Penns Valley Livestock

Centre Hall, Pa. Tuesday, July 19, 1988 Report Supplied by Auction

BEEF COWS: UTILITY AND COM-MERCIAL 45.50-48.50; CUTTERS 41 00-45 00; CANNERS 38.00-41.00, SHELLS 32 00.

HEIFERS: STANDARD 54 00-57.50,

COMMERCIAL 42.00-51.00. STEERS: SELECT 58 00-63 00, STAN-

DARD 51.00-56 00. BULLS: GOOD 53 00-56 50, STAN-DARD 47 00-52.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: NOT ENOUGHT

TO TEST

VEAL CALVES: GOOD 87 00-92 00, STANDARD 80 00 86 00, UTILITY 52 00-79 00.

FARM CALVES: BULLS 100 00-141 00, HEIFERS 89 00 94 00. HOGS 42 00-43 75 SOWS 23 00-28 00.

BOARS: 18 00-23.00

SHOATS. 25-30 LBS. PER HEAD 15.00-20 00, 30-35 LBS PER HEAD 22 00-28 00, 35-50 LBS. PER HEAD 25.00-34 00.

LAMBS: 49.00-53.00 SHEEP: 12 00-22.00. GOATS PER HEAD. 24 00-28 00.

Indiana Livestock

Homer City, Pa. Thursday, July 21

Report supplied by PDA CATILE: 108, Cows 3.00-4 00 higher: few Choice steers 62.00-63 00; few Select 58.00-61.00, Choice heifers 60.50-63 75; few Select 57.00-60.75; cows Breaking Utility & Commercial 45.00-49.75; Cutter & Boning 41.50-47.00; Canner & Low Cutter 35.00-41.50; shells 26.00, few Choice bullocks 58.00-62.75; 1 Select 56.00, 1 YG 1 sl. bull 1600 lb. 54.75.

FEEDER CATTLE: Steers few Med. 1, 500-600 lb. 60.00-70.00; bulls few Large 1, 700-850 lb. 52.00-60 00.

CALVES: 133. Good vealers 65 00-72 00, Standard & Good 90-120 lb 70 00-80.00, 60-85 lb. 60 00-74 00; few Utility 50-80 lb. 40 00-55.00, hol buils 90-125 lb 90.00-120.00, beef cross bulls and heifers 85-105 lb 80 00-96.00.

HOGS: 211. .50 lower; 1-2, 220-245 lb 45 00-45.50, 1-3, 225-260 lb. 44.50-45 00; US 1-3, sows 300-550 lb. 29.00-31.00; 2-3, 300-600 lb 26.25-29 00; few boars

FEEDER PIGS: 7. Lot 1-3, 20 lb. 15.00

SHEEP: 23. Small lot Choice 84 lb 51.00; sl. sheep 16.00-23.00. GOATS. 4. Few Large 39.00-44.00.

Giant Genetic And **Economic Returns**

B.G. CASSELL AND J.M. MATTISON

STATE COLLEGE (Centre) -Variation among people, animals and practices is what produces diversity. Seldom is one piece of advice appropriate for everyone. Use of AI on heifers may be an important exception for dairy farmers.

Using AI dairy sires on heifers has long been a recommended practice, yet adoption has been slow and thousands of excuses can be obtained for not using AI in the heifer breeding program. In many herds, the milking cow and newborn calf are the focus of dairy producer's concerns. Heifers fall into the category of "out of sight-out of mind." Yet their well-being represents a significant capital investment and "genetic warehouse" in any dairy operation. By slightly modifying management practices and implementing an AI program in these heifers, significant returns in both investment and genetics will be available for dairy producers.

A recent Virginia Tech study (which included 500,000 freshenings from January 1966 to April 1985) indicated the frequency of calves produced by heifers and by older cows. Almost 32% of all calvings occured in heifers. Thus the significance of heifer AI is obvious. In a 200 cow herd, natural service for heifers would equate to passing up the opportunity to have 15 additional AI sired replacements available per year.

Heifer calves resulting from "jumper bulls" or beef sires are genetic liabilities, offering less economic return across their entire lifetimes. This difference can mean hundreds or thousands of dollars of income to a dairy producer using AI and especially Heifer AI. These facts make it clear that "one small step", the addition of Heifer AI to a breeding program, will add "Giant Genetic and Economic Returns" to dairy farm profitability.

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Environmental Field Days

Lindsey Williams, author of the book "Where's the Food?" will speak on farm issues as part of the four-day First Annual Rural Environmental Field Days, to be held Aug. 3 through Aug. 6 in Intercourse.

The free event will be held at Martin's Sales Barn, two miles east of Intercourse on Route 340. It will open at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3. Evening speakers will begin their talks at 7:30.

In addition to Williams, who will speak on Aug. 3, other talks will be given by Walter Grotz, discoverer of many beneficial uses of hydrogen peroxide, on Thursday, Aug. 4; Philip Wheeler, president and agronomist for Transnational Agronomy, who will speak on how farmers can reduce chemical inputs, on Friday, Aug. 5; and Kurt Donsbach, head of the largest holistic hospital in the world, who will speak on environmental issues related to personal health on Saturday, Aug. 6.

For more information, contact Meadow Green Valley Inc., 738-3949.

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JD 40 Combine w/2 Row and Grain Head JD 6620 LL Hydro Combine, Nice
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•
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