

Mid-Winter Haylage Tour Visits Harvestore Owners

MIFFLINTOWN (Juniata Co.)—The mid-winter Harvestore Haylage Bus Tour made the first stop here Thursday morning at the Scenic Hill Farms of Sheldon and Zane Harshbarger. About 35 farmers left the Lancaster Shopping center after the milking was done to visit three fine farming operations that all use haylage as the main-stay of the dairy ration. The two other farms were: Ja-Lene Holsteins owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Ishler and son Todd, Spring Mills, and Ideal Holsteins owned by Jacob Tanis III, Centre Hall,

both in Centre County. "We try to keep the cows hungry but full," said Sheldon Harshbarger. To have a constant intake of feed, the Harshbargers feed every few hours. Haylage and high moisture corn out of their Harvestore silos make up the bulk of their feeding program. The total purchased feed for all dairy cows and young stock was only \$8,000 last year. "I can live with that," Sheldon said. "Profit above feed cost was \$15,000 per cow."



A group of farmers on the mid-winter Harvestore Haylage bus tour talk with Jacob Tanis III, (left).



Richard Enck, Penn Jersey Products sales representative, (left), talks with Zane and Sheldon Harshbarger.

The Harshbargers have experience with both haylage and corn silage and they believe you need to add more protein if you use corn silage. "It will cost you more to make milk with corn silage," Sheldon said.

Maintenance costs have been low too. They have some of the

original chain from 1974 in their Galiath unloader and have averaged about 10 years per cutting chain on the bottom unloader. "We do a lot of the service ourselves," Sheldon said. "Even when we

must get a repair man out to the farm, we have everything as far along as we can so we still don't need to pay for a lot of extra time. These dairymen like their haylage. (Turn to Page D18)

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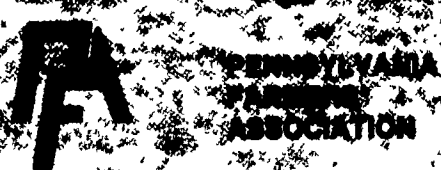
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