

# The Joys of Being A Farmer Boy

## Editor's Note:

Here's the final installment of this six part series. **THE JOYS OF BEING A FARMER BOY** written by Daniel Luke Fisher, an Amish boy from Franklin County has given many of us a chance to remember our own experiences of early life on the farm.

When you get home from school you don't know what to expect around here.

Like the other week, we were home from school awhile, when I saw one of my brother Stevie's year and a half old Belgian colts were out in the yard grazing peacefully.

I scared it and it ran up behind the barn. My nine year old Brother, Samuel and I went back

of the barn after it.

I chased Bobby (That's the colt's name) and he ran over the Hog House where Steve built a stall for them.

Then we saw that Bobby's mate, Judy was loose in the Hog House eating feed.

We chased Bobby in the pen.

Then we tried to get Judy in. She started down the aisle between the Hog pens and the wall. That aisle is pretty narrow and she's so big that we couldn't turn her around so we tried backing her out.

She backed back to the feed bin. Then she bumped in it and didn't trust going farther, so we tried to have her go forward.

We got her pretty far when

suddenly she didn't do it to move.

There was a door near her that led out to the hog lot. We opened it and tried to get her going, finally she went out the door.

We turned her around in the hog lot. Then we tried to get her in forwards so she could see where she's going. But she didn't do it to come in the door again.

I had to stand at the door and try to keep the pigs outside while Matthew and Samuel were trying to get Judy persuaded to come inside. At least 8 sows managed to get in while I was guarding the door waiting for Judy to come in.

The pigs would run over to the feed box and gobble the feed up 'till I came around and chased them

out with my B-B gun.

Meanwhile Matthew and Samuel were trying to get Judy in the door, all she did was run back and forth right past the door.

She really gave Matthew and Samuel a chase in circles.

One time Judy was running toward Samuel, he climbed on a gate and lost his balance. SPLASH! He fell right in a dirty pig water puddle.

Matthew finally got the bright idea to open the gate in the hog lot out to the heifer meadow. So we did that. She ran out in the meadow. Then we opened the gate that leads to the hog house from the meadow.

She went in the hog house and of course right past her pen.

"Whew!" I didn't know if we'd have to go through the whole same performance.

But this time she was in a different wider aisle.

Matthew went up ahead of her and backed her back a little, and she went in her pen as nice as could be!

We quickly closed the gate of her stall.

-By Daniel Luke Fisher

Susan Akin, Miss America 1986, says her favorite pig-out food is apple pie and ice cream.

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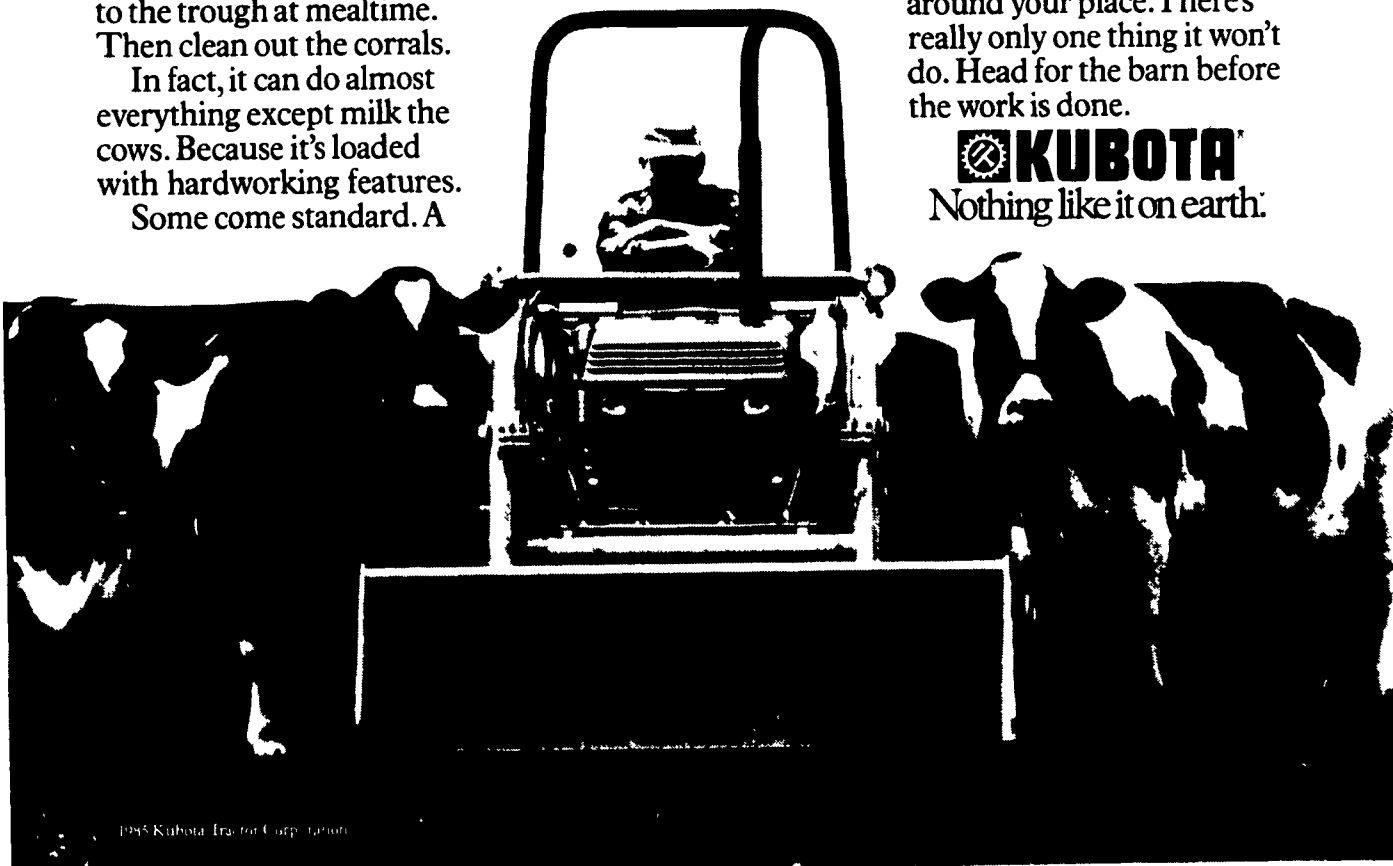
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