


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



Joyce Bupp

It is with extreme reservation, and only after careful soul-searching, that I have decided to lay before you a confession. Knowing you are compassionate readers, I trust you will understand this situation after the facts are all laid out.

A pair of pigs are living in our house.

Yes. Pigs. Four-footed, curly-

tailed, complete with snort, oink, grunt sound effects.

Litter runts they were, shoved aside by too many brothers and sisters and too few fast food outlets at their mother's drive-in service.

"I'll bring them over later," said our good-hearted neighbor, in a repeat performance of other hapless infant incidents which have turned out with this same

ending. He knows full well that we are a pushover for such needy cases.

Weighing in at two weeks at just a few pounds, and less than a foot long each, the two pink piglets were installed by the junior pig farmer recipient in a cozy cardboard box, bedded to the hilt with several inches of shun, warm barley straw.

Then, the new owner proceeded to park this enterprise in the middle of the kitchen floor.

"Whoa!" bellowed the kitchen overseer. "No pigs in my kitchen!"

So they were moved to the office instead, parked a squeal's length from the desk and typewriter (which is again working, by the way).

He dutifully cared for his new charges with loving attention. But late night grunting hunger pains reached the ears only of Mom and Dad, since the big promoter was sound asleep. Surely you can guess to whom the pig feeding task fell.

My pitiful attempt to feed the

first a bottle earned me a screech in the ear so loud the neighbors must surely have suspected foul play taking place within the old farm house.

Joy of joys, the piglets could follow their instinct to slurp warm milk from a bowl, snorting, shoving and stomping through their meal, then flopping near to each other in the corner and closing their eyes with a grunt of contentment.

By the next morning, the larger of the pair discovered she could heave-ho out over the corner of the box, resulting in a move of the piglets to a larger metal pen and days spent out in the warm October sunshine.

Alas, the pair still returns to the warmth of the basement each evening, bedded daily with fresh-smelling new straw and set on a

piece of heavy plastic. While the farmer makes his final late-night round of feeding the cows, I tuck in the piglets with their warm milk and fluffed up straw bed.


Amazingly, there is little odor, only noticeable when the bedding is disturbed - which is the only reason they still return to the basement each evening. In fact, I've met a few more domestic pets whose odor far surpasses that of these little porkers.

This situation does call to mind however, a number of times I have stood, hands on hips with disgust and surveyed the melange of clothing, shoes, magazines, toys, books, and other miscellaneous strewn-about bits of daily living residue while grumbling, "This place looks like a pigpen."

Another prophecy fulfilled.

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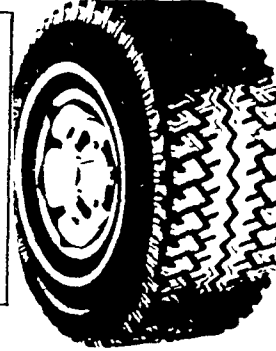
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| 30 9.50R15 | C 6 | 89.50 | 4.23 |
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| 33-12.50R16.5 | D 8 | 132.00 | 6.63 |
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| P205/75B14 | .85 | 35.50 | 2.52 |
| P215/75B14 | .85 | 37.00 | 2.27 |
| P215/75B15 | .85 | 38.00 | 2.38 |
| P225/75B15 | .85 | 40.50 | 2.58 |
| P235/75B15 | .85 | 43.00 | 2.70 |



Dual Bite

Steel Radial



| SIZE | LR Ply | COST | F.E.T. |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|
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| 800R16.5 | D 8 | 85.00 | 3.83 |
| 8 75R16.5LT | D 8 | 89.50 | 4.30 |
| 9.50R16.5LT | D 8 | 99.50 | 4.90 |

| SIZE | LR Ply | COST | F.E.T. |
|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| 700-15 | C 6 | 50.00 | 3.15 |
| 750-16 | D 8 | 66.00 | 3.91 |

| SIZE | LR Ply | COST | F.E.T. |
|----------|--------|-------|--------|
| 800-16.5 | D 8 | 61.00 | 3.41 |
| 875-16.5 | D 8 | 69.00 | 3.94 |
| 950-16.5 | D 8 | 78.50 | 4.45 |
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