



Inducted into the Maryland Dairy Shrine was Marlin Hoff. From left, Debbie, Matt, Marlin, Kathy, and Ian Hoff.

## Maryland Dairy Shrine Honors Hoff

**EVA MARTIN**  
**Maryland Correspondent**  
 TIMONIUM, Md. — Each year, the Maryland Dairy Shrine honors an individual for their contributions to the dairy industry of Maryland. This year, Marlin Hoff, of Coldsprings Farm, New Windsor, was awarded this honor.

Hoff is an outstanding contributor to the Maryland Dairy industry. His interests in cows and the dairy business started early in life as a young 4-H'er in Carroll County on his father's farm. He is the fifth generation dairyman on the original 78 acres, which has now become a Century Farm that originated in 1869.

The best measurement of his love for this business and the amount of enthusiasm, dedication, and energy with which he has pursued this challenging business is the scope of Coldsprings Farms today. Coldsprings Farms totals approximately 1,300 acres owned and rented land bringing the total farming operation to about 2,000 acres. Total herd numbers today are approximately 1,100 head of cows, heifers, bulls, and a small beef herd.

Hoff believes that to produce worthwhile genetic animals other dairymen can use and profit from, they must be bred and developed under commercial dairy farming conditions. He has been extremely successful in producing cattle that have done very well for others. A production sale series was carried on for nine consecutive years, and at the same time, Hoff has widely supported local, state, and national sales. In 1990, Marlin decided it was time to modernize his dairy facility, so he reduced his milking herd to 190 cows by selling his most saleable young cows and heifers in his "Heart of Coldsprings Sale."


The Coldsprings Young Sire Program, started by Hoff, continues to sample promising young sires produced by his breeding and has more than 250 herds participating in this sampling program. In addition, 80 to 100 young sires a year are raised and sold to many dairy farmers for herd bulls in the Mid-Atlantic area. The Coldsprings herd has received 13 Progressive Breeder Registry awards, three Progressive Genetic awards, and prior to the Heart of Coldsprings Sale, the herd consistently

placed in the top 10 Honor List Herds for Production. The 1993 BAA is 104.5 on 275 head. The herd has produced 57 Dams of Merit and 21 Gold Medal Dams on the new system.

Some of Hoff's favorite cows have had tremendous impacts in the breed, with Tip producing 81 registered offspring. Insert produced 71, and Codee 54. Coldsprings Levi Orexus is producing embryos at a pace that will surpass all of these.

Hoff has always supported cattle shows and has been the premier

breeder at the Maryland State Show several years. Coldsprings has exhibited more than 16 All-Maryland awards in the milking classes in recent years and numerous other show awards including All-American nominations. The DHI herd average on an energy corrected milk basis on 346 cows stands at 22,623 pounds of milk. The DHIR lactation average on the herd is 24,109 milk, 3.7% 895 fat, 3.3% 789 protein. There are 19 cows on the Maryland State Leaders List for milk, butterfat, or protein production.



**Ida's Notebook**

**Ida Risser**

There are so many signs of fall. The goldenrod has been blooming for weeks and the corn stalks are turning brown. Our apple tree was so very full of small apples and I made some 30 quarts of applesauce. Soon I shall have to add a blanket to the bed covers as the mornings are cool.

Each season brings its own kind of work. The men fill the silos and bale the last crop of hay. The women glean the last vegetables from the garden. There are still many tomatoes and maybe I'll make a green tomato pie. Some people like the unusual taste and others won't even taste it as the name turns them off. I doubt they would like green fried tomatoes any better. Maybe some will just be left to spoil.

There are many bulbs and tubers to be dug from the ground and stored for the winter. I have some rather unusual ones that need extra care as they bloom in the basement in February. Then they die down and only send up palm-like leaves in July. This year due to the dry ground it was August before they pushed up a thick stem.

These days many wild geese are flying overhead. Although, it seems that some have stayed here on the Conestoga River all summer. Our domestic geese are very noisy and quite alert. When I dig potatoes near the meadow, they let me know that they realize that I am nearby. The potato crop this year will be small compared to last year when we harvested five or six bushels.

## Dairy Tidbits

The milk bath, whose roots trace to the Tang Dynasty in 712 A.D., is purported to make the skin smooth and supple. Superstar Diana Ross reportedly demands that hotels provide her with whole milk for her nightly

soak. Actress Diahann Carol begins each day with a doctor-prescribed milk bath. Famed photographer Annie Leibovitz photographed actress Whoopi Goldberg lolling in a bathtub of warm milk for a recent exhibition of celebrity portraiture.

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