

handled properly.

The meltability of chocolate and the large amount of hardware (pieces of the candy processing machines) found in each load, are two reasons for the extra labor, Garber notes.

"Although it is extra work, we save money by doing the work ourselves and by using homegrown feeds," Garber said.

Garber's "regular feed ration" includes three pounds of a mix of chocolate and ground ear corn.

The chocolate is an economical feed at \$70 per ton. By combining the chocolate with their homegrown feeds, a greater savings is realized since the chocolate requires extra labor to be handled properly.

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Blending grain/chocolate mixes to meet two calf growing stages

and three lactation levels is done at the farm's hammermill by Garber. He adjusts the grain ration to meet test levels.

Chocolate provides fat and has a high degree of palatability. Garber cautions that care must be taken to avoid overfeeding the chocolate.

The chocolate is only a portion of the feeding program the Garbers use. They feed six to eight times per day, starting with hay. "I like the idea of feeding hay before grain, and by feeding often, we can get more into the cow. You have to get it in before you can get it out," Garber said.

Garbers separate their hay into four mows so that a variety of hay, with varying maturity, can be fed every day.

The management is a team effort. Garber's father tends to the field work and the overall management. His brother, Jay, focuses on repairing and maintaining the machinery. Gerald's area is the cows.

"I was always more of a cow person than my father or brother was," he says. Although they each have a primary area to work in,

they work in other areas when help is needed someplace else. This type of management agreement has given Garber more time to work with the cows.

"You have to spend time with the cows to get the production," Garber said when explaining his successes.

In spite of all the time he spends with the cows, it didn't prevent misfortune from occurring.

Last March, "Julia" died from internal hemorrhaging six hours after freshening.

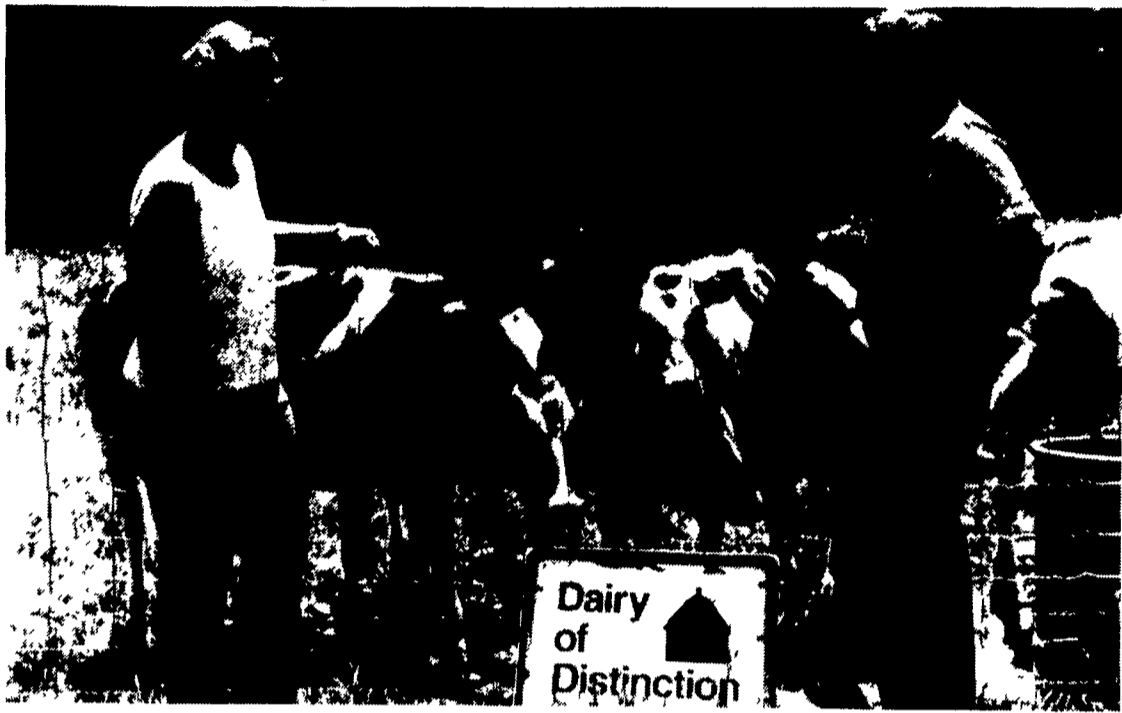
"Julia" has left a legacy behind. Her first calf at the Garbers was a heifer, "Jewel," who freshened three weeks ago. On her first test she was milking 70 pounds. She resembles her dam in size, and Garber is hopefully she will resemble "Julia" in the milk

bucket as well.

Last year "Julia" freshen with a bull calf, "Jasper," who is now in the Mid-Atlantic Guernsey Sire program.

As with any cow family, it is now a matter of waiting to see what develops. Hopefully, under Garber's management and feeding program, the results will be similar.

## Dairy of Distinction Award Given



Alfred State College's farm complex is this year's sole recipient of the "Dairy of Distinction" award in Allegany County, according to Mary Beth Rymph, county cooperative extension agent who made the announcement during Cuba's June Dairy Month observance. Here, displaying the red and white metal sign which will be posted at the farm, located on Rt. 244 east of the campus, are herdsman Sharon Chamberlain and Professor W.A. MacDonald of the Plant and Animal Science Dept. With them are several calves from the college's registered Holstein herd. The dairy award is made through the N.Y. Dairy Farm Beautification Program sponsored by the state Dept. of Agriculture, Farm Bureau, Grange, and Cooperative Extension Service. Aim of the program is to enhance the public image of New York's dairy industry.



Gerald Garber prepares to mix a batch of grain using broken up candy bars.

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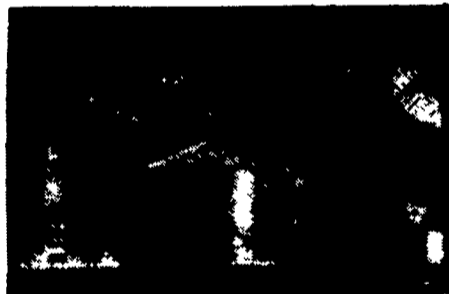
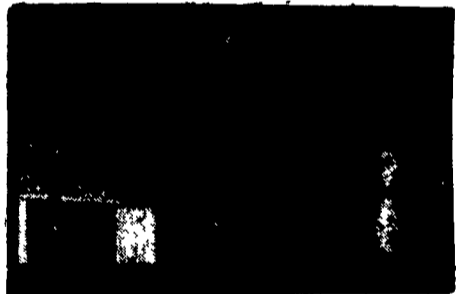
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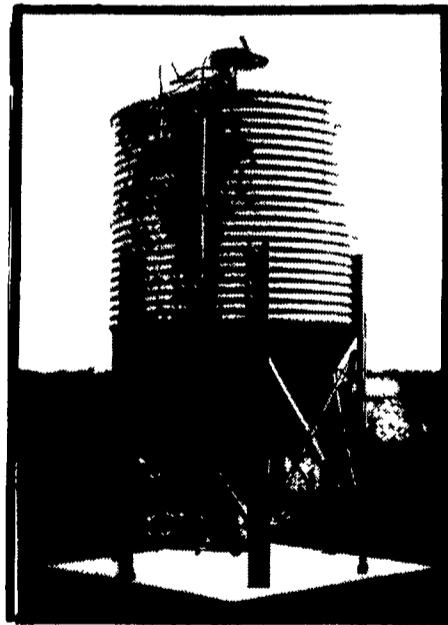
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