# **Robbins Family**

(Continued from Page E25)

selection is high on the list of computer capability. Boz Robbins is in charge of young heifers and calves. He also works on machine repairs and fence building. Boz primarily works in the fields.

Hazel Robbins says her sons are all good mechanics. That's echoed by Andy. Referring to mechanical breakdowns, he says, "Whoever has it when it breaks down fixes it."

The various farms which have been acquired by the Robbins' family over the years were badly in need of repairs. Most of the barn floors would not support a tractor so the boys are in the process of or have already finished jacking up the buildings to place heavier understructure, remodeling to accommodate cows, replacing roofs or building additions. Lumber is milled for the reconstruction from Robbins farm woodlands.

Beside barn and outbuilding construction, Hazel eniovs finely crafted built-ins in her kitchen, sewing room and an in-house office, all provided by the boys.

Dean Robbins takes care of building maintenance, does most of the general mechanical work and plans new construction. An addition to the manure pit will most likely be his next project.

The T-shaped barn was in the planning and design stage for five years. Farm facilities in New England area, Maryland and Pennsylvania were studied before the final design was laid out. The overall design of the free stall area is for air flow. The foundation is of sixfoot poured concrete with two feet underground. At the top of the exposed four feet and just under the roof edge are fold-out windows which are eight feet wide.

In hot weather, the windows drop down and the structural design of the 42-foot high rafters create a chimney effect by pulling the window air up through an open space at the peak of the roof. The roofing is Onduline®. Andy says the barn stays so cool in summer that the herd is reluctant to move out to the exercise pasture on hot

The main barn doors open automatically for the feed wagon to pass through. The free stall area is bedded with shavings dispensed by the feed wagon.

Conservation is an integral part of the farm management. Wet lands were tiled more than 15 years ago and strip farming is evident.

Hazel says her five children were all outstanding 4-H'ers with varied interests. Her daughter. Pam, was Columbia County Dairy Princess for two consecutive years, 1977 and 1978.

Pam and husband, Dave Mosteller, live on one of the Robbins' farms. The Mostellers and their two children, Jeremy, 3, and Joshua, 3 months, are not associated with the farm operation besides residing on one of the properties.

The boys also reside on Robbins' farms. Andy and wife Tammy have two children, Jai, 11 and Jason, 9.

Randy and wife Jo Ann have Bobbi Jo, 11, Janice 10 and Jeffrey 8. Boz and Sam are also married and each have a wife named

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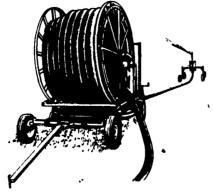
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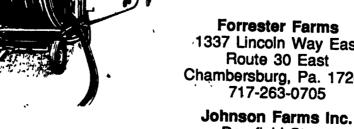
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