

# Sire Power expands housing

TUNKHANNOCK — Sire Power's Gold Sire Development Program has more than tripled in the last ten years and by next year is expected to be four times as large as it was in 1972.

As a result of the increased demand for Sire Power semen and the expanded Gold Program, there is a need for more sire housing. Sire Power recently purchased Donald William's farm of 286 acres, and an additional fifty acres of crop land from Harold Grow. This land will be the site of expanded bull housing and a new isolation barn.

The land is located three miles from the current facilities at Tunkhannock. This will provide additional herd health safeguards. Plans are to continue to utilize the facilities at Frederick, Md. to house bulls indefinitely.

Construction of barns began in early June with one barn recently completed. Each barn is 465 feet long and houses 40 bulls in 11'x22' individual pens. The barns are open to the southeast.

On Nov. 30, the first bulls were moved over to the newly completed barn. The size and comfort of each pen allows for excellent individual care of the bulls. In each barn of 40 bulls, there is a clinic area to adequately handle the bulls for necessary veterinary attention.

These three barns are the first step in this expansion project undertaken by the Sire Power organization for 1983 and projected



through 1986. The next step will be to build a new expanded isolation facility in 1984, and then over the next three years, build three similar barns. This will provide housing for 450 bulls and should meet the housing needs for the next ten years.

Lloyd Ebersole, Sire Power Assistant Manager and Director of Sire Programs, has been in-

strumental with the building project since the beginning. He was worked closely with the Building Committee during the formative stages of design and bidding proposals. Members of the Building Committee are Harold Leshner, Chairman, Bernville; Bill Henshaw, Charles Town, W.Va. Marlin Hoff, New Windsor, Md. and Gary Rickard, Honesdale, Pa.

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# Health Hazards Posed by Asbestos

NEWARK, Del. — In years past, asbestos was used in many types of building materials and appliances to add strength, thermal insulation, and fire protection. Later it was learned that asbestos poses serious health risks. Now people are worried about the asbestos that may be in their homes.

There is some cause for concern, says University of Delaware Extension Family Living Agent Pat Wilson. Where asbestos is used, invisible particles may break off and float in the air. The particles are so small that they pass through the filters of vacuum cleaners. Once airborne, they continue to float until someone inhales them. After many years of exposure, cancer may develop.

Cigarette smokers face a special hazard when exposed to asbestos, Wilson says. Together the two have been shown to cause a combined risk of lung cancer greater than either danger alone.

Not all products containing asbestos threaten health, however. The risk exists only when asbestos fibers are released into the air. Soft, easily crumbled materials containing asbestos have the greatest potential for fiber release and therefore pose the greater threat, Wilson says.

Home products in which asbestos is likely to be used include ceilings, wall and pipe coverings,

appliances, floor tiles, and some roofing materials. In most cases, the asbestos is combined with other materials that make the fibers less likely to float freely in the air.

If you are concerned about whether you have asbestos in your home, the manufacturer may be able to tell you, based on model number and age of the product. Also, people who have frequently worked with asbestos, such as plumbers and heating contractors, can often tell by looking at a material whether it contains asbestos.

If you do find asbestos in your home, it's best not to try to remove it, Wilson says. If it's in a wall material, paint or paper over it. If you have old asbestos floor tiles with exposed fibers, lay new tiles or linoleum over them. When it is necessary to remove or work with asbestos, get help from a trained, experienced contractor. Make sure everyone involved wears an approved respirator, gloves, hat, and other protective clothing, because no level of exposure to asbestos is considered safe, Wilson says.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency have published a booklet, Asbestos in the Home. To receive a copy, send \$2.75 to the Consumer Information Center, Department 217L, Pueblo, Colorado, 81009.

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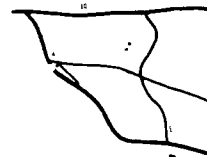
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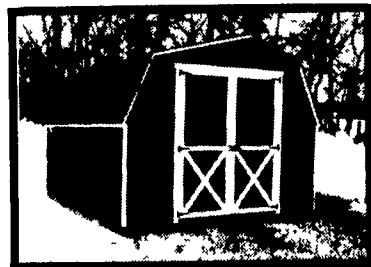
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