

Manheim Farm Show auction scheduled next Saturday

MANHEIM — Heading the list of consignments at next Saturday's Manheim Farm Show Benefit Auction are two Farmall tractors, which are being repaired, renovated and repainted by vo-ag students and FFA members at the high school.

The tractors, a Farmall H and Farmall M, were acquired by the Farm Show Commission from Evergreen Tractor, Lebanon.

The FFA's performed some minor repairs and prepared the tractors for a new coat of bright red paint.

"It provides a good opportunity for the students to work on equipment and some good selling items for our sale to benefit the Farm Show," explains Marlin Becker, sale chairman.

Chuck Bechdel, vo-ag teacher at Manheim, paid tribute to the students, particularly the juniors, who have been working on the tractors.

In addition, a number of the FFA's will also be donating six hours of their time to the slave auction at the sale. Bidders can buy six hours of labor from FFA

members who volunteer themselves.

In the past, bidders have paid as much as \$95.00 for a "slave" in the auction.

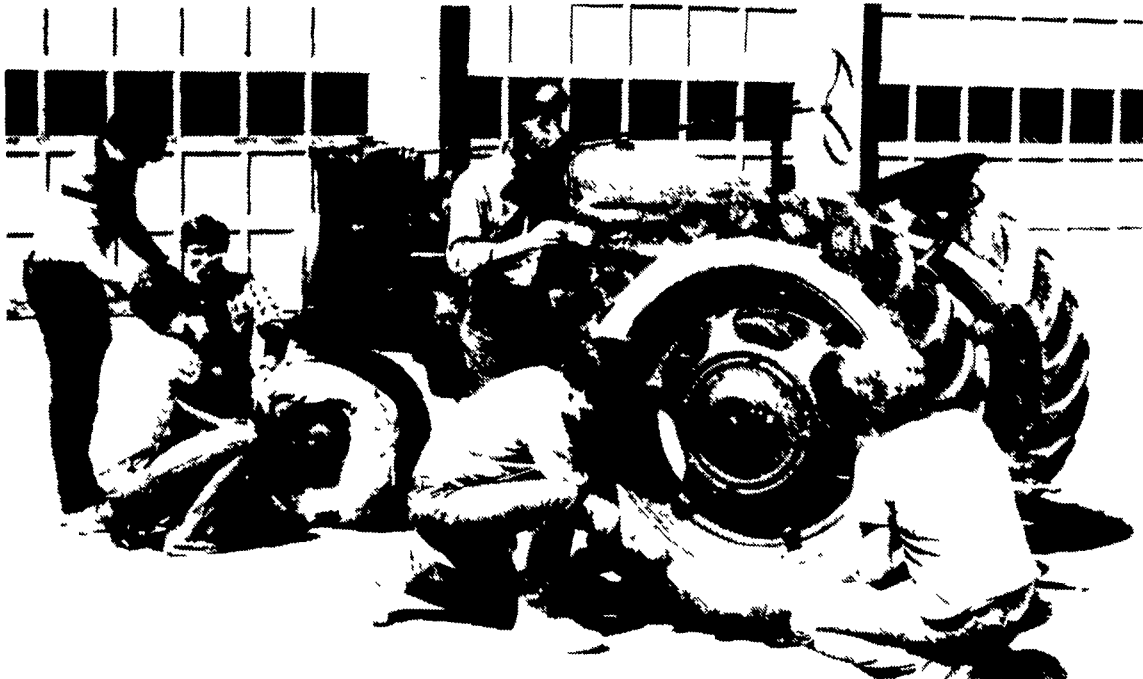
Other popular items at the past two auctions have been specially-baked commemorative cakes, which have commanded top bids of \$100 and \$150.

Other items of equipment at this year's sale include a Ford 8N Massey Harris manure loader, plow, Deere corn planter, 5-bar hay rake, walking plow and riding mowers. Other items range from feed to furniture, saws to shrubs, and tools to tile. A complete ad can be found in this week's Lancaster Farming.

Proceeds from the sale are put toward reducing the debt on the 60 by 180-foot pole barn that is used for the Farm Show and other community activities throughout the year.

Last year's sale netted some \$6,000 for the benefit of the Farm Show.

The sale begins at 9:30 a.m. next Saturday, April 7, with the slave auction scheduled at 1 p.m.



Manheim vo-ag students and FFA members prepare a Farmall M tractor for a new coat of paint prior to its sale at next Saturday's Farm Show Benefit Auction. From the left, they include Ken Hawkins, Bryan Balmer, Randy Kreiser, Matt Pflieger, Ken Nolt and Russ Zellers.

Management of young calves calls for special attention

UNIVERSITY PARK — For most Pennsylvania dairy farmers, the best genetic material available for improving the herd in the form of calves and heifers. With the increasing use of high PD bulls, calves and heifers are becoming more and more valuable assets to dairy farmers.

The problem is that until they freshen, calves and heifers are non-paying animals on the farm. Since they do not provide a milk check currently, they often receive less care and attention than does the milking herd. It has been proven that improving youngstock health practices pays off in the future milking herd.

Many vaccines are available for use on dairy farms in Pennsylvania for replacements. Some of the most commonly used vaccines are brucellosis, IBR, P13, Roto-corona, and colibacillosis vaccine.

All heifer calves should be vaccinated for brucellosis when they are four to eight months of age. Pennsylvania has recently been declared a Brucellosis-free state and it is important that this status be maintained. It is also a good idea to vaccinate all replacement heifers at least once

for IBR (infectious bovine rhinotracheitis). Six to eight months of age is a good time to do this because maternal immunity has disappeared by that age. In herds with widespread respiratory infection in young calves, a nasal vaccine to protect against IBR may be given to calves as early as two weeks of age. Parainfluenza, or P13 protection is usually provided in the same vaccine as the IBR.

Other vaccines are available for herd replacements, but the specific needs of each farm should be discussed with a veterinarian. Some available vaccines are Bovine Virus Diarrhea (BVD), Pasturella, Haemophilus, Leptospirosis, Vibriosis, and Clostridia.

Parasites, both internal and external, can also be serious problems affecting the growth and performance of dairy heifers at any age. The control of internal parasites in young calves requires careful attention to clean management practices.

Young calves should be housed individually to eliminate contact with infested animals or manure until at least one week after weaning. Always avoid exposing

young calves to areas where manure contamination from older animals can occur. Calf facilities should be kept free of manure. Most herds require a routine treatment program for young calves from weaning to eight months of age.

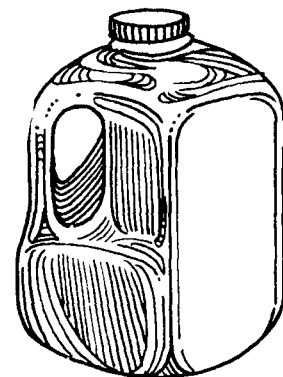
Serious parasite problems are most likely to occur during a calf or heifer's first season on pasture. These animals have little or no resistance to digestive tract parasites. Parasite eggs overwinter on pastures in Pennsylvania. These eggs hatch into larvae in the spring and are eaten by calves and heifers. Heifers on pasture can be heavily infested with parasites by early to mid-summer. Parasitized heifers grow more slowly, are less feed ef-

ficient, may develop diarrhea and may become anemic. Strategic worming at three and six weeks after turnout on pasture will greatly reduce the degree of parasitism.

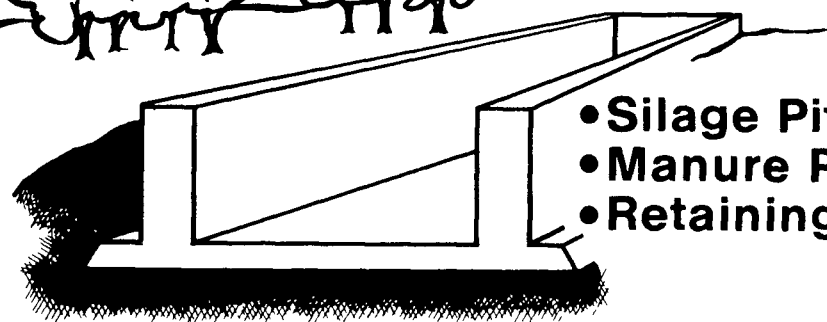
External parasites that should be of concern to dairy farmers in Pennsylvania are: lice, mange mites, and flies. These can all reduce growth and performance of calves and heifers. To reduce the spread of these parasites, farmers should prevent direct contact between age groups of heifers and clean all pens thoroughly before putting a new group of animals in a pen. Check with a veterinarian or county extension agent for names of currently approved insecticides.

Sanitation and good management are just as important

as drugs in a calf and heifer parasite control program, as well as overall health care, and should be considered.



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