

Marburger Farm Dairy

(Continued from Page A26)
group of 43 heifers sold to California. The buyers had all the health and ID information they needed on the heifers and a printout of the dam's individual lactation pages from the State DHIA office which supplied the background information.

"We don't always sell heifers, but when we do, we do it kind of in a big way," Cudoc said. "The heifer management program basically had the record work done before I started. From a similar experience six years ago when we sent 63 heifers to Florida, I know the program saved several days work and eliminated a lot of head scratching and digging in books."

Cudoc has some definite goals for the future of the farm he manages, not so much in production goals because top records are not as important to him as profitable production. Much of the success in the present operation has been from placing the right people in positions of responsibility and helping them do the best job in their area of responsibility. For example, the herdsman only works with the cows and does not do field work. Another person manages the equipment and feeding.

But as for being a good environmental neighbor, Cudoc has definite goals. "With the urban expansion from Pittsburgh into our neighborhood, we need to make the farm environmentally friendly, consumer friendly and friendly with our neighbors if we are going to be in a survival situation," Cudoc said. "We have a major

stream that runs through our farm, and I would feel very badly if somewhere down the line that creek flows into another one and a small town is drawing water from the stream and finds it is unusable from contamination that happened here.

"You can farm profitably and also be environmentally safe. We switched to no-till corn. In the past three years we have not plowed an acre of corn ground. That's a big step to help the environment. We don't get leaching of nitrogen or manure and we keep the soil. I think that's important. The next step is to go no-till on small grains and alfalfa. I think if managed right it can be done.

"You see how close we are to people, and we have a good rapport with our neighbors. We try to do a good job with the cattle to keep a positive aspect to the dairy. Thousands of kids go through the farm each year. It's part of their education. We must start with the kids. You can't have a negative attitude of what a farm is as a kid and erase that as an adult. The attitude usually grows worse."

As a state director of Pennsylvania DHIA Cudoc, says he has changed his view since he has been involved. "I have always been a true believer in doing what's best for the member," Cudoc said. "DHIA is not anything before the member. The member is number one. As to the discussion if DHIA benefits only the member or all dairymen, I think it should aid all dairymen.

"DHIA not only gathers infor-

mation, but also develops programs to put that information to use. USDA, Extension, bull studs or breed organizations, it doesn't matter, all must benefit the dairymen on the farm. The biggest change has to be the response to not just the member but the dairymen overall.

"Second, the system must change. There has been too much delegation of police type activities to DHIA organizations. DHIA needs to lead in programs that are best for the dairymen, and they very much have their hands tied if they must spend their time developing rules and regulations on how to stop people from altering records.

"All dairymen must be included in the information system and vastly increase the statistical information. We need to have all the cows in the system, not just the ones presently on test. If you have all the records in the system, the vastly increased number of records in the system averages out the bad records that happen.

Removing state lines will help that. More cows and dairymen will come into the system. I don't see anything wrong with including private testors in the system. Some people don't want to belong to a cooperative. We have a lot of good neighbors and friends who have lost a lot of money dealing with milk cooperatives. In some situations, people are loyal to a local organization. We are like that. We try to purchase from people in our county as much as we can, and we hope they purchase back from us.

"I really think that as more of the system becomes more open on who

can be part of that system, you will sift out a lot of the problems on how to regulate it. When you regulate people, you just make them smarter on how to get around the system.

"I don't like my role as a person setting policy on policing. I want to help make something more usable to the dairymen. As you do that, more dairymen will want to belong to the organization."

"The dairymen is the ultimate gainer or loser with DHIA information. It doesn't matter what information you have, you take all that's available and find what works in your facility," Cudoc said. "We have found, like most other farmers, you need to pay attention to details. Someone on the farm needs to know how to correct the problem before it happens. You can't play catch-up in farming. You'll never survive."

MARBURGER DAIRY FARM



A favorite two-year-old that classified VG86 is Polchin Acres Wimpy Wyonna. Purchased at the Western Sale of Stars last fall, Wyonna is projected at 20,686m 796f 662p. In the photo from left, George Cudoc, farm manager; Bill Dehart, herdsman; and John Knox, equipment and feeding manager.

TOP 10 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BUY A

TANCO

BALE WRAPPER

TANCO

COMPETITION

TANCO

COMPETITION

- Five (5) points of support on turntable:** Four heavy duty rollers add stability and support to the perimeter of the turntable in addition to the main central shaft. This allows Tanco wrappers to safely wrap the heaviest silage bales on rough or uneven ground.
Competition uses one central shaft to support the entire turntable mechanism.
- Single solid belt on turntable:** The single belt enables Tanco wrappers to effectively wrap misshapen or soggy bales providing a positive surface for bale rotation.
Competition uses either no belts between rollers, or multiple belts which can allow bales to sag and slip.
- Adjustable extendable axle:** On trailed models the extendable axle provides a wide, stable wheel base when loading bales. Eliminates the need for counterweights.
Competition must add counterweights or tandem axles as options to effectively handle silage bales.
- Top rollers on turntable:** Extra rollers provide security to keep bales in place when wrapping at high RPM's (25) or on uneven terrain.
Competition - None.
- Unloading ramp on trailed models:** The ramp allows bales to be unloaded gently. When a wrapped bale falls hard it can "burp". Once it "burps" the bale does not re-seal. The ramp gives a smooth transition between the ground and turntable.
Competition - optional drop mats are available.
- Turntable braking System:** When unloading wrapped bales its important that the turntable doesn't move out of position. A twisted turntable can offload a bale crooked, exposing it to possible tearing of plastic on frame parts. Tanco machines are equipped with a braking system that holds the turntable in place when unloading bales.
Competition - either no system, or rely on hydraulics to hold the turntable.

- Film indexing system:** As temperature rises, plastic stretches more. To ensure proper overlap and complete coverage when it's hot outside, Tanco machines are equipped with an exclusive, simple, indexing system to compensate for those times. The operator can eliminate potential "windows" in the wrapping procedure.
Competition - None.
- Positive bale positioning:** while being wrapped, bales are rotated the exact distance required to obtain optimum coverage.
Competition uses continuous hydraulic advance. Bales can slip or over-rotate giving an uneven wrap.
- Durability:** Tanco's subframe is the heaviest of any machine available in North America. The low profile design keeps silage bales closer to the ground with a low center of gravity for stability. Tanco's features are the result of years of experience and input from hundreds of individual, and commercial users in Europe.
Competition - Compare.
- Prices:** From a basic 3 point Model AW200, to the trailed Model AW400 with automatic cut & start, bale and batch counter, and tractor seat controls, Tanco prices for 1993 are lower than ever. Pay less for more features and durability than any other bale wrapper on the market.
Competition - Compare.

SEEING'S BELIEVING:

We welcome pre-season demonstrations to interested customers. Contact your local dealer to arrange a demo and more information on Tanco wrappers.



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