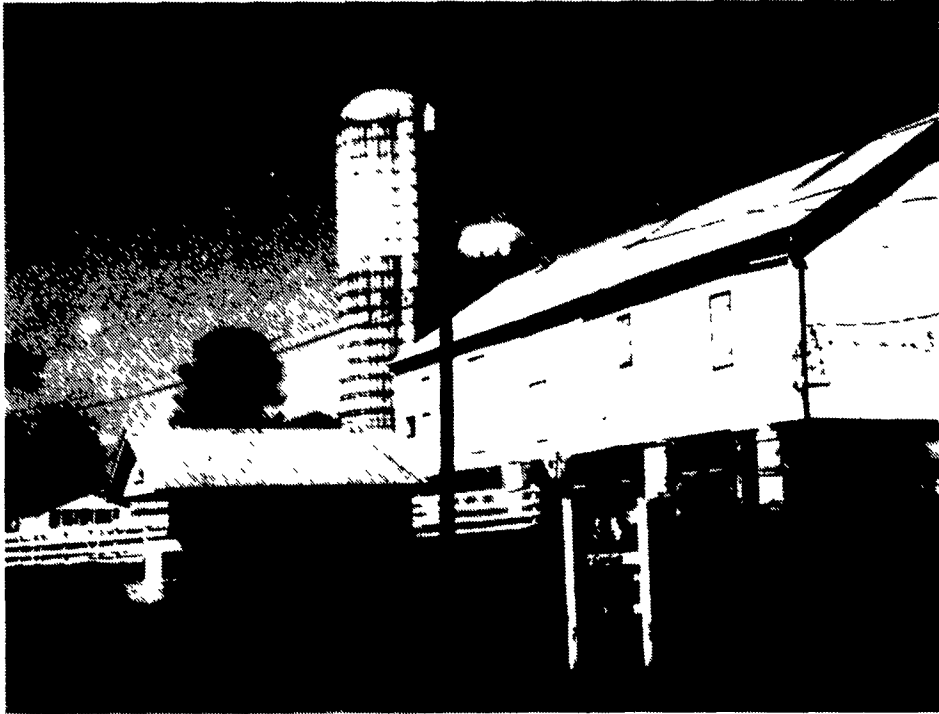


Blair County



About 210 tillable acres comprise the farm owned by Sheldon F. and Doris L. Gearhart in Hollidaysburg, Blair Co. Shel-Dor Farm maintains 55 head of registered Holstein, in addition to 55 head of young stock. The farm uses a tie stall and dumping station at 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Dairy of Distinction farm "is nice when people drive by," said Sheldon. "We let the kids walk up to cows and ask questions about the farm. The visitors are cooperative." The diversified farm also raises vegetables, registered Suffolk sheep, chickens, and turkeys which "gives kids a great variety of animals to look at, other than cows," said Sheldon. Sheldon's son Thomas, 32, and daughter-in-law Sherry, 32, and their kids Thomas, Jr., Shelly, Jordan, and Sara help with the farm. Also, Sheldon's daughters Jane, 39 and Mary, 36 also help. "There're only four dairy farms in the Hollidaysburg school district, and it's a big district!" said Sheldon.



James Byler operates Country Haven Farm, Martinsburg, Blair Co. He raises about 150 acres of corn and alfalfa for a farm owned by Dale Hoover. Byler milks 54 cows and maintains 10 replacement heifers. Milking is 5 a.m. and 4 p.m. from a double-3 milking parlor. The first five months show a herd average of 20,548 pounds. The farm, in the family for 32 years, is operated by Byler and wife Debra with sons Benji, 12 and Aaron, 8. James Byler said he uses a "poor man's TMR," mixing the grain and corn silage and haylage, which a conveyor moves into the feeder. The milking parlor, which speeds up daily mixing, was installed in 1973, a 6-surge stall, 3 on a side. The cows can be loaded in and out individually — when done milking, they can get out, and another cow can take its place. The milking speed is vastly improved.

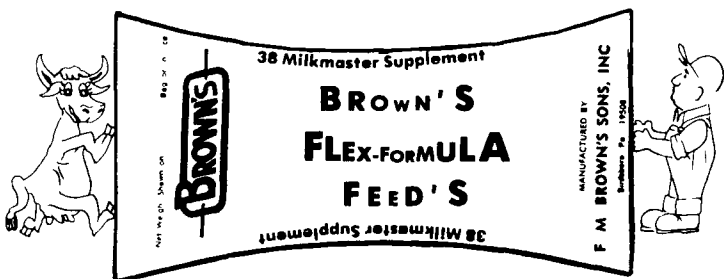


Roger and Pamela Stock operate this 150-acre Fair Valley Farm in Martinsburg, Blair Co. They have 10 registered Holstein and the remainder grade, milking 80 cows with 80 replacement heifers and calves. The Stocks use a free stall with milking pipeline at 5:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Herd average is about 17,000 pounds and they use a TMR provided by Martinsburg Milling. They rent the farm and have purchased the cows and equipment, with son Roger, 14 and daughter Tracey, 13. Pamela said they also raise about 200 feeder hogs which they sell on the open market.



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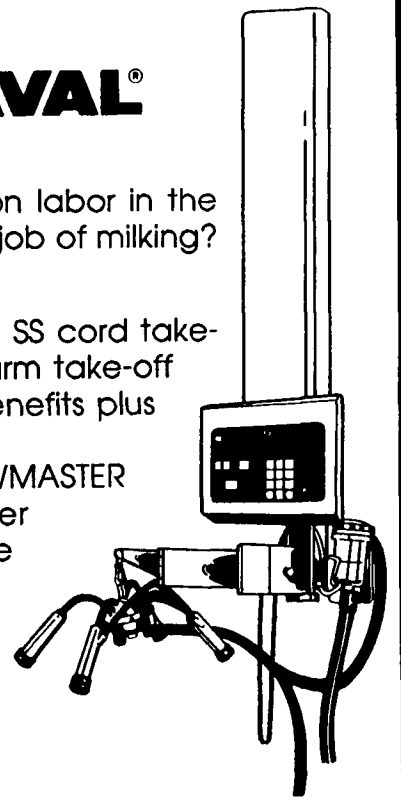
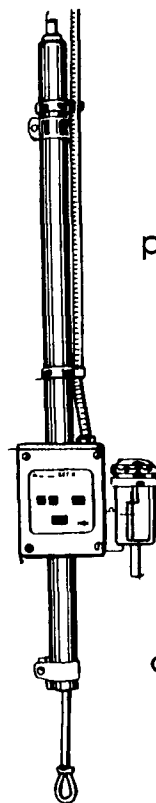


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