

## Bull calf boasts of pioneer stock

DeFOREST, Wisc. — A young bull calf born in the herd of Harold and Charles Lattin of Darlington, Wisc., can truly boast of coming from pioneer stock. His father, Cottonade Emmet, was an important member of the American Breeders Service stud 30 years ago and a major contributor to the early research on the technique of freezing bovine semen.

Emmet's last official act before being put to sleep, due to old age and failing health, was to produce a collection of semen on Nov. 19, 1953. The semen was then processed by ABS technicians, frozen, and stored in liquid nitrogen at minus 320 degrees F. until July 16, 1983. On that date one of the ampules was taken by ABS

Technician Bob McDermott to the Lattin farm where it was carefully thawed and used to impregnate a Holstein cow, No. 126.

The insemination resulted in a fine strong, bouncing bull calf born over 30 years after his sire had passed on.

The technique for freezing bull semen was first discovered by Dr. Christopher Polge at Cambridge University in England in the early 1950's. Dr. Polge was invited to come to ABS to work with Dr. F.I. Elliott, recently retired, to develop a system for use in the U.S. As a result, the first calf produced in this country from frozen semen was born in a Janesville, Wisc. herd on May 29, 1953.

Breeders of dairy cattle consider

the development of frozen semen to be one of the most important milestones of the last 150 years. Not only does it provide the means whereby scientists can determine the genetic makeup of individual bulls, but it also provides the mechanics for extending the influence of those that prove to be genetically superior over a large portion of the world's dairy herds. It is now not uncommon for one bull to be mated to more than a quarter million cows.

The practical result of this lies in the fact that dairymen can now produce the same amount of dairy products as they did 25 years ago with just half as many cows.

Since the beginning, researchers have believed that frozen semen,



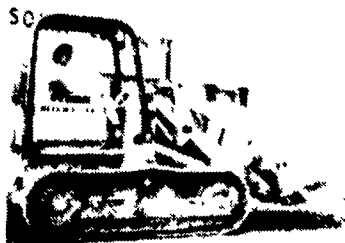
From the standpoint of his genetic value, this bull calf arrived 30 years too late, never-the-less he is still something of a miracle.

properly processed and properly stored, will last indefinitely. Only time will tell whether or not they are correct, but our hero in this story is living proof that 30 years is not too much to expect.

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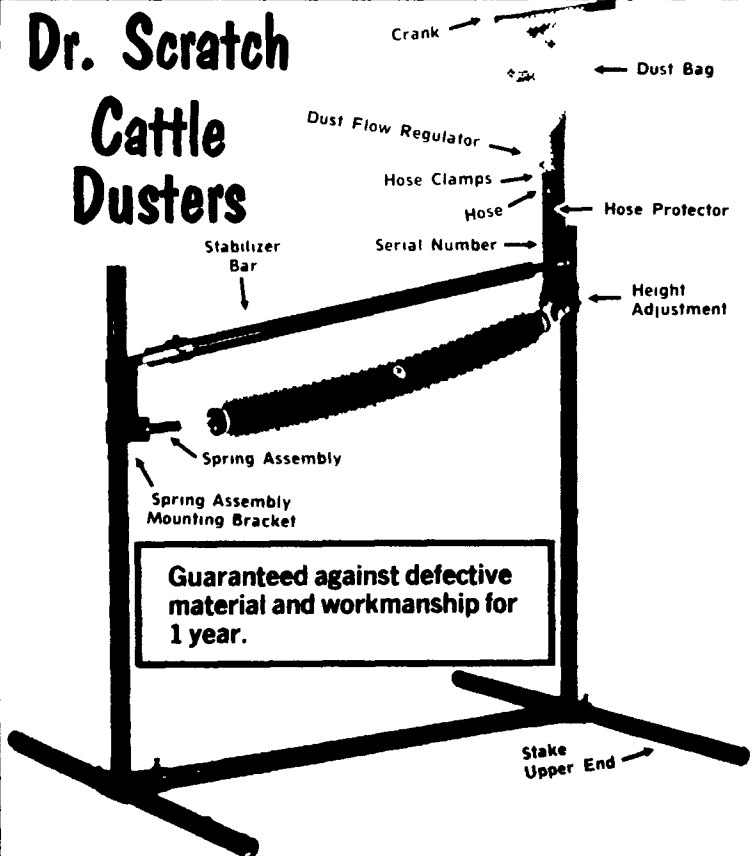
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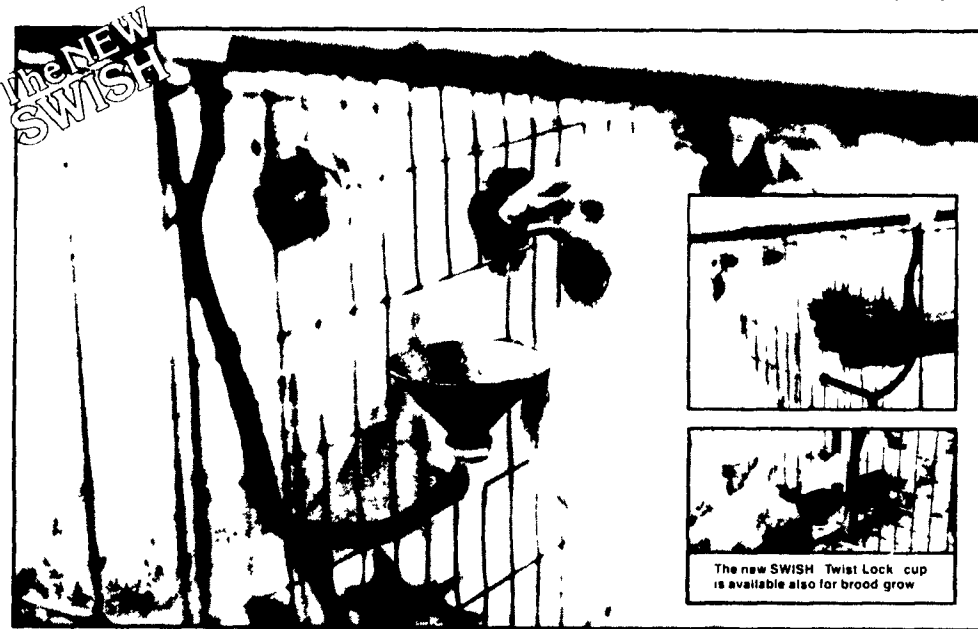
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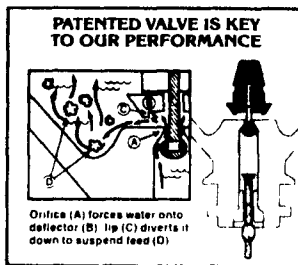
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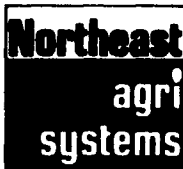
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