, newly elected president of the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders Association, represents the third generation of Hack's to serve as president.

to pet, and of course there was plenty of dairy products to try.

Being situated on top of a hill, in the midst of rolling farmland, the vantage point has earned the farm the name, Grand View. The Hack's bought the farm in 1960, from Marian's father, but did not start farming there until 1966. From 1960 to 1966 Hack's father rented the farm from them.

In 1966 the Hack's bought a herd of 45 purebred Guernseys from Christian Wolff Sr., and left Hack's home farm to strike out on their own. At that time they built a new staunchion barn, since then they have replaced all the original buildings on the farm, except for one garage.

The Hack's own 150 acres, with 120 of it being tillable. They rent another 250 acres nearby to raise the crops to feed their herd. They raise 170 acres of corn, 150 acres of alfalfa, and 30 acres of wheat. The herd receives a ration of alfalfa haylage, high moisture corn, soybean oil meal and minerals.

With 75 head in the milking string the rolling herd average is 11,557 pounds of milk at a 4.7 percent test and 544 pounds of fat.

His interest in purebred Guernsey was nurtured very young, by his

father and grandfather. He purchased his first Guernsey when he was a 4-H member. Hack recalls his disappointment as a 4-H member, when he was unable to show his cattle because their herd became infected with Bangs disease. This did not diminish his enthusiasm for the breed, at age 16 he joined the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders Association and has been a member ever since.

Hack's interest in cattle breeding reaches beyond his own herd. For three years he worked for American Breeders Service as a technician, breeding cattle. He no longer breeds for ABS but continues to sell semen. He does all the breeding of his own herd.

"Marian is very active in the farm," said Hack. "She grew up on this farm and is a real farm girl. She can run a diesel tractor and do almost anything I can do, she is especially good with the cattle."

The Hack's have no children of their own, but say they always have young people around to help on the farm when they need them. Presently they have one hired hand, Brian Hess, who enjoys working with the cattle, and farm machinery.

## Penn State observes Ag Day

**UNIVERSITY PARK** — For Penn State agriculture students National Agriculture Day on March 21 turned into a full scale, extended event.

Celebrations began with a weekend of seminars, tours, and parties at the University Park campus, March 18 and 19. More than 150 agriculture students from Penn State's 22 campuses joined in weekend activities sponsored by the Ag Student Council.

The event was planned to help Commonwealth campus students meet fellow Ag students and learn about agriculture at the main campus. Michael H. Chaplin, assistant dean for resident

education in the College of Agriculture, welcomed visiting students at the Saturday morning convocation.

Students then continued their day with club sponsored tours of agricultural departments and facilities, a banquet at the Penn State Meats Lab, and a party hosted by the Alpha Zeta, the national honorary fraternity for students in agriculture.

"The weekend is a terrific introduction to life and work in agriculture at University Park," said Jim McCoy, coordinator of Commonwealth campus relations for the College of Agriculture.

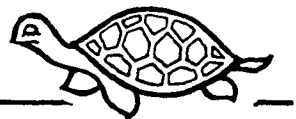
## Red meat totals down

**HARRISBURG** — Commercial cattle slaughter in Pennsylvania during February 1982, totaled 71.8 million pounds, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Beef production was down four percent from February, 1982. Veal slaughter totaled 3.7 million pounds, up eight percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 35.1 million pounds, six percent below last year. Lamb and mutton production totaled 1.1 million pounds, down 10 percent from February, 1982.

Nationally, cattle slaughter during February 1983 totaled 2.92 billion pounds, one percent less than February, 1982. Veal production totaled 53.4 million pounds, down one percent from a year ago. Commercial hog slaughter totaled 1.43 billion pounds, nine percent below last year. Sheep and lamb output totaled 54 million pounds, four percent less than last year.

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