

29H3098 DONACRES DYNAMO-TWIN VG-85 +\$92 +713M +.01% +27F 79% R +1.03 PDT 73% R +504 TPI

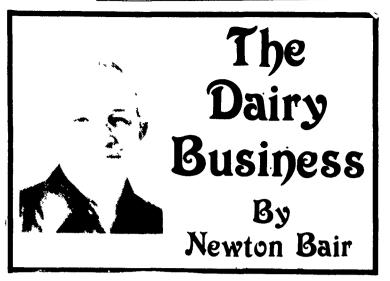
MORE TEST FOR YOU

Code	<u>Name</u>	<u>TPI</u> \$\$\$	Milk	% Test	RPT	PDT	RPT
29H4530	Apollo J	+603 + 16	3 +515	+.32	45%	+ .74	51%
29H3392	Anticipation	+549 + 13	+423	+.26	71%	+ .80	71%
29H3403	Andy	+472 + 6	i3 — 5 3	+.24	78%	+1.67	76%
29H4279	Scorpio		60 + 78	+.17	58%	+ .53	43%
29H3519	Roklane	+386 + 5	i3 + 86	+.14	66%	+ .71	54%
29H3345	Napoleon	+492 + 4	5 + 58	+.13	93%	+2.39	90%
29H4130	Triune	+426 + 8	15 +392	+.12	55%	+ .29	59%
29H3469	Satellite	+532 + 8	57 +418	+.11	62%	+1.75	60%
29H3151	Stoney	+517 + 7	'1 +306	+.11	76%	+1.96	64%
29H3183	Ken Royal	+363 + 4	7 +122	+.11	83%	+ .49	78%
29H3195	Vic	+561 + 13	8 +845	+.10	79%	+ .63	76%
29H3820	Dairyman	+596 +10	9 +635	+.10	61%	+1.91	58%
29H3161	Print	+469 +11	.4 +732	+.07	83%	+ .00	78%
29H3465	Rockstar	+361 + 7	'5 +452	+.06	72%	39	65%
29H3499	Profit Maker	+426 + 7	'4 +436	+.06	71%	+ .59	71%
29H4650	Francs	+472 + 9	5 +596	+.06	41%	+ .63	41%

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Chemistry of Farming

Oh, so much can be said, written and speculated about this business of farming! If I were to coin a parase to be remembered, it would go like this, Farming is a business, also a science, but most of all, an art." The more we think about each facet of our profession, the harder it is to separate them from each other. They are inseparably linked together, even when considered one at a time.

Consider, for example, the science of the soil that is the basis of our operations. What is it? Dirt? Ground? Clods? Clay? How we describe it in our own thinking is a reflection of our knowledge and respect for it. A good farmer soon learns how to cope with the peculiarities of his soil so that it responds to good husbandry. But how much do we really know about it? The chemistry of the soil is a good place to start.

Cations and Anions

Just in case you are not familiar with ions, think of them as electrical charges, since all of chemistry and matter is based on the inter-play between positive and negative electrical charges. Cations are chemical elements or combinations of elements that have a positive or + electrical charge. Anions have a negative or charge. They always tend to attract each other, and thus either neutralize the charge or lock together in a permanent compound.

Soil organic matter and clay are Anionic, with a distinct negative charge. The familiar plant food elements that are of mineral origin like Calcium, Magnesium, Postassium and Zinc, have a natural positive charge. They are called Cations, and have a strong affinity for the negatively charged

organic matter and fine clay. If clay and organic matter are not abundant in the soil, the soil will not be able to hold as many of the Cations required by plants, and therefore is likely to be considered less fertile than a soil that is high in clay and organic matter.

Can You Change Soil

You are well aware that soils of limestone origin are higher in clay than sandy, shaly or gravelly soils That gives them an edge in natural tertility, because of better water holding capacity and a quality known as the CEC', or Cation Exchange Capacity. (Look for this on your soil test report. It is expressed as the sum of all the cations tested, CA, K, Mg, and Hydrogen ions, expressed as PH.) You can't do very much about the CEC of your soil as affected by the clay content, since that is an inherent characteristic of any given soil. But you can do something about the organic matter, which is just as important as clay to the fertility of your soil. Keep in mind that it is these two physical characters that effect the basic ability of your soil to produce good crops. Organic matter can be increased, but it takes time and patience.

Save and Build

Any time that soil is moved by water, you can bet that it is the very fine clay and organic matter that is most easily moved. They may look rather granular and be mustaken for sandy particles. But this is missleading because fine clay and organic matter often comine into fertile formations called silt. These silt particles are the real gems of soil fertility, and when you lose them by letting them blow or wash away, you are losing more than just soil- they are the

(Turn to Page D28)

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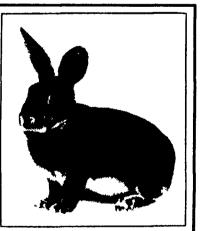
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