

Good Type Puts Big Dollars In This Dairymen's Pocket

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — When the 26th Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show opens September 25 for a five-day run at Farm Show Complex, one of its most unabashed boosters will be its president, Obie Snider.

"Breeders are showing the typy kind of cows that will produce heavy year after year," this Bedford County breeder and Master Farmer remarks.

Snider noted in the September issue of Pennsylvania Farmer that he has been studying pedigrees 38 years to produce durable, long producing Holsteins. Breeding for type gives you that, he indicates.

Obie Snider started farming on his own in 1951 with seven Holsteins. Today, over half the 180 registered cows at Singing Brook Farm are classified Excellent or Very Good and have a current DHIR herd average of 21,228 pounds milk, 773 fat and 658 protein. Or 50% more than the state average.

"Supreme Champion at the 1988 PA All-American shows how type, longevity and production mesh," Snider insists. He says the 10-year-old "Della" from Lylehaven Farm, Vermont, classifies a lofty Excellent 97 and is completing a 30,000 pound record.

"We expect her back at the All-

American this month," Snider notes.

Matriarch of the Snider herd is the 15½-year-old, Excellent 91 Singing Brook ML Prissetta who just finished a 20,000 pound record.

"Her daughter is no slouch either," he adds. "An Excellent 90, she has a 147,000 pound lifetime record as an eight-year-old."

Eight is about average for the high classified cows at Singing Brook Farm.

"A lot of cows produce well for a year or two," Snider explains in the current Pennsylvania Farmer. "Then teats get injured. They have calving problems. Don't breed back. Go lame. Breeding for good type helps prevent such problems."

It does at Singing Brook Farm. "We don't doctor more than one or two cows a month," he says.

Another plus of typy, durable cows are surplus heifers. By keeping cows in the milk string longer, the Sniders are able to sell 20% of the heifer crop each year.

One of the Snider three-year-olds sold at the 1988 Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show for \$12,100.

Jackbuilt Chairman Mandy in the Singing Brook herd hasn't changed Snider's mind about

good type and strong pedigrees. An Excellent 92 with such famous sires as Bootmaker, Ivanhoe and Elevation in her pedigree, she averaged 24,710 pounds milk for three 365-day records, then took time off to produce 60 Embryo Transplant calves. Her sons have been sold to major studs world wide. Most daughters have been held back for the Singing Brook herd. One sells at the All-American this year.

Snider is partners with his son

Bruce, and the milk check still pays most of the bills. "And we don't baby the cows," he emphasizes. Herdsman Jim Garman puts 60 cows an hour through a 14-stall carousel. In the seven minute cycle on the carousel, a Singing Brook cow is washed, prepped, stripped, milked and teat dipped. "Hard milkers and problem cows self destruct in our system," according to Snider. "We cull them."

Disposition and ease of milking

get high priority.

"It's one of the first questions I get from bull studs," he says.

"Dairymen just don't have the time or manpower to fuss with cows. Cows have to adapt," he says.

Snider points out that disposition and easy milking are highly transmittable... by the bull as well as the cow.

Are high scoring, durable cows more fun to work with?

"They sure make the trip to the barn a lot shorter," he grins.

Perry Dairy Promotion Committee And 4-H Create Giant Sundae

NEWPORT (Perry Co.) — How much ice cream and chocolate sauce does it take to make a 75-foot-long ice cream sundae? Members of the Perry County 4-H program found out on Friday evening of fair week as they assisted the Perry County Dairy Promotion Committee construct the colossal sundae. The sundae, made in celebration of Cooperative Extension's 75th anniversary, took about 20 minutes to prepare with over a dozen people scooping ice cream, others distributing the peanuts, whipped cream and chocolate sauce, while still dozens more stood by with raised spoons

ready to dig into the delicious dairy treat.

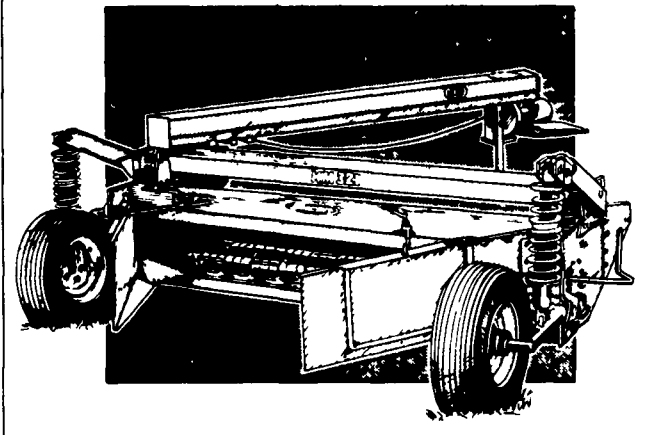
Becky Kaucher, Perry County 4-H Coordinator, commented that the construction of the sundae and the resulting feast allowed county FFA and 4-H members a chance to relax and enjoy themselves during a busy week of competition in the showing.

While parents and fair visitors watched from the sidelines, 4-H and FFA members prepared the sundae, each foot containing a slightly different mix of ingredients, obviously determined by the preference of the 4-H member or FFA member standing close by. Dave Swartz, County Agricultural Agent, remarked that the sundae construction was a unique way to remind the county's resi-

dents of the 75th anniversary of Cooperative Extension. He went on to thank the Perry County Dairy Promotion Committee for providing the ingredients for the event, and extended thanks to Dairy Promotion Committee members Beth Rice, Blain and Patty McLaughlin, Ellitsburg for their assistance during the event. By the way, how much ice cream does it take to make a 75-foot sundae? Rice and McLaughlin provided the following recipe:

- 10 gallons ice cream
- 1 gallon chocolate sauce
- 1 gallon crushed strawberries
- 2 lbs crushed peanuts
- 1 gallon crushed pineapple
- 6 cans Real® dairy whipped cream

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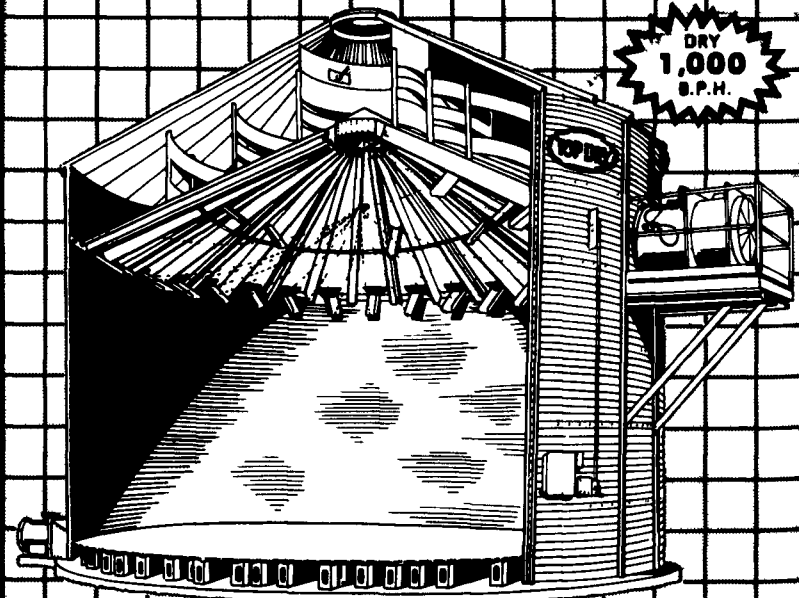
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