

Breezeview Farm

(Continued from Page A23)

the meat breeds, in 15 minutes with a hand shears.

But this year's wet weather has been cramping the veteran Chester County sheep barber's style somewhat. Shearing a wet sheep can be a "shocking" experience according to Joan, and wet wool quickly develops mold if not dried promptly. Since a soggy animal takes longer to dry out than Uncle Horace after a Friday night bender, Bill finds himself waiting impatiently for the sun to shine.

But waiting doesn't come easily to the active shepherd who sandwiches his farming activities between shifts at Diversified Printing in Atglen. Bill also sells a line of livestock supplements, and somehow finds time to stay active in the Pa. Suffolk Sheep Association, acting as the organization's vice president for the past five years, and being inducted as president during this year's Farm Show. Bill muses that about the only thing he can't seem to find the time to do is sleep.

In addition to caring for the flock

and other domestic duties, Joan rounds out her own busy schedule by serving as advisor to the Junior Suffolk Sheep Association.

The MacCauleys seem to thrive on their hectic pace, content in the realization that doing things right can lead to gratifying results.

The family attends the Maryland State Fair each year, "which tells you just what you've got in comparison to others," says Bill.

And what they've got is a prize-winning flock of Suffolks. The MacCauleys have shown champion rams and ewe at the Maryland Fair for the past five years, and Breezeview sheep are consistent winners, both as show animals, and on-hoof and on-rail carcass

competitors, at the Keystone International and Pa. Farm Shows.

Recognizing that bigger is not necessarily better, the MacCauleys feel that the recent push for larger Suffolks has little to do with quality.

"Our goal is good genetics," Bill concludes. "We'd like to build sheep with better breed characteristics and better muscling. A

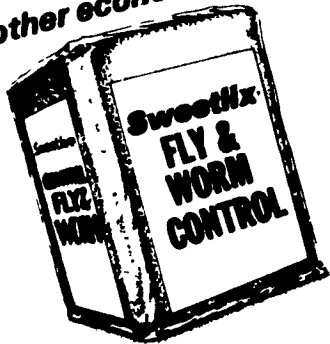
registered Suffoik should look like one, and after all, these sheep are put here for meat production. So far, nobody's produced the perfect sheep and there's plenty of room for improvement."

And when better Suffolks are built, there's a good chance that the MacCauley family will be right in there building them.

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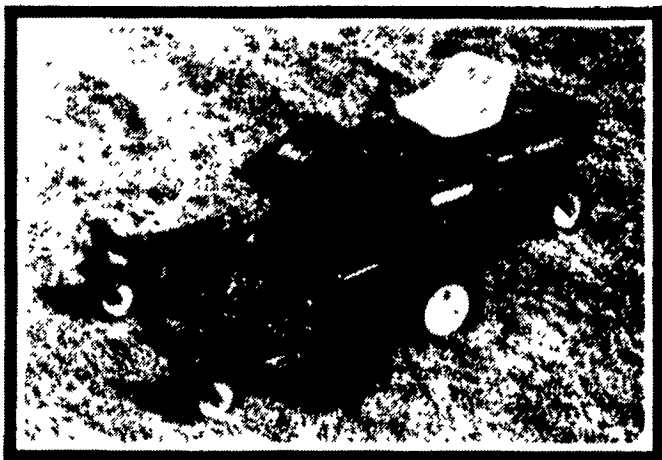
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A two-headed ram? Hardly. Pictured with Bill is Breezeview 267 Nightrider, the farm's home-grown stud ram...along with another member of the flock who enjoys the publicity.

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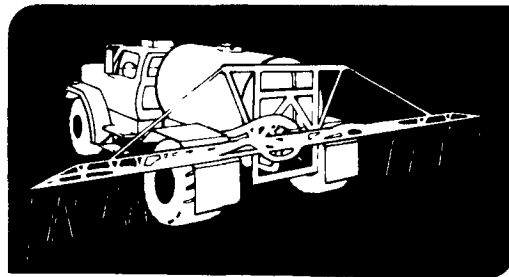
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