

## Almquist is honored

TUNKHANNOCK — John O. Almquist was honored and recently received the Distinguished Service To A.I. Award at the largest Sire Power Open House ever. This year's Open House had a record attendance of over 2250

### Avco New Idea winner



Winner of the use of an Avco New Idea forage harvester for one year is Donald Stofflet, of Barto. Stofflet selected for his use the Model 680 Forage Harvester with a 668 Hay Head and 662 Row Crop Head from Miller Equipment Co., Bechtelsville.

cooperative member dairyman, friends, and guests gather for this annual event held at Sire Power headquarters, Tunkhannock. Farm families from all over Northeastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and New Jersey came to view the more than 200 sires and tour the facilities.

Highlighting the program was the unveiling of Almquist's portrait, which will hang in the Sire Power Board room in recognition of the Distinguished Service Award. After this presentation, Almquist spoke about the past, present, and future of the A.I. industry. "It has been a joy to be involved with the development of NEPA to Sire Power. The support and teamwork of this A.I. Cooperative is much appreciated over the years," said Almquist.

Almquist continued to reminisce and speculate on the A.I. industry. He said there were 97 A.I.

cooperatives in 1950, and today there are 24 cooperatives. Out of this 24, only 11 A.I. cooperatives produce the 90% of semen marketed.

"A.I. had a hard time coming about in the early days. People thought A.I. would produce weak calves, 6-legged calves, 2 heads, and even glass ears, because of the glass breeding rods," said Almquist. "But, we have survived all that, and now we are on the verge of genetic engineering through A.I. in embryo transfer, cloning, and development of super cows and bulls."

He said we have the capacity to engineer and control the development of birth. "In about 10 years, frozen, tailor-made embryos will be available from your technician," said Almquist.

Comments were also made on determining the sex of 6-day-old embryos with a current accuracy of 92-94%, and also on the future of sexing sperm. Almquist concluded by encouraging the dairymen to select higher PD bulls from Sire

Power to keep pace with the rapid genetic progress of the '80's. "Sire Power has the kind of bull power and programs for the progressive dairymen," he added.

## Sire Power

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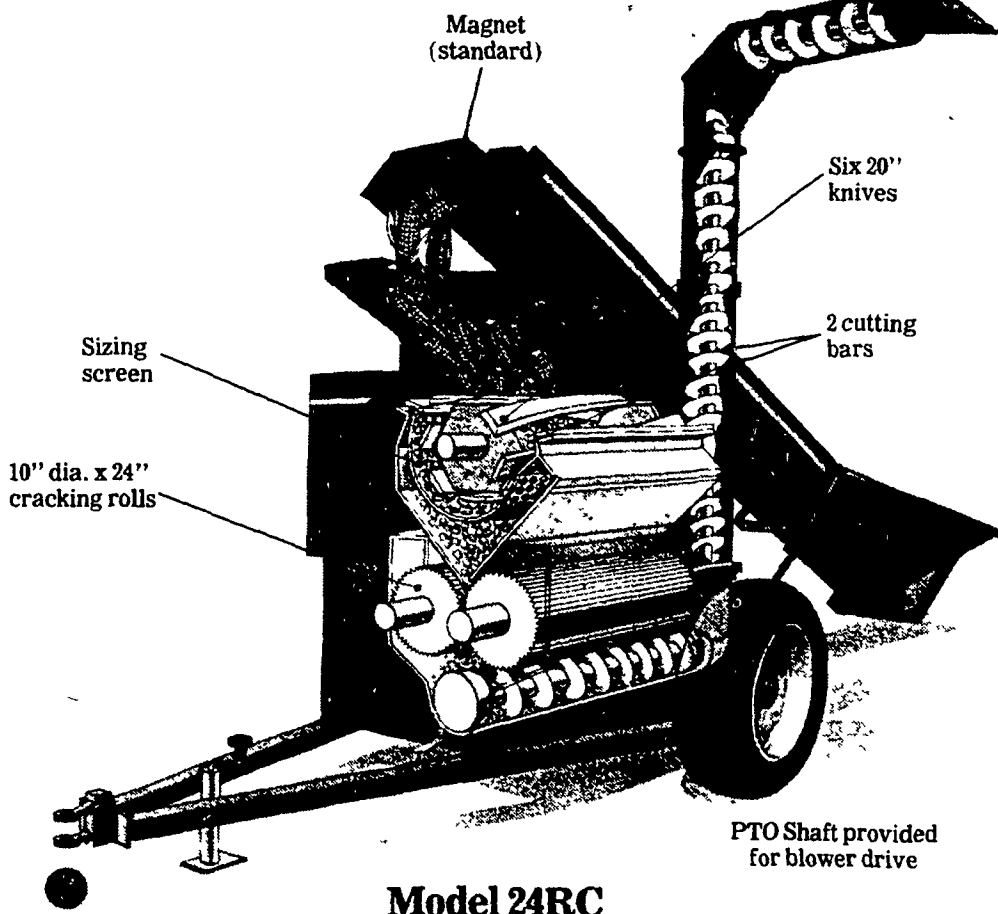
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