

# King family

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Farm Show marked the debut onto the tanbark trail for this outstanding three-year-old, with an impressive production record of 19,537 milk, 3.8 percent test and 717 fat in 305 days.

Her dam, "Rockside King Snowdrift, was bred by Chester Countian Jefferson Yoder, set the pattern for the family's showing style. Snowdrift has won champion honors in the past at the York Holstein show and topped her 3- and 4-year-old dry class at the Farm Show a few years ago.

Another of her daughters, by the King's popular Kingway Elevation Very bull, was also in January's Farm Show lineup. Kingway Very Sugar, owned by Lesley for 4-H project work, took third in her senior yearling category.

Exhibiting their outstanding registered Holsteins is truly a family event for the Kings and their children.

And, as Kathy King might have predicted, in light of the typically unusual events that crop up during a show week, their first grandchild arrived just as the Farm Show cattle hauling was at its peak.

Oldest son Peter and his wife Tracey became the parents of a little girl, Krista, in time for the Kings to celebrate their new grandparenthood status, along with those purple ribbons. Peter, a veteran exhibitor during his 4-H years, is now employed by a Maryland dairy operation.

"We live a good life," agree this long-time farm couple, who are quick to credit their enjoyment of farming in large part to their registered Holstein activities.

Kathy, a "town girl", married Paul when he was managing a commercial dairy farm in his home Montgomery County, Md. His family continues to breed their well-known Kingstead bloodlines on the Gaithersburg farm where he was raised.

When Rockville Holstein breeder August Nagel decided it was time



Kathy King gives extra hay snack to one of her herd favorites.

to retire from the dairy business, it was Paul King he approached one day, with an offer to sell the young dairyman his well-bred Redgate herd. Of the 41 cows and nine bred heifers purchased by the Kings in the Nagel herd, about two-thirds were purebreds.

While Nagel's farm had been sold - and today is a golf course - the Kings were able to rent it for a few years, and then move to another rented farm in Frederick County, near Urbana.

In 1968, the Kings purchased their present farm near Delta, rolling land on the plateau that drops off to the Susquehanna River, not far to the east.

Among those nine heifers purchased with the Nagel herd was Redgate Leader Victoria, an individual that developed over the ensuing years into one of the breed's outstanding type cows.

Victoria became the first Pennsylvania cow to be scored EX-4E, and only the 11th in the nation to attain that level of classification recognition.

When her daughter, Kingway Regal Victory, matched that achievement, the two became the first EX-4E daughter-dam pair in the state, and the second in the U.S.

Later, Victory surpassed her own understanding dam with her 1979 scoring, at age 15, of EX-5E.

Victory's maternal sister,

Kingway Sovereign Var, added additional pedigree punch to the family with her EX-2E credits.

The genetic legacy left by the heifer acquisition of Victoria today reaches into thousands of domestic and foreign herds through Victory's son, by Elevation, Kingway Elevation Very.

Very, owned by Atlantic Breeders Cooperative, continues to be the highest ranked butterfat percentage bull in the Holstein summaries, with over 700 daughters already on his proof. His high fat percentage test has made him extremely popular among European breeders, and made Kingway Farms a frequent stop for visiting foreign breeders.

The Kings presently have 11 Very daughters in the milking string, with 20 more coming along in the heifer pens. One of the most promising two-year-olds is another of Lesley's 4-H animals, Kingway Very Jade. Jade scored VG-85 on her first classification, with a 2-year-old record over 18,500 milk and 800 fat on a 4.4 percent test.

Ten years ago, a new stall barn was built to replace the farm's



Daughters of their own-bred Kingway Elevation Very, now at Atlantic Breeders, include this Farm Show reserve champ that Paul King readies for milking.

original milking parlor system and to offer more complete individual care to the King's typey herd. Kingway has earned the Progressive Breeder Registry award for the past seven consecutive years, and scored a Breed Age Average (BAA) of 106.3 on 1983 classification.

During their first year of milking the Redgate herd, the herd averaged about 13,000 milk and 500 fat, putting them in Montgomery County's fourth place spot on DHIA.

The 55 head-herd continues to be high on the production list in York County, with a rolling herd

average of about 17,600 milk and 700 fat.

Kathy and Paul are both quick to play down their accomplishments in the registered Holstein industry and Paul will turn away any questions about why he is in farming with a broad grin and the answer that he's too "dumb" to do anything else.

Still, what they both want to do is just continue to breed their pedigreed-production bloodlines, promote their product and head for the tanbark trail, expecting that the most unexpected events will probably happen somewhere along the way.

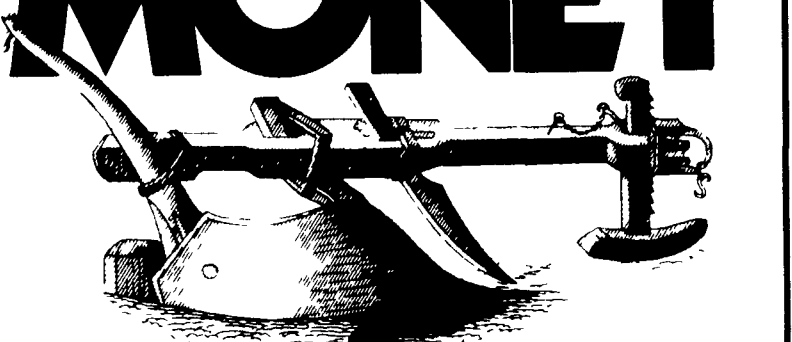
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NEWARK, Del. — Companies which sell equipment, plant foods, pesticides and other chemicals or services are invited to exhibit their products at the upcoming Ornamental and Turf Workshop being sponsored by the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Service on March 12. More

than 200 professionals involved in grounds maintenance and turf management are expected to attend. The workshop will be held in John M. Clayton Hall on the university's north campus in Newark.

To reserve exhibit space, call David Bartley at Clayton Hall (302)451-2214.

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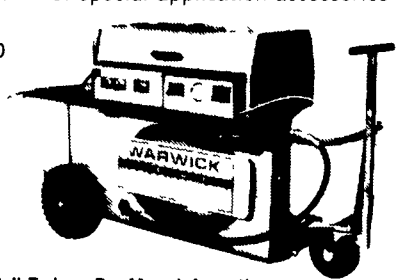


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