

# Golden Glow Of Guernsey Milk

(Continued from Page A18)

The tillable acres are worked under contract to Richard Schlossberg, who sells all the crops on the cash market.

In fact, the Lister herd purchases all the grain and some of the hay.

## 6 Excellent cows

"We have six Excellent cows, and have 14 offspring from them," which will be integrated into the milking herd, according to Yaple. According to Hamilton, the herd, on DHIA, averages 13,000 lbs at 4.6f, 3.5p.

The herd was built up from Excellent cows purchased mainly at the Pennsylvania State Convention Sale, held in Bedford this year, according to Hamilton. "And we bought a fair load of cattle from Wisconsin Guernseys, naturally," he said. "We just buy at the better sales and just keep breeding to the top AI bulls."

"The bulls are out of the top cows of the herd, Excellent cows with good records," said Yaple. Much of the breeding comes from AI bulls from various service agencies, but the farm keeps a bull in the yard.

Owner of the herd, John E. DuPont, has tasked the manager with developing a herd only out of quality animals.

## Foundation stock

Since 1916, the DuPonts have been interested in increasing the quality of the herd. The foundation stock came from The Isle of Guernsey and built up to a peak of 500, until they were sold in 1977.

"We sold the main herd," said Hamilton. For years, the DuPonts showed the prize cattle at many fairs and the state farm shows. "We kept a few that we didn't feel were good enough to present to the public and we started breeding

them and keeping the offspring," he said.

Hamilton said the herd is slowly increasing in size. They purchase quality animals at the better sales, said Hamilton. "We don't want to get big," he said. "We just want quality."

And obtaining quality animals is almost as difficult as obtaining quality feed.

## Good hay

"We've had to reach out to get some good hay this year," he said. Liseter Farm recently purchased a load of pure alfalfa from Idaho, warehoused in Lebanon through the offices of a commodity organization.

Hamilton said the hay "was almost too good. It was pure alfalfa."

The farm purchases what it can locally.

"We like to feed the big, round bales," said Yaple. The farm uses a large bale feeder ring, available



"We have six Excellent cows, and have 14 offspring from them," said Bill Yaple, Liseter Farm herdsman. The cow on the far left has been milking 80 pounds a month in a three-month average. The one beside it, according to Yaple, has been predicted at two years old to milk about 18,000 pounds.



According to Bud Hamilton, the herd, on DHIA, averages 13,000 lbs at 4.6f, 3.5p. Here, the herd is moved from the paddocks to the milking barn.

to the cows out in a large open paddock.

## Worked with herd

Yaple and Hamilton have always worked with a Guernsey herd. Both grew up on Guernsey farms — Hamilton on his family's farm in York County and Yaple in Columbia County.

Hamilton said that, after high school, he went to New York to work on the McDonald Farm Guernsey herd, what he considers "the best Guernsey herd in the United States at that time," he

said. After many years, the owner passed away, and the entire operation, according to Hamilton, was willed to Cornell University.

Hamilton said he "couldn't handle seeing the animals that I had raised being used for experimental purposes. So that's when I got out of there."

At one time, the McDonald Farm managed 600 head of Guernseys. The university sold the place, later on, to McDonald family members, who ran it for a while

(Turn to Page A36)

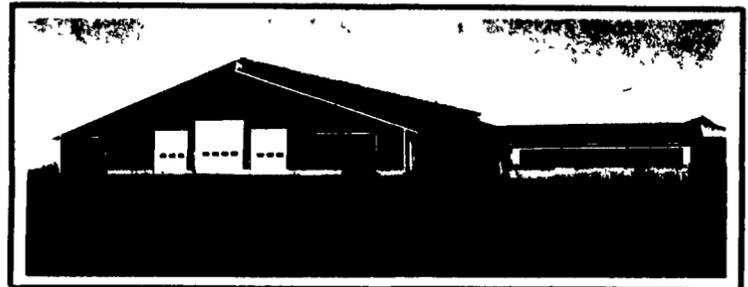
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