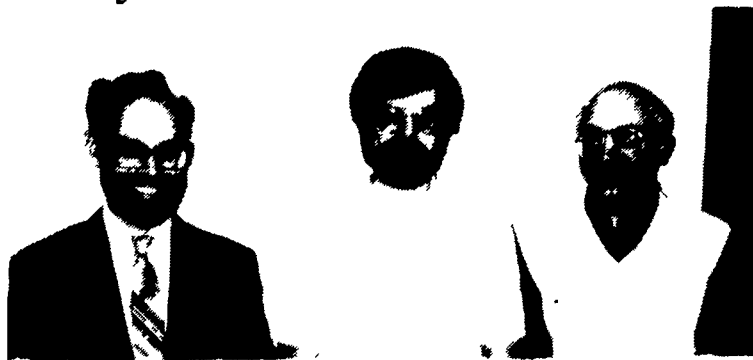


ABS Has Patent On Bovine Cloning

DEFOREST, received a patent protecting the process for making multiple copies of bovine embryos. The initial research for this

Dairy Nutrition Service Association



From the left, Donald Wengert, Michael Martin and Rodney Stuff are elected directors of the Franklin County Dairy Nutrition Service Association during its first meeting at Gibbie's Restaurant, in Greencastle. The keynote speaker was Dr. Larry Muller, professor of Dairy Science at the Pennsylvania State University. The Franklin County DNS is a dairyman organized and managed association that provides independent dairy nutrition services to its membership in Franklin and surrounding counties. Dean Snowberger serves as the nutrition consultant. For more information about the young association, call Snowberger at (717) 263-9226.

patent, which began in 1981, was conducted in Dr. Neal First's laboratory at the University of Wisconsin-Madison through a grant from Grace.

The patent covers the technology of multiplying bovine embryos by the transfer of nuclei.

This includes removing the nucleus (including DNA) from a recipient oocyte (egg), transferring the donor embryo nucleus to the recipient egg and fusing the donor nucleus to the recipient egg.

"This method allows the multiplication of genetically identical dairy or beef cattle with known genetic improvement, a first for the cattle industry," explained Dr. Marv Pace, director of ABS Specialty Genetics.

"This technology removes the gamble in anticipating an offspring's sex, genetic makeup and production capabilities, enabling dairy and beef producers to better manage their herd's production and profitability."

The process will also aid in the

development of crossbreeds that can withstand the harsher climates in lesser developed countries.

Dr. Peter Boer, Grace executive vice president and chief technical officer, said, "This patent for embryo cloning technology is one of several important basic patents recently issued to W. R. Grace & Co. as a result of our commitment to advanced R&D. It is also indicative of the benefits of long-term cooperative programs between industrial and university researchers, in this case at the University of Wisconsin.

"This new technology will ultimately provide significant benefits

to both the farmer and the consumer in terms of improved food production."

ABS now has bull calves born through this method which will be the first from this technology to enter the company's progeny testing program.

"Our goal is to have some of the first proven female clones available for market by the mid 1990s," said Dr. Pace. "We will then offer products including male and female high potential embryos to both dairy and beef producers."

American Breeders Service, a Grace Animal Services company, markets dairy and beef semen and related products throughout the United States and to more than 60 foreign countries.

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