

Consider economics of small-beef cow herds

LANCASTER — "The average size of beef cow herds in the United States is fewer than 50 cows and in the east, the average beef cow herd has less than 25 cows. The small beef cow herd is an important source of both feeder and slaughter animals," says Joseph H. Way, county agent for Montgomery County.

According to Way, the beef cow enterprise has an appeal for many people including both full-time and part-time farmers. The appeal largely stems from the following factors which generally are considered advantages of the enterprise:

- low labor requirements;
- the enterprise does not require specialized management;

- specialized buildings and equipment are not required;
- the beef cow can utilize roughage that otherwise might go unused;

- it is a relatively low risk enterprise (especially in terms of cash losses);

- the enterprise adapts readily to a variety of farm situations;

- the income from the project is usually received as a lump sum;

While the preceding factors tend to lead to increases in the beef cow enterprise there are also factors which tend to restrict increases. These could be considered disadvantages of the enterprise, and they are:

- net returns per unit tend to be low;

- the units are small;
- high land prices tend to limit opportunities for expansion;
- the enterprise requires regular attention.

Way notes that while the advantages appear to be greater than

the disadvantages, the low net returns per unit and the difficulties of expanding the enterprise often discourage those with beef cow herds and act as deterrents to those considering starting a beef cow herd.

He concludes that while

economic returns are often not the prime considerations of individuals starting a beef cow herd, over the long run they tend to be the determining factor affecting the increase or decrease of beef cow numbers.

Iowa to host Nat'l Ayrshire Convention

BRANDON, VT — The 106th National Ayrshire Convention is scheduled to take place in Cedar Rapids, Iowa later this month. The convention will be headquartered at the Five Seasons Hotel, April 27 through 30.

The National Ayrshire Sale will be held in conjunction with the

convention, on Saturday, April 30, at the Five Seasons Center.

Planned activities for the convention include, an Amana tour, farm tours, a hog roast with entertainment, the national business meeting, an awards banquet, and special programs for the ladies.

For the youth, a horse drawn hayride and hot dog roast is

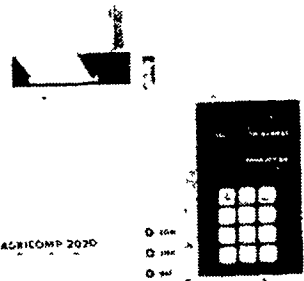
planned as well as old classic movies, and an Apple II computer will be available in the youth room with dairy farm related programs.

The convention will close with the national sale on Saturday. Convention Chairman and contact person is Howard Keehner, Guttenberg, Iowa.

SYSTEM 2000

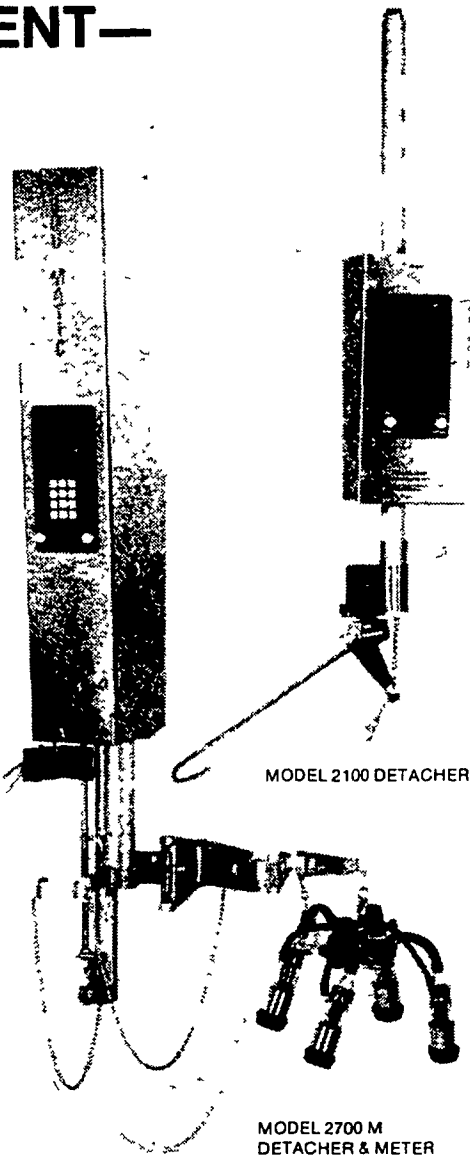
THE NEWEST DIMENSION IN DAIRY MANAGEMENT—

A system designed and built to combine the most innovative dairy automation with computerized dairy record keeping.



AGRI-COMP 2025 COMPUTER

The Bou-Matic System 2000 offers you a choice of three stages of dairy automation: automatic detachers, with Models available for either parlor or flat-barn installations; the Model 'M' milk meter, a revolutionary metering device that monitors milk flow and provides individual production data; and the Agricom 2025 computer, an on-farm management and record tool that offers a simple and efficient means of collecting and displaying dairy herd information.



MODEL 2100 DETACHER

MODEL 2700 M DETACHER & METER

Call or stop by for complete information on the System 2000.



CUMBERLAND FARM & DAIRY SERVICE
4560 Dairy Road
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-263-0826

PAUL R. LANDIS
RD#2
Milton, Pa. 17847
717-437-2375

SHENK'S FARM SERVICE
501 E. Woods Drive
Lititz, PA 17543
717-626-1151

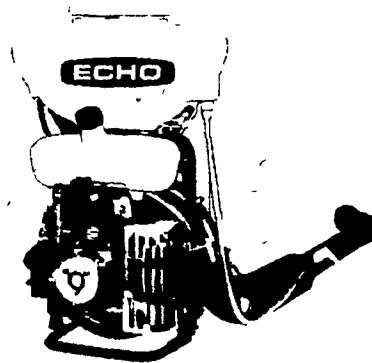
MENDENHALL DAIRY SUPPLY
R.D. #4
Brookville, Pa. 15825
814-849-5539

JONES DAIRY SERVICE
Box 52, Fostertown Rd.
Medford, NJ 08055
609-267-0198

W & J DAIRY SALES
RD 2 Oxford, Pa. 19363
717-529-2569

TRI-STATE AUTOMATION
Route 9, Whitehall Rd.
Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-790-3698

J & R SERVICE, INC.
215 N. Cornwall Rd.
Lebanon, Pa. 17042
717-273-6232



POWER SPRAYER/DUSTER

Get your dusting and spraying jobs done quickly and easily.

Heavy-duty, but compact and lightweight, this backpack sprayer/duster goes anywhere you go. Optional attachments give added versatility. And the ECHO DM-9 can also double as a power blower.

12-MONTH LIMITED WARRANTY*

Reg. Price \$399.95
SALE **\$329.95**

Phone (717) 626-0547
GREEN ACRE LAWN & GARDEN
171 GREEN ACRE ROAD
LITITZ, PA 17543

SERVICE & SALES

Hours:
Mon. to Thurs.
8 to 5
Fri. 8 to 8
Sat.
9 to Noon



RD 1 Germansville
PA 18053
PAT-RIC'S HENRY
Grand Champion
Angus Bull

1983 - National Western Stock Show Bull Sale

1982 - Keystone International Livestock Expo.
New York State Fair
West VA State Fair
PA Farm Show

1981 - Eastern National Lvstk. Expo
Keystone International Lvstk. Expo.

SEMEN
\$50 per unit or \$10 per straw
\$50 certificates when needed

FOR SALE
2 yr. old bulls & yearling bulls

Weekdays: 215-398-0424
Nights: 215-767-1260