

**On being  
a farm wife  
- And other  
hazards**

**Joyce Bupp**



Summertime.  
And the livin' is easy.

Want to wager that the composer of that American classic song that opens with those lines wrote them sitting on a long, airy, columned veranda, a breeze wafting through the shade of the magnolias towering overhead, sipping a cool drink, his feet propped up?

Try singing that ditty with any amount of feeling while bouncing through a dusty hay field on a roaring tractor, tugging a rake behind, rolling swaths into bouffant windows ready for baling, under pressure from the towering clouds gathering on a distant horizon and the freight-train rumble of thunder echoes from afar.

Or chugging down stale, lukewarm water, tasting of an ancient plastic thermos that has lingered too long under the seat of a tractor, while pausing between giant loads of hay that you still have to heave up in the mow of a tin-roofed shed on a 90-degree June afternoon.

Summertime.

And the livin' is easy.

Overnight, the barley has metamorphosed from immature green to the dull gold of readiness, bearded heads bending under the

weight of a bountiful crop of fat kernels.

Up in the machine shed, the dusty combine looks at you with a scowl of accusation across its wide countenance. Yes, you know its time to grease bearings and zirks, chains and gears, and tighten down belts.

Summertime.

And the livin' is easy.

"Mom, I have basketball camp. You have to have me there at 8 in the morning and pick me up at 2 every day this week. Oh, it's just at school." (Eight miles or so away).

"Mom I need some new clothes for camp. Can we go shopping?"

"Dad, I can't start the lawn mower. The battery's dead."

"Mom, can we go pick strawberries now?"

"Dad, can you fix my bike?"

"Why are we out of iced tea?"

"Mom, can I have a friend over to sleep out tonight?"

"Can you help milk tonight ..... we have two big fields of hay to finish?"

"Mom, the broccoli has those ugly green worms on it again."

Summertime.

And the livin' is easy.

Easy? Not necessarily.

Boring? Never.

**N.Y. state dairy princess to promote on television**

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — New York State Dairy Princess Virginia Tabolt will be appearing on the nationally televised "Late Night With David Letterman," on Wednesday, June 29, at 12:30 a.m. to discuss June Dairy Month. She will also be demonstrating to Letterman the art of milking a cow.

Miss Tabolt recently appeared on "The Morning Show" broadcast on WABC-TV in New York City. Making such appearances is just one of her many responsibilities as New York State Dairy Princess, a position she has held since August of 1982. Her year-long reign is spent making numerous ap-



Virginia Talbot

pearances at fairs, special events, and malls in order to promote milk and milk products statewide.

Ginny is from Lowville, New York in Lewis County, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tabolt. Her father owns a 240-acre dairy farm with 60 milking Holsteins. She is a senior at Lowville Academy and will enter the Cornell pre-med program this fall.

The New York State Dairy Princess program is sponsored by the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council.



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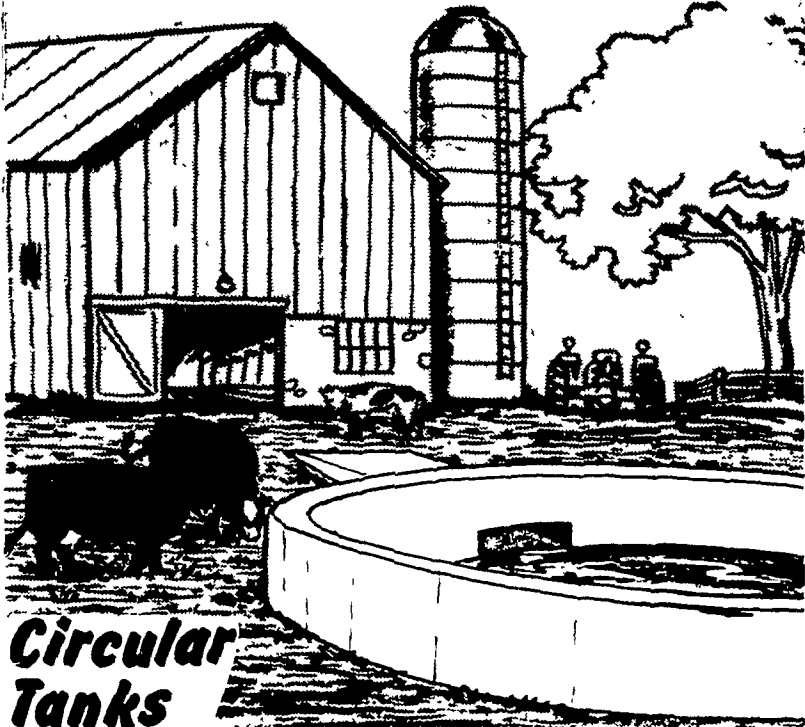
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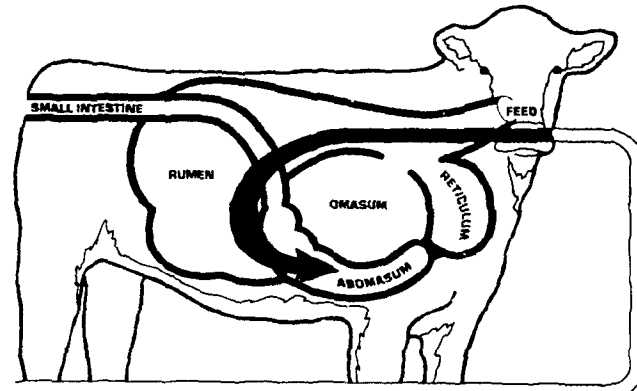
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