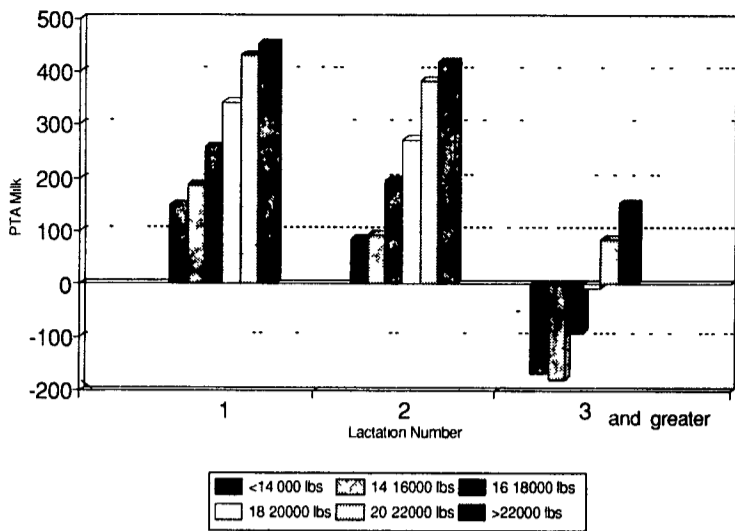


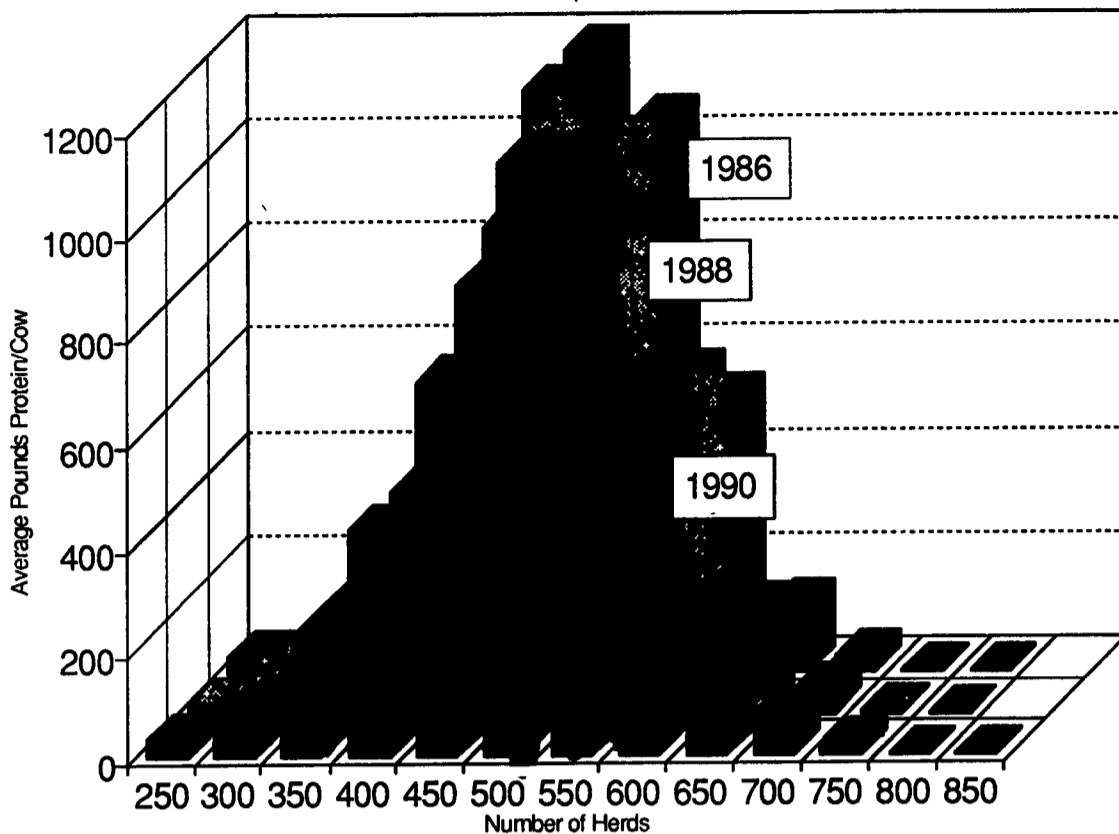
A Picture Of Pennsylvania DHIA In Graphs

(Continued from Page C2)

Average Herd PTA Milk Production
(Within Rolling Herd Average Milk)



Distribution of DHIA Herds for Protein
(1986, 1988, 1990)



Deborah Ebersole Lancaster Co. Rookie Of The Year

Two years ago, Deborah Ebersole gave up her registered nursing job to become a DHIA supervisor. She has no regrets.

"I love getting up in the morning and I love cows," Deborah said, adding that she tests 3,000 to 3,030 every month.

"Farmers are the greatest people to work with because they are doing a job they like. If anyone plans to go into farming, he should become a milk tester. It's an excellent education because you see how every farmer feeds, milks, washes, and dips. Every farmer does things a little differently," she said. "They each have their own little tricks and ways to fix things."

Deborah, who was raised on a farm, always loved the farm, but was encouraged to work elsewhere "because I was a girl." After high school graduation, she worked for a bank, but couldn't stand being inside. She left the bank, and studied to become a licensed practical nurse. It wasn't long before she got tired of not being able to do things because she wasn't a registered nurse, so she went back to school to get her registered nursing degree.

A people person, Deborah enjoyed working in the hospital's

Deborah Ebersole



intensive care unit, but she got tired of the administrative end, and after many years of working in the intensive care unit, she felt she needed a change.

"When I'd past farmers while I was driving to the hospital, it was about all I could do to keep from the stopping the truck and saying, 'Hey, let me plow.'"

For awhile, Deborah tried to satisfy her craving for farming and hang on to her professional career by milking cows for a neighbor and working the night shift in the

hospital.

But when Jay Mylin suggested she apply for the Elizabethtown DHIA circuit, Deborah jumped at the opportunity. She quit her nursing job and has never been sorry.

Her whole job has been a delightful experience. To her great surprise, Deborah was named DHIA Rookie of the Year, an award that honors new supervisors who have shown exceptional aptitude in learning the job of the DHIA supervisor. These individuals must have worked 6 and 18 months and demonstrate outstanding cooperation with the state and local DHIA organizations in conducting an efficient and accurate testing program.

Deborah said, "At many of the farms I visit, I've become like part of the family. Kids draw pictures for me and ask their parents, 'Is the milk tester coming today?'"

Deborah is always up by 4 a.m.

Generally, she is home by 9 a.m. Then it's time for paper work, packing supplies and sending samples to Penn State.

At 2 p.m., it is time to test herds again. Usually she is home by 6:30 p.m., but some nights require her to be away until 9:30 p.m.

Deborah now lives on her three-acre farmette in Manheim where she raises six dairy heifers. She will soon be moving because she got a fringe benefit she never

expected to get when she took the DHIA job — a husband.

In April, Deborah is marrying a farmer she met on the job. They'll settle on his Hershey farm, and Deborah will go back to milking cows.

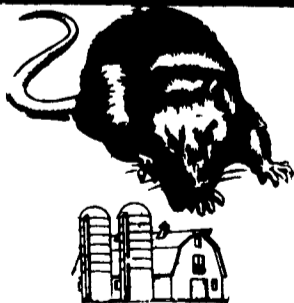
"He told me that I could be in charge of the herd," she said. "I got all kinds of ideas that I have learned while testing and I plan to try them."

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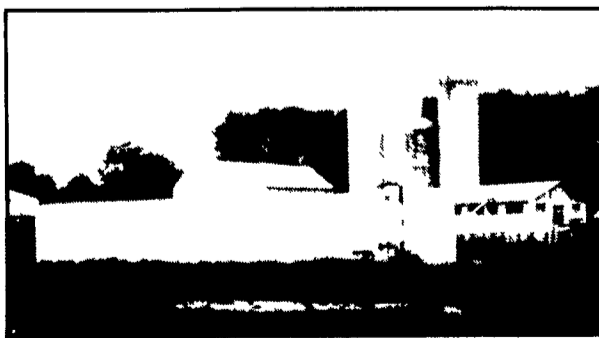
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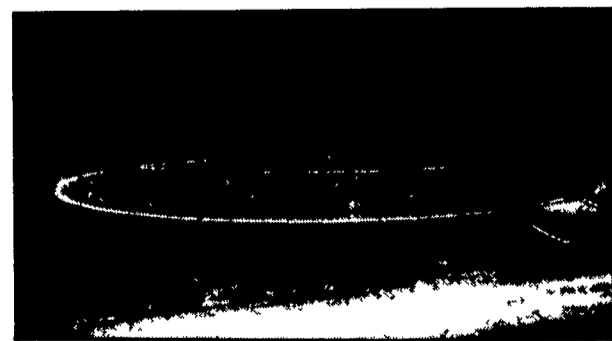
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