

# Whitewasher Covers Dairy Barns For Over Half Century

BY CRAIG BINGMAN

Snyder County Correspondent

SUNBURY — If you are a dairy farmer that utilizes the services of A.L. Kaufmann, check your "barn card" spray date. Most likely he will return the following year on the same month, day, and possibly the same hour.

A.L. Kaufmann of R.D.#2, Sunbury in Northumberland County has been whitewashing and air cleaning dairy barns for over fifty years. As a youth in the early 30's, Kaufmann assisted his father with the whitewashing trade. In 1939, he purchased the business and has been making annual visits to dairy farmers ever since. Also in this time he purchased several other whitewashing businesses.

He prides himself on his promptness. "My work is all scheduled from April until November. I always return the same time every year," he said. And because of his promptness, Kaufmann has received many compliments on his efficiency.

The reason that whitewashing is a mandatory service stems from federal and state laws that require barn ceilings and walls to be light colored. The original method was to spray lime and water. A more recent material now used is Voco II Farm White, a clay material excavated from Georgia mines. Also known as "Georgia clay," the substance supercedes lime and water by its covering qualities as well as its sanitary properties.

Kaufmann, who maintains two trucks, whitens the whole interior of the barn by means of a high pressure sprayer. One truck serves as a material hauling transport, while his 600 gallon diesel tank truck serves as his sprayer.

The length of time for a whitewashing job varies with the size of the barn, but usually takes between twenty minutes to one and a half hours. Ususally a tank, to a tank and a half will last one day. Outside of building and fences are even sprayed if so requested.

The whitewashing business is rather fast paced for a one man operation, so Kaufmann relies on his wife, Mildred, to assist him

with the business. "She is my right hand man," says Kaufmann. "I set up the schedule and my wife does the card work."

And scheduling is very important when it comes to covering the size of Kaufmann's territory efficiently. Every barn is sprayed once a year in twenty counties in Pennsylvania. And, twice a year trips are made to the Delmarva Peninsula.

As a matter of fact, he has been going to eastern shore Maryland and Delaware for 52 years, ever since Breyer's Ice Cream, Pet Milk Co., and Rochdale Creamery utilized his services.

"My first out of state jobs were the Supplee-Will Jones and Scott-Powell Dairies. Now I work with Eastern, Interstate, and Lewes Dairies. I used to go to Cape Charles, Va., but now my furtherest point is Pocomoke City, Md.," he said. In Pennsylvania, he works with Hershey Foods, Interstate, Eastern, Dairylea, and other local dairies.

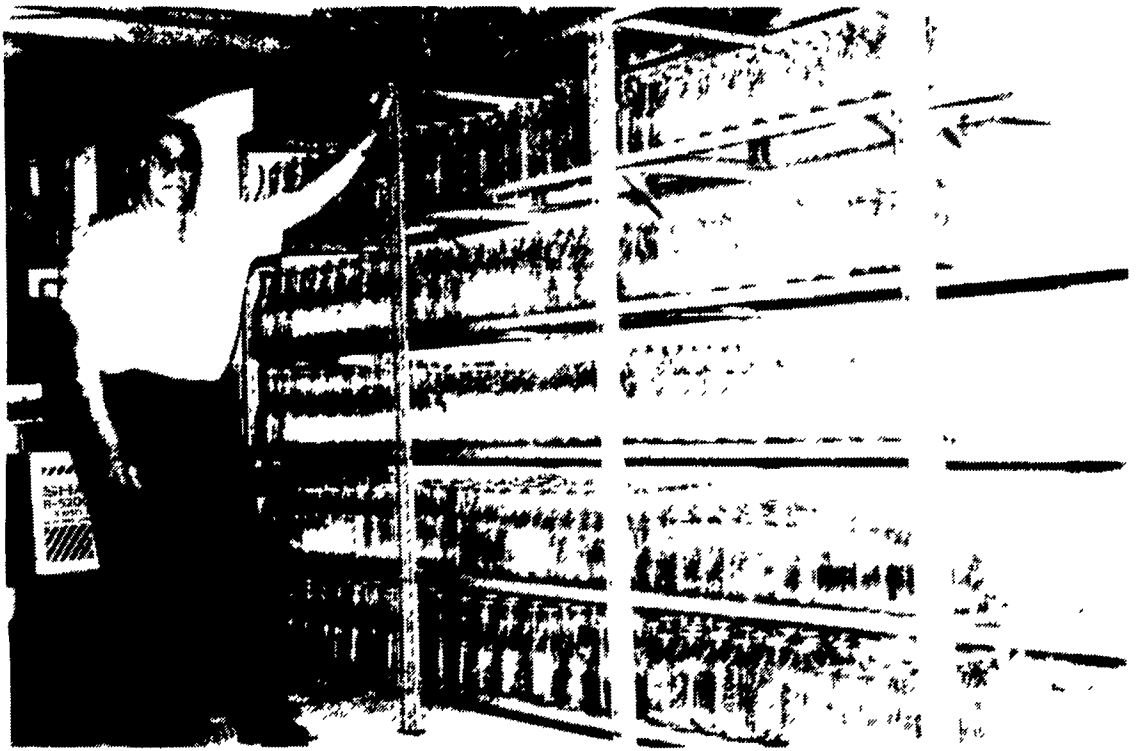
Even though things run pretty smoothly for Kaufmann, there's always that one time to reflect back on. "Once I did a barn for free. The owner went out of business and forgot to tell me," he said with a smile.

Just what does a whitewasher do between November and April? Most people would think a trip to Florida is commonplace, but not in this case. For one thing, Kaufmann is used to driving tractor trailer and pulling mobile homes during the winter months.

In the midst of World War II, he juggled his schedule to help with the war effort. During the 12 to 8 shift, he worked at the powder plant in Elkton, Md. and whitewashed during the day.

But there is time out for a hobby. Kaufmann is the proud collector of milk bottles — over 3000 of them.

Gleaning from their perches on metal shelves in the Kaufmann basement, the bottles vary from amber to green color, from cream tops to creamers, and from quarter pints to half gallons. "My wife got me my first three bottles," he said. "That was about six years ago."

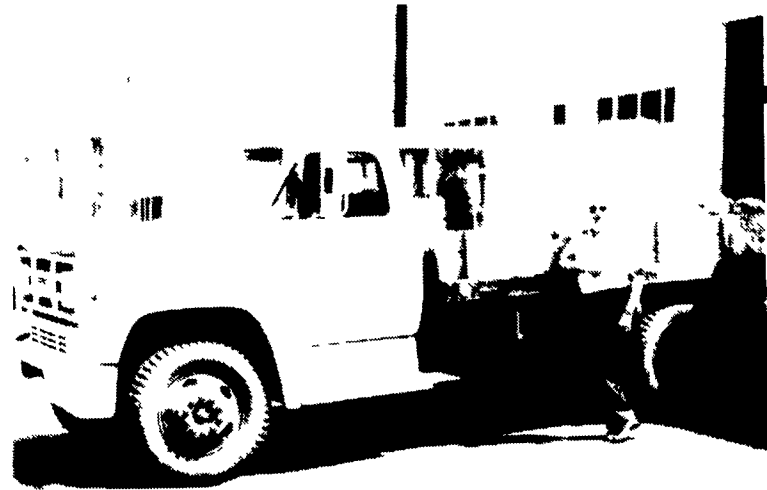


A.L. Kaufmann displays his 3000 plus collection of milk bottles which he has collected in just six years.

His collection accumulates from flea markets, public sales, antique shops, salesmen, friends, and, of course, farmers.

Some of his favorite bottles would make any collector drool. A rare green gallon bottle was recently secured from a fellow collector. A Thatcher advertisement bottle with a 1941 calendar imprinted on it stands proudly on the top shelf. Also, "cop the cream," baby face, foreign, round amber, and war slogan bottles adorn the shelves as well as hundreds of local dairy bottles.

As we celebrate Dairy Month, try to think of previously overlooked individuals who contributed all or part of their lives to the dairy industry. Now to the list of dairy farmers, county agents, dairy princesses, and co-ops, we add whitewashers. And for A.L. Kaufmann, the dairy industry is a lifetime friend.



A.L. Kaufmann stands in front of his 600 gallon sprayer truck, one of two trucks he uses in his trade.

## Snyder County Correspondent Craig Bingman

Representing Snyder and surrounding counties, Craig Bingman is new to the readers of Lancaster Farming. He has had articles published in Farm Journal, Successful Farming, and other national and local magazines.

Bingman was raised on a dairy farm in Beaver Springs, Snyder County. After graduating from West Snyder High School in 1971, he earned a bachelors degree in Economics from Susquehanna University in 1975.

After earning credits from Penn State in Agronomy and Animal Science, Bingman worked for Tractor Supply Co. in York, Pa. for one year as a manager trainee. In 1977, Bingman accepted the position as District Manager of the Snyder County Conservation District, where he is presently employed. His duties here include: environmental education, public relations, erosion and sedimentation control on farm and urban settings, gypsy moth program, and the Chesapeake Bay program.

An avid supporter of youth, Bingman has judged 4-H and FFA public speaking contests as well as supported the environmental activities of the



Craig Bingman

Boy Scouts. Also, he is an active member of the steering committee for the state Envirolympics competition.

Bingman is active in his church and is presently on the church council. He also serves as president of the joint council and is active in the communicator program. He has also served as superintendent of the Sunday School.

A fitness enthusiast, Bingman enjoys bodybuilding three times a week. Other interests include horticulture, milk bottle collecting, and hunting.

Craig and his wife, Kathy, a registered nurse, have two children: Lucas, 4, and Hannah, 1.

## Calcium May Lower Cancer Risk

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Calcium reduced the risk of colon cancer in humans genetically predisposed to the disease in a recent Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center study.

After only two or three months, 1,250 milligrams of calcium per day slowed colon cell growth in ten subjects known to be at high risk for colon cancer. In the lining of the colon, the nutrient reestablishes normal cell development which is usually accelerated in cancer patients, according to Martin Lipkin, M.D., principal researcher in the study.

Since its November 1985 publication in the New England Journal of Medicine, the research received wide coverage in vehicles such as Time magazine, The New York Times and Chicago Tribune.

Broadcast exposure included major television and radio networks throughout the country.

In past animal studies, researchers found calcium to inhibit the formation of toxic substances in the colon. With the substances unable to circulate, the chance of colon cancer in rodents, for example, lessened.

University of California-San Diego researcher Cedric Garland and his co-workers also found dietary calcium and vitamin D may be associated with a lower incidence of colorectal cancer in nearly 2,000 men.

The February 1985 epidemiological study published in The Lancet explained that fat intake and cigarette smoking did not affect the results.

"Dairy foods supply 74 percent of the calcium in our nation's food supply," adds Elwood W. Speckmann, Ph.D., president of National Dairy Council.

One glass of whole milk, and one-half ounces of cheese, or one cup of yogurt supplies about one-third of the adult Recommended Dietary Allowance of the nutrient.

"Recent studies also indicate calcium may be instrumental in lowering high blood pressure or in helping to prevent other diseases

such as osteoporosis," Speckmann said.

National Dairy Council is the nutrition research and nutrition education arm of the dairy industry. United Dairy Industry Association, through the efforts of American Dairy Association, Dairy Research Inc., and National Dairy Council, conducts a total dairy product promotion program representing 95 percent of the nation's dairy farmers and 86 percent of milk marketed.

## Jersey Mating Program

Jersey breeders across the country have access to a unique computerized mating program developed and provided by The American Jersey Cattle Club (AJCC).

Jersey breeders now have a program available to help them make maximum genetic progress, while conserving much of their own time. The Jersey Mating Program (JMP) is a breakthrough in the science of selective dairy cattle breeding, with several unique features.

Selected matings are made with the goal of maximizing net income per day of production life for the entire Jersey herd. Exhaustive scientific research has been used to establish values for the various traits considered in the matings.

The program makes use of each sire's Predicted Difference for all production and type traits, as well

as each cow's Cow Index for these same traits. Extensive scientific research has shown that by using these genetic evaluations, the average performance of groups of offspring will be most accurately predicted.

JMP also takes into account the reduction of milk, fat and protein yield due to the effects of inbreeding. The program considers the nearest ancestors to determine the level of inbreeding.

In helping Jersey breeders to select which bulls may be used in their herds, JMP considers all active AI bulls or any non-AI bulls the breeder may want to use. Selection is not limited to any one specific bull stud.

For applications or further information about this exciting new program, write or call: The American Jersey Cattle Club, P.O. Box 27310, Columbus, OH 43227-0310, Phone: (614)861-3636.