

they wanted it. It was just luck that he made protein so it worked out great for us when they wanted protein."

The rolling herd average has increased during the past several years. The family attributes the increase to feeding high moisture corn.

Milk is shipped to Atlantic Dairy Cooperative.

Since the Landis family purchased the farm 40 years ago, they have built a 40 stall freestall barn. They switch cows around from 42 tie stalls. They have added another silo, equipment shed, and tore down a tobacco shed.

Carl is a district 6 director for the Lancaster Farmer's Association and is a member of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

One of the major keys to successful farming, Carl said, "is to listen to the other guy's ideas."

"I like to talk with other people. I see a lot of things that work and a lot that don't," he said. "I throw all the ideas together and use what I can. Then I go and get done as much as I can as fast as I can. I get a lot done in a hurry. Farming is just a bunch of hard work."

"Work?" his wife questioned. "That's an understatement."



Although only 18 months old, Arlisa is said to take after her dad because she never sits still.

Tips For Healthy Holiday Plants

HUNTERDON, N.J. — A new house plant, even a holiday purchase, can be a disaster instead of a delight. In spite of controls used by plant suppliers, insects may be part of the purchase. Or transition from greenhouse to shop to home may cause problems. It pays to take some precautions with new plants.

Look over intended purchases for pests or signs of pests. Mealy bugs, scales and white fly might actually be seen. If signs of pests discolored, distorted, or sticky leaves are present, choose a different plant. New plants should always be "quarantined" for a month or so to make sure no insects, that might spread to other plants, are "aboard". Use a separate water container for the newcomers.

Apparently perfect new plants may develop problems shortly after they have been brought home, and no insects can be found. Some plants respond to a change in environment with yellowing and dropping leaves. (I have had Ficus benjamina and Dracaena marginata drop leaves when moved from one spot to another in the same room!) If a new plant was chosen with its new location in mind, it will eventually adapt to the change. A gradual

transition to different light level (especially low light) can help.

Yellowing, browning, dropping leaves could signal a more serious problem. Because of frequent watering, commercial growers use more intense fertilizer applications than the home situation requires. In the home setting, when the plant is maintained drier, the salt levels in the potting mix of a new plant may damage roots and leaves. It is a good idea to water a new plant generously when it's brought home to wash excess salts away from the roots. There's generally no need to fertilize new plants.

The foil used to decorate gift plants can be deadly, preventing proper drainage and leading soggy "soil" and rotted roots. Poke holes through the foil at the drainage openings as soon as the plant arrives.

Early precautions won't guarantee no problems, but at least a new plant will have a fair start.

The "New Jersey 1993 Choose and Cut Christmas Tree Guide" is available at the Extension Center on Route 31. Pick up a copy Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, or send a SASE to Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Hunterdon County, 4 Gauntt Place Flemington, NJ 08822.



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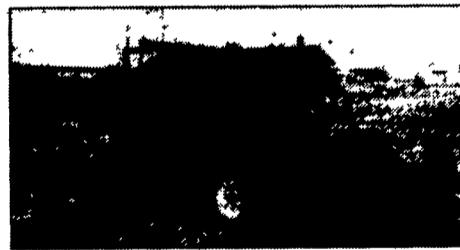
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