

Computer Hub Buzzes With Activity

(Continued from Page F10)

that there may be a user's fee attached to the ARIS program, a minimal charge for the mainframe computer's time. It is also possible that the DHIA will make computer systems available to farms by leasing the hardware.

Aside from the business details, Wilson admits there are a few bugs that still require work. One of these bugs involve electrical storms, such as the one which occurred during a recent demonstration.

Each time he would connect with the mainframe, a bolt of lightning or a clap of thunder would erase the connection. "I could solve this with a noise protector on my modem or with a more expensive modem," he explains. "Or I could carry a fool-proof computer for demonstration purposes, but that

would be far too expensive for the average farmer to consider, upwards of \$26,000." Wilson explains that the MS/DOS hardware required for the program can be purchased in many cases for under \$1,500, and sometimes for less than \$1,000.

Wilson is hoping for better weather at Ag Progress where he will be demonstrating the ARIS program next week. He adds that farmers who would like to know more about the system are welcome to call him at the DHIA offices, 1-800-DHI-TEST.

Presently a pilot program to evaluate the new ARIS system is being conducted throughout the state. The program will provide input as to how dairymen would like the program presented on the statewide basis, sometime in 1987. Eleven dairymen are participating

in the pilot project with the goal of evaluating and giving direction to the program before it is released statewide.

Participants in the pilot program include: Mason-Dixon Farms,

Adams County; Merrymead Farms, Montgomery County; Richard Warnshuis, Erie County; Gillbrook Farms, Huntingdon County; Noll Farms, Cambria County; Oliver Butler, Tioga County; David Slusser, Crawford County; Kevin Schrack, Clinton County; William and Dan Boham,

Susquehanna County; Albert Lendel, Mercer County; and Sinking Spring Farm, Inc., York County.

Also on tap for sometime in early 1987, Wilson plans to present workshops throughout the state to introduce the program to the general dairy community.

Researcher To Study Bees In Panama

NEWARK, Del. — Dr. Dewey M. Caron, professor of entomology at the University of Delaware, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to study Africanized bees in Panama.

Caron will leave in August for seven months of study at the Facultad de Agronomia at the University of Panama in David. David is Panama's westernmost province. It adjoins the Costa Rican border and is the major agricultural area of Panama.

Caron will study the effects of Africanized bees on beekeepers' practices. The bees first appeared

in Panama in early 1982 and spread quickly across the country. The entomologist will also monitor the bees' progress and will study the basic reproductive biology of Africanized bees.

The Fulbright program is funded and administered by the U.S. Information Agency under policy guidelines established by the presidentially-appointed Board of Foreign Scholarships. Financial support for the program comes from U.S. Congressional appropriations and from the governments of 27 other nations.



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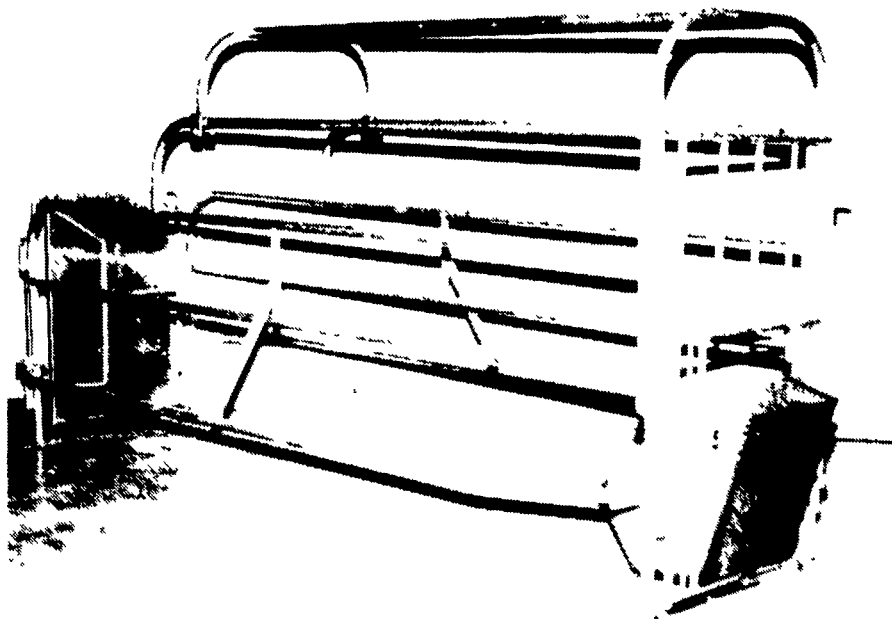
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