

Catering to buyer's likes breeds demand

Della still does it



Eighteen year old Inka Whirlhill Pabst Della, has a lifetime record over 30,000 M, and is still being flushed.

Tying up success



With 25 cows classified excellent, 19 good plus, and 65 very good, there is no room for slackers in the 97 tie stall barn.

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operation to hard working, conscientious employees. Clyde and Teena Fuoss, are the herdspeople who see to the care, feeding and milking of this outstanding herd.

A great deal of exacting detail is demanded of the Fuoss's because of the complications brought about by the embryo transfer work. Health care must be closely monitored, points out Wolff, making the Fuoss's indispensable to the operation.

Wolff and the Fuoss's do all the preparation of the donor cows and recipients. Hormone injections must be properly timed to assure the synchronization of the recipient with the donor.

Flushing of embryos is done every two weeks on the average, although there is no set schedule. So there is constantly certain cows that need to be closely watched. On the average 60 flushes are performed each year, but that number tends to grow each year.

Bill Pettit, D.V.M., of Vincentown, N.J., flushes the embryos from the donor cows and implants them the same day into recipient heifers. The flushing procedure is performed in the tie stall barn. Embryos are implanted into heifers in a specially equipped ET room on the heifer farm where Wolff lives.

"Basically we have three options of what to do with the embryos," said Wolff. "We can implant them here, we can freeze them, or we can export them fresh."

Very few of the embryos are sold presently in the United States, because of the relative expense compared to buying live animals. But ET has opened up a new market in Europe for the Pen-Col

bloodlines. The genetic superiority of the Holsteins in the United States is in demand in Europe, but because the cattle in the United States are not blue tongue free, shipment of live cattle to European Common Market countries is very complicated and expensive. Live cattle are generally first shipped to Canada, quarantined there for six months, blood tested and then shipped on to Europe.

ET allows direct shipment to Europe, eliminating a great deal of the expense. The embryos are put in a test tube of fetal calf solution,

and a generally carried by a veterinarian in a specially designed vest, which maintains them at body temperature. Wolff markets 95 percent of his embryos and cattle to Europe through American Marketing Service (AMS), of Richmond, Va.

"We started out exporting in a small manner," Wolff explained. "We were unaware of what it was going to develop into. We began working with AMS on an order of bulls for Russia, which was a very commercial order. The pedigree

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Keeping up with calves



At times Denny Wolff has up to 100 calves on milk because of his extensive use of ET. Calves are housed in these new kennels until they are three months old.

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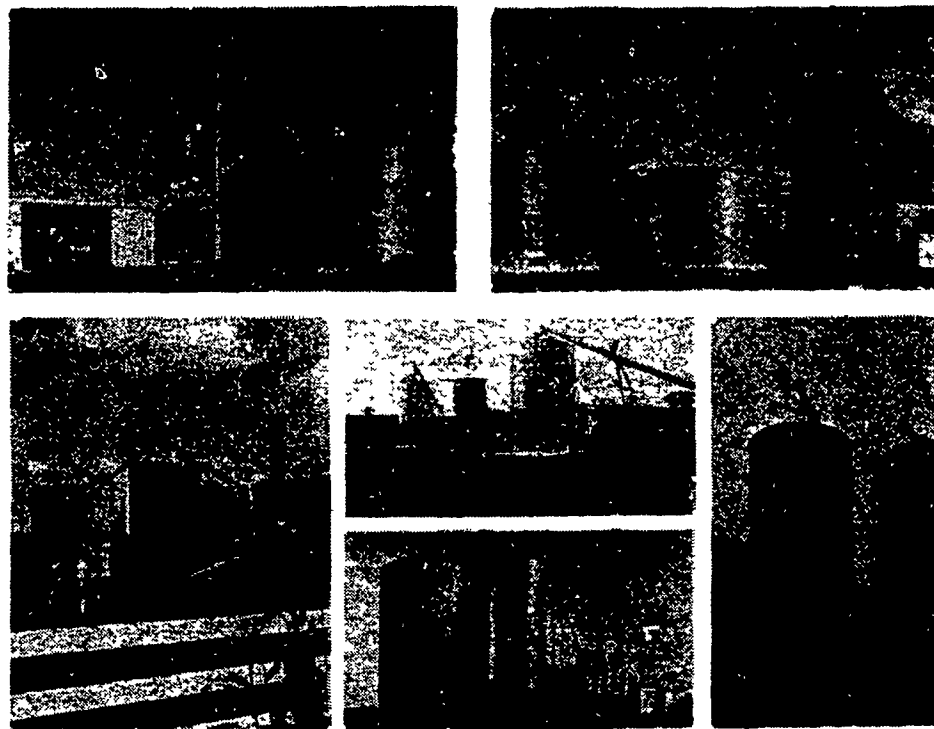
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