

Rumensin Aids In Bringing Heifers Into Milking String Quicker

MOUNT JOY — Rumensin, a feed additive which promotes growth, was approved for use on dairy heifers over a year ago. In the year since its approval, dairymen have successfully used rumensin in their herds. "There is very little investment for the return," Jeff Zechman, dairy nutritionist, said.

He noted that farmers can expect a 14 cent return for every penny invested. Zechman made these comments at a recent dairy seminar sponsored by White Oak Mills of Elizabethtown.

Heifers on rumensin enter the milking herd sooner by reaching breeding weight sooner. Consequently, the heifers provide a return on investment sooner, Zechman commented. The rumensin shifts more volatile fatty acids to propionic acid in the rumen, permitting the heifers to

gain more energy for growth from the same feed.

Dairymen using low density diets, such as rained on hay, reap the most benefits of rumensin — an increase of 6 to 8 percent average daily gain, the nutritionist explained.

He cautioned against hitting a heifer too hard with the feed additive in the beginning. Excess amounts can throw the dairy animal off feed in the beginning. He noted the dose must be adjusted to the size of the animal.

"I think this is something we should look at," Zechman said. Keeping an unfresh heifer over 24 months costs the dairymen \$3 per day. He explained that by bringing a heifer into the milking string sooner, dairymen will possibly net an calf and produced more milk in her lifetime. Also, since its introduction, rumensin has

decreased dramatically in price.

The feed additive works in the stomach, eliminating withdrawal time and permitting feeding up to the time the heifer freshens. Zechman noted that rumensin can be fed as a supplement or mineral feed.

For feeding young calves, Zechman noted the importance of feeding colostrum within the first hour of birth. After the first hour, the calf's ability to absorb the antibiotics found in milk drops off rapidly. "The calf has no immune system when its first born. You

want to get colostrum in it as soon as possible," he explained.

He recommends feeding colostrum for the calf's first three days. On day four, he suggests offering milk replacer at 1 percent of the calf's body weight. "Don't shift the amount fed around, that's a good way to give her scours," the nutritionist said.

Zechman noted that he prefers bottle feeding calves straight through to weaning as opposed to bucket feeding. When calves drink from a bucket, they tend to gulp the milk; this action could direct

the milk into the rumen (instead of the abomasum) or into the lungs and cause scours or pneumonia.

The incidence of scours in young calves can be reduced by feeding a steady amount of milk replacer with a steady of powder. "Its actually almost better to underfeed to prevent scours," Zechman said. The time of feeding should stay the same to keep the amount of milk in the abomasum constant. This also reduces the amount of stress placed on a calf; stress is a possible factor in causing scours.

Two Warren County Dairymen Honored

Two Warren County dairy farmers were honored last week for their contributions to their communities and to county agricultural organizations.

Robert Frey of Pohatcong Township was honored by the Warren County Soil Conservation District as the district's Cooperator of the Year.

Orrie Terpstra of Knowlton Township was recognized by the

Warren County Board of Agriculture with the annual Distinguished Service Citation.

Frey maintains a 55-cow herd and farms the 379 acres he owns near Carpentersville. In 1985 and 1986 he installed more than 3,200 feet of underground pipe and 2,500 feet of terraces to combat erosion on some of his steep cropland.

He plans more conservation

work and continues strip cropping and following conservation tillage methods on his farm.

Frey is president of the Warren County Planning Board and is a member of the Pohatcong Township School Board, the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council, and the Warren County Board of Agriculture.

His wife, Trudy, is active in Grange activities and the Greenwich Presbyterian Church. The Freys have two sons, Bruce and Rob.

Terpstra keeps 60 cows on his 330 acres in Knowlton Township, where he serves on the township committee.

He is chairman of the Knowlton Township Environmental Commission and a member of the township planning board and board of adjustment. He is a member of the Knowlton Fire Company.

Terpstra is also chairman of the Warren County Agriculture Development Board and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. He is a past president of the Warren County Board of Agriculture.

Terpstra, a native of The Netherlands, and his wife, Fran, have a daughter, Tammy.

Reprinted by permission of The Express, Easton, Pa.

MMI President Elected To National Milk Producers Federation Board

STRONGSVILLE, Ohio — Dairy leader Herman Brubaker, West Alexandria, has been elected to the executive committee for the National Milk Producers Federation.

Presently Brubaker serves as the president of Milk Marketing Inc., the regional dairy marketing cooperative headquartered in Strongsville. Brubaker has been the MMI president since 1985. The election was held at the annual NMPF meeting.

With this election, MMI members will now have two representatives on the top-ranking NMPF committee. MMI General Manager Gordon Riehl is also a member of the committee.

Brubaker serves on the MMI board of directors and covers District 18 including Ohio counties of Darke, Preble, Greene, Miami, Butler, Warren, Hamilton and Montgomery.

Currently Brubaker also serves on the National Dairy Promotion

and Research Board and is the president of Mid East United Dairy Industry Association, Marysville. Mid East is a member unit of the national UDIA, Rosemont, Ill.

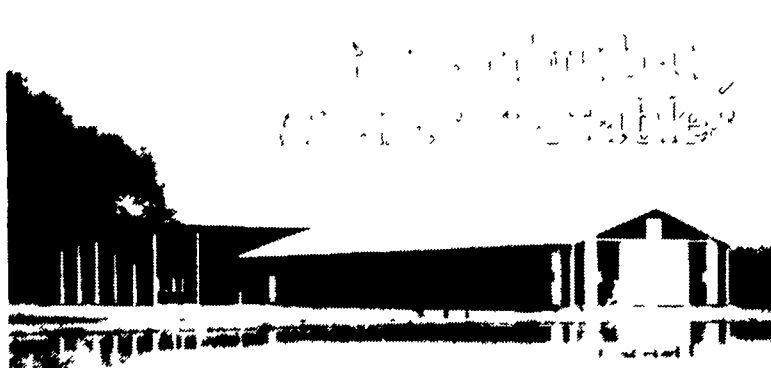
Brubaker farms in partnership with his sons, William and Charles, and milks 70 head. He has been dairying for 33 years and a member of a milk marketing cooperative for 30 years.

MMI is a 8,000 member dairy farmer owned cooperative encompassing an eight state mid-western area including Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York, Kentucky, Maryland and West Virginia. Last year MMI marketed more than 4.6 billion pounds or 547 million gallons of milk.

LEASING AVAILABLE



Morton Buildings



MORTON BUILDINGS

Call or write today to arrange to see and hear more reasons why you should own a Morton Building

1185 York Rd Gettysburg PA 17325 Ph 717 334 2168

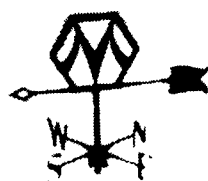
Rd #10 Box 76 Meadville PA 16335 Ph 814 336 5083

State College Box 361 Centre Hall PA 16828 Ph 814 364 9500

Box 126 Philipsburg NJ 08865 Ph 201 454 7900

1918 Industrial Drive Culpeper VA 22701 Ph 703 825 3633

P O Box 187 Harrington DE 19952 Ph 302 398 8100



WEATHER VANE with every building purchased

EAR CORN

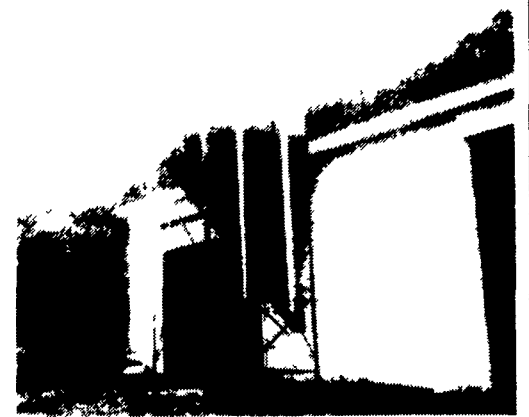
Paying Top Prices For Good Quality Ear Corn

- Wet or Dry
- No Quantity too large or too small
- Fast Unloading - Dump on Pile & Go
- Easy access - 2.2 miles off 283 bypass-Manheim, Mt. Joy exit
- Daily Receiving 7:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. - unloading evenings & Saturdays by appt.
- Trucks available for pick up at your farm.

Call Anytime For Price
717-665-4785

JAMES E. NOLL GRAIN

CUSTOM MADE FEED BINS FOR FARMS — FEED MILLS



- Made of 13 gauge Steel
- All welded seams
- Gravity Flow or Auger

Free Estimates

Also - Steel Roof Trusses for Buildings - Portable Hog Buildings - Bucket Elevators - Grain Augers Distributors - Flow Pipes & Accessories

We Sell, Service & Install
Ph: 717-345-3724

STOLTZFUS WELDING SHOP

Owner - Samuel P. Stoltzfus
RD 3, Box 331
Pine Grove, PA 17963