

BITS-N-PIECES HOLSTEINS



A YOUNG FARM FAMILY PROVING THAT IF YOU MANAGE THE SMALL THINGS RIGHT - THE BIG THINGS LIKE PRODUCTION, REPRODUCTION, AND CASH FLOW MANAGE THEMSELVES

Farming's A Family Affair for the Fords



Joe Ford, his wife Linda, daughters Kelly and Becky, and son Jacob, started farming in 1984. In April of 1986 they switched to Brown's. In the past 2½ years their DHI Herd Average moved from 17,807 milk and 629 fat to 21,166 milk and 702 fat. They are pictured holding G-TOWN VICKY CAROL IVAN (VG-87) projected to finish in 305 days with over 30,800 lbs. of milk this lactation. Joe appreciates the way Steve Deysher, his Brown's Sales Representative works with him to anticipate feed changes and maximize income over feed cost, a DHI value which has also been increasing since switching to Brown's. Cows like Vicki, which is one of Linda's original foundation cows and has over 150,000 lbs. of milk, provide a sound genetic base for the Bits-N-Pieces Herd.

Proper Dry Cow Management - Small Investment - Big Return



Dry cows get plenty of exercise, lots of fresh water, and a well balanced dry cow ration. Joe and Linda also work closely with their veterinarian, Dr. Ron Feindt, DVM, on a sound herd health program. Getting cows to freshen in good body condition, start milking quickly and breed back early are important keys to maximizing milk flow and thus cash flow.

The Clarence and Paul Berger Farm



Like many young farm families, the Fords rent a farm, because the price of land particularly in areas like Northern Bucks County make ownership a future goal. The Bergers do most of the crop work allowing Joe and Linda to concentrate on the cows. Joe likes the way Brown's adjust their concentrate to match his varying forages, and feels this helps him maximize forage intake, thus achieving higher lactation peaks and greater persistency. Corn silage, alfalfa hay, wet brewers grains, shelled corn, cooked beans, and Brown's 38 Milkmaster make up Joe's and Linda's current feeding program.

These Calves Are The Future Ford Herd



Bossie's first grain will be Brown's Calf Cox-Guard, a coarse textured calf starter containing Amprol. As she grows she will graduate to a dry grain mix containing Brown's 40 Hef-R-300, a 40% protein supplement containing 150 mg of RUMENSIN per pound. This combination has worked well and produced first calf heifers like Bits-N-Pieces Galahad Ellen who freshened in May at 2 years of age, peaked at 83 lbs. of milk in the August heat and is projected at over 21,117 in 305 days.

AT BROWN'S WE TAKE PRIDE IN WORKING WITH FARM FAMILIES LIKE THE FORDS



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