

Of special interest at the Lancaster County Holstein Field Day, this Prelude daughter has a deep bottom side that includes three generations of dams with excellent udders. Admirers of the calf include from left, Steve Kerr, Don Buffington, Bill Nichol, the Coleman family: Shelly, Jerry, Jack and Donna, and John Howard.

#### Lancaster Holstein Breeders Fellowship At Field Day

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likely to decrease to 7 million by the year 2,000, the registered cow population will also diminish," Kerr said. "Questions about the relationship of the two herdbooks will likely answer themselves by that time.

The national association continues to look for ways to identify animals that are easier than the present way of sketching or photographing each animal. Several new ways of identification are being tested. These include electronic transponders planted in the ears; transponders in the ear tags; or ear tags alone.

'Sketches or photographs are the best way to identify the animal," Kerr said. "But it doesn't fit some farm operations."

The national association has a

committee working to formulate a pedigree rating system that would be in addition to index numbers. Some breeders like the index number system and others do not like it. Kerr said all breeders were important to the association.

"The association was a little careless in appearing to tilt to the genetic side as much as it did," Kerr said. "When you have so many good breeders who say they want to do it another way, it is incumbent on the association to come up with a scientifically sound rating system tool that will be helpful to these breeders too.'

In other news, Kerr said sire summaries are being packaged to make them more attractive to a wider group of people and mating programs are being developed to take the evaluation that's now done

and make it useful for breeding selection.

He said the new type evaluation system with the feet, legs, and udder in separate categories from general appearance is working "slick as a whistle". The system will produce more consistancy between classifiers and provides the means to accrurately describe the cow. "You can look at the five major breakdowns and have an accurate picture of the cow that you can work from person to person," Kerr said.

And international marketing continues to be a major effort for the national association. Right

now, they are processing 25 bulls for Poland and 1,000 bred heifers for Saudia Arabia. "Poland has been closed to us for decades." Kerr said, "We have spent a lot of time and money trying to change the health regulations. But it is good business for us and we try to spread this business around to our members so as many people as possible get a share of the action."

Six years ago, Jack and Donna Coleman moved their family to Lancaster County from a farm in New Jersey. Since that time they have developed a nice herd of 60 cows that currently average 23,097; 847f 736p with a BAA of 102.2 The group of 300 farmers and their families gave special attention to Prelude calf from a cow that is the third generation of excellent mammary and herself scored 92 (2E).

At Cherry-Crest they also run a tourist business that gets publicity from a sign on one of the farm buildings that can be read by passengers on the Strasburg Railroad.

In the judging contest, Carolyn Lowe had a perfect score of 150 points. Sheila Balmer was second in the ladies' division with 147 points and Carolin Landis had 143 points.

In the men's division Paul Zimmerman had 149 points; Mel Eby had 147 points; and Dick Mellinger had 146 points.

In the youth division, Darren Good and Jeremy Welk were tied with 147 points. Good was named the winner because of his close guess of the weight of one of the cows in the judging class. Darren Martin had 141 points.

Other officials involved in the program included: Bill Nichol, executive director, Pennsylvania Holstein Association; Glenn Shirk, Lancaster County Agent; and John Howard, national director. Don Buffington was the type judge for the contest.

## Association Awards **Scholarships**

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) The Adams County Poultry Association recently awarded five scholarships to Adams County students enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State University. Total awards amounted to \$3,000.

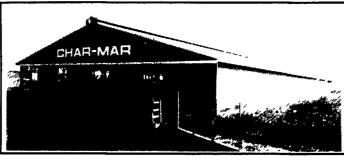
Successful applicants were Troy Eckert. New Oxford; Travis Green, Gettysburg; Jayne Hess, Gettysburg; and Jason Howe and Ryan Howe, Gettysburg.

Awards for the 1993-1994 academic year represent the 27th year that the association has participated in the scholarship program at Penn State University for Adams County students.



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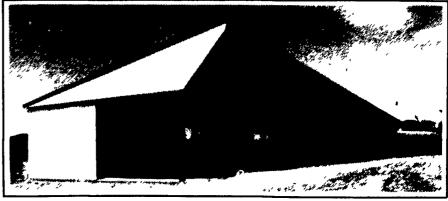
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