

# How These Farmers Make It Work

(Continued from Page A26)

time they also get some corn silage until summer and get turned out. Feeding high energy feed and dry bedding are very important to their health."

Helene usually breeds the heifers at 13-months old. The lightest one may be 500 lbs. She does not like the heifers to be too fat when they are bred. However, from the time they are bred Helene is not stingy with the feed and gives the heifer all she will consume. If there is not enough for them to eat in the pasture she gives them supplemental feed.

Helene believes the farmer will definitely make more money by feeding his stock decent roughage. The animals will produce more and make up for the feed. She uses Rumensin as a supplement which enables the animals to better utilize the feed.

"After they are weaned and before they are grouped, we do something different and again that is probably because we have a resident veterinarian (Dr. Robert Dreisbach). We use anesthesia and knock out the calves. Then we dehorn, trim feet, remove extra

teets. All get nose rings. It costs a little more initially for the nose rings, but it pays for itself. That way noses are all sore at the same time and no one is slighted. Just before they freshen we take them out. We've got to check them because every once in awhile they get one caught and pull it out," explained Helene.

### Basic Bio Security

A meticulous person is an asset to any calf raising program. One who will take the time to examine the animals and freshen the bedding frequently. The calves are the future of the herd and should not be entrusted to just anyone. And reacting quickly to symptoms is essential to eradicating disease.

However, controlling disease begins with reducing the number of organisms to which the animal is exposed. Most organisms thrive in warm, moist, dark areas. Clean and dry bedding is critical to reduce bacteria. Also make sure that visitors are not bringing disease in to your herd or that the herd is not being constantly exposed to disease at shows or sales. The old adage is still true, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure'.

## Press Conference

(Continued from Page A28)

another alternate route suggested by some local people to PennDot officials. This idea incorporates an alignment that starts with the so-called goat path and swings to the south and then paralleling AmTrak right-of-way to Route 30 at Paradise and continuing on out along Route 30 to Coatesville. Officials saw some merit in this suggestion so they included it in their feasibility studies. One of the major reasons for the suggestion was that AmTrak already separates a number of farms and Amish community districts.

Officials expressed several dilemmas they are facing. First when you preserve farmland, in a lot of cases, you then infringe on developed areas or small towns. Which is the most important? This is what we want the local public to help us decide.

In addition, every route you take involves some prime agricultural land. "We are looking at every possible way to lesson the effect on farmland," Mueser said. "We are looking at 200 foot right-of-ways instead of 300 feet to try to limit farmland acquisition as much as possible. We are looking at alignments closer to urban areas. And we are interacting with the local Agricultural Preserve Board. And we are doing everything we can to monitor farmland accessibility on secondary roads. Where possible, we want to stay along the edge of farm properties rather than divide them in half. Since AmTrak cuts through the area already, maybe using that as a buffer is a way we could go," Mueser said. "The tradeoff is that there are a lot of small towns along the railroad as well. Which is the most important? Is it more preferable to cut through the towns and use less farmland or is it more important to save the towns

and cut through the farmland?"

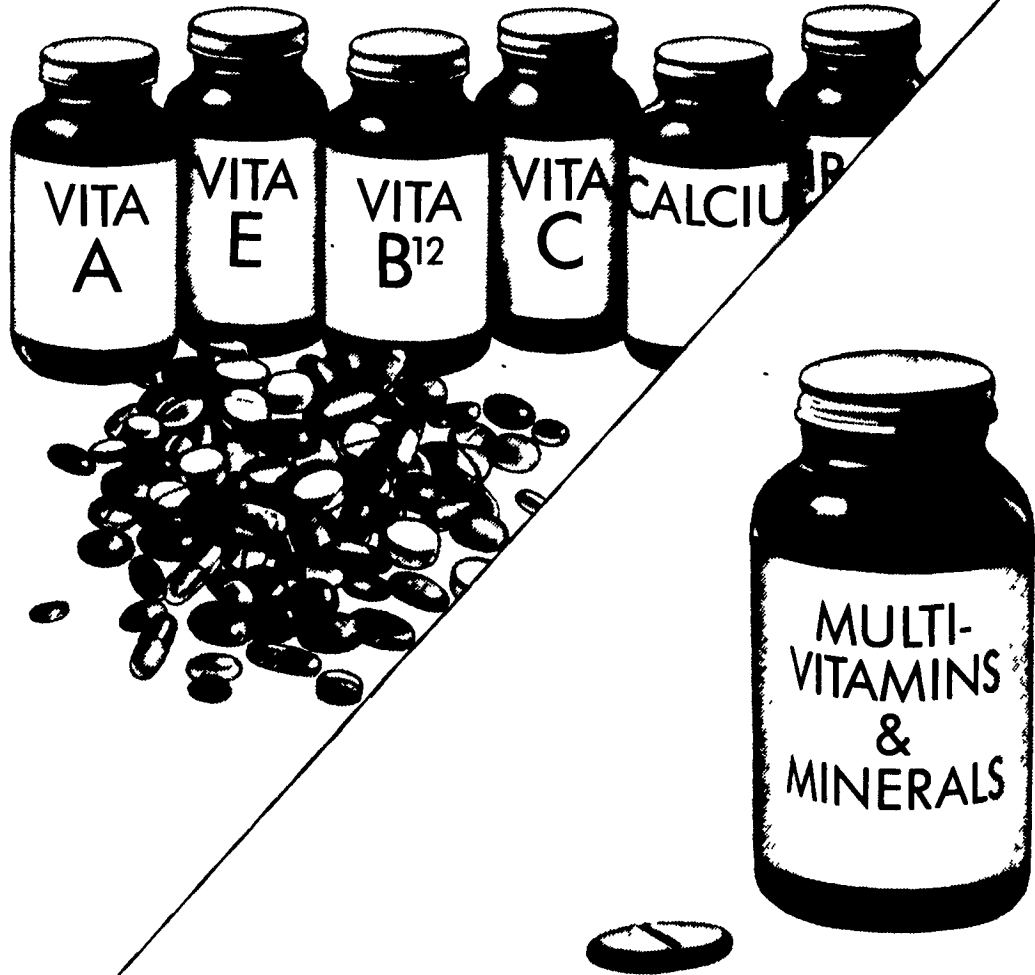
To help PennDot officials make this determination, the local community is being asked for their input in the form of a questionnaire, which will be available at a public meeting next Wednesday evening, December 9, at the Conestoga Valley High School at 7 p.m. Here the general public will be given the information that was made available to the press this week.

In addition, about 1400 people who are on the mailing list will receive a news letter prior to that meeting. In the questionnaire respondents will be asked to rank the routes according to their preference. In addition, interchange locations will be rated and the impact of the towns along the routes. These questionnaires are to be returned to PennDot before January 8, 1988. Some time late in January, PennDot's consultants hope to present their final recommendations on what corridor should be used to continue the study. The engineers have the option to recommend that the highway not be built at all.

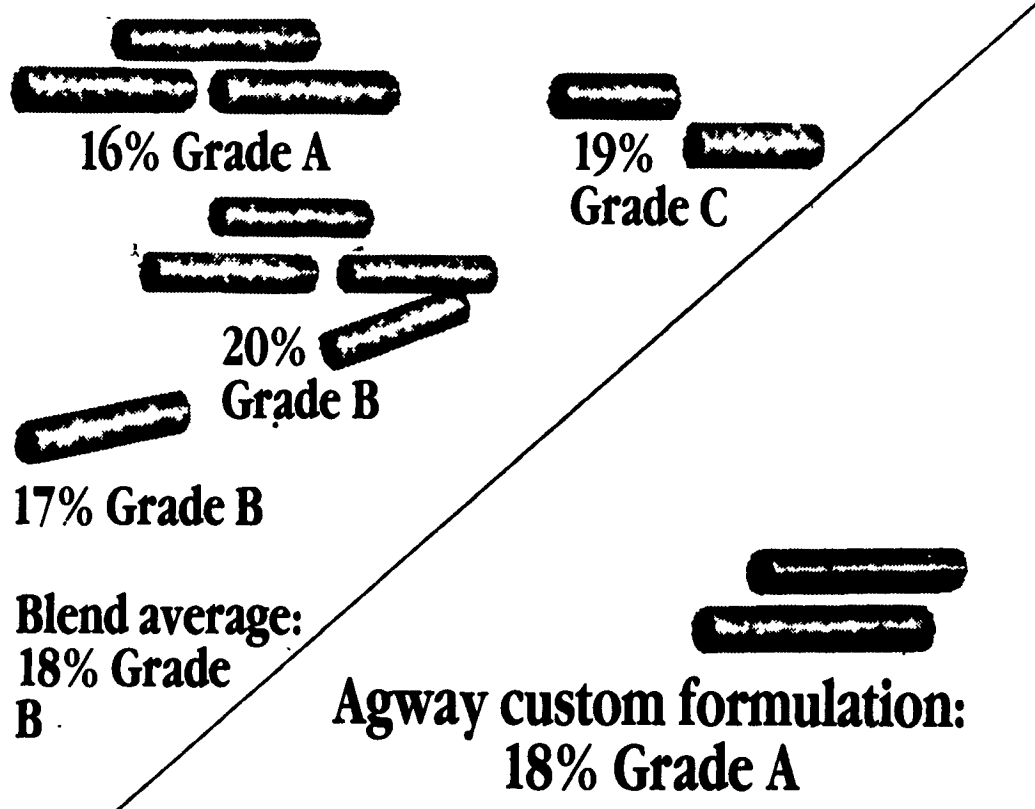
When these recommendations are in, the first phase of the building process will have been completed. The second phase involves the detailed environmental impact study of this preferred route for the new road. That study is expected to take about a year. The third phase of the project would involve the design of the road. And the fourth phase would be the construction, which might be expected to begin some time in the early 1990s.

Interested persons may write to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 8-0, 21st and Herr Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120, Attention Mr. Phil Miller, Project Liaison Engineer.

# How would you rather take your vitamins?



# How would you rather feed your cows?



When it comes to custom dairy feed, Agway puts it all together. Some suppliers give you a mix of different pellets of varying grades and contents. But Agway gives you a precise, total blend in each pellet (or pound) of all the nutrients you order. That means you're guaranteed the precise amount of protein, fat, fiber and carbohydrates and minerals in every mouthful of Agway feed. Ask for the truly personalized feed. From Agway.

**Working for people who work the land**





**GIGANTIC SELECTION**  
IN  
Lancaster Farming's  
**CLASSIFIEDS**