

Cumberland County 4-H'er Top Dairy Member

CARLISLE (Cumberland Co.) Congress in Chicago, Ill. this past winter. Melanie Dietrich, daughter of William and Susan Dietrich, Newburg, was one of the 4-H members that attended 4-H National Club Pennsylvania Farm Credit Asso-



Melanie Dietrich, daughter of Bill and Susan Dietrich, Newburg, was selected the 1993 Pennsylvania 4-H Dairy National Award winner and attended National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, Ill. Shown with Melanie is Ronald Moore, left, account executive, York Farm Credit, representing the Pennsylvania Farm Credit Associations and Duane Duncan, Cumberland County agent. Melanie was also recently recognized for completing 11 years in the 4-H program at the 4-H dairy banquet.

ciations. Melanie recently was recognized for completing 11 years as a 4-H dairy member at the Annual 4-H Dairy Achievement Night. The 1993 4-H Dairy National Award Winner is a sophomore at Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University as a dairy science major.

Over the years Melanie's herd has grown to an owner bred herd of 22 registered Jerseys. Her goal now is to improve it genetically. During her 4-H career, she has presented 24 presentations and 10 different demonstrations, completed project records on more than 70 4-H dairy animals, and has shown her animals at 49 county, district, state and national shows from 1984-1993.

While a member of the Blue Mountain 4-H Club, she was elected and served as social chairman, secretary, president and county council representative. She also served as secretary of the Cumberland County Ambassadors Club and vice president of the Cumberland County 4-H County Council. In addition to dairy projects, Melanie completed vet science, citizenship, dairy foods, and

public speaking 4-H projects.

During 1991-1992, Melanie represented the dairy industry as Pennsylvania Jersey Queen and as Cumberland County dairy princess. During her reign as the Cumberland County dairy princess, she was able to meet with all the students in the Carlisle and Shippensburg school district elementary schools. She gave her 20-minute presentation 82 times to 153 classrooms with a total audience of 3,491.

In her 4-H story, Melanie indicates that by attending Citizenship Washington Focus and Pennsylvania Capitol Days she learned a great deal about the responsibilities of a United States citizen. She also indicated that being a counselor at 4-H camps, the Pre-teen Retreat, and serving as a club officer has provided many opportunities for her to develop her leadership skills.

Because of her several leader-

ship roles in 4-H, she indicates that she felt confident in accepting the position of co-chair of a committee for the Virginia Tech Dairy Club and will feel confident putting her skills to work in the real world.

Her goal to qualify to go to the North American International Livestock Exposition National Junior Jersey Show with the Pennsylvania Junior State herd was realized in 1992. Her aged 4-H cow qualified for the national show and did well in her class.

In summarizing her 4-H career, Melanie believes that 4-H has helped to influence her long-term goal to stay involved with the dairy industry by showing her the different facets of agriculture and dairy science through her 4-H projects and experiences. She suggested that 4-H showed her that there is more out there than just dairy farming so that she knows that her choices will never be limited.

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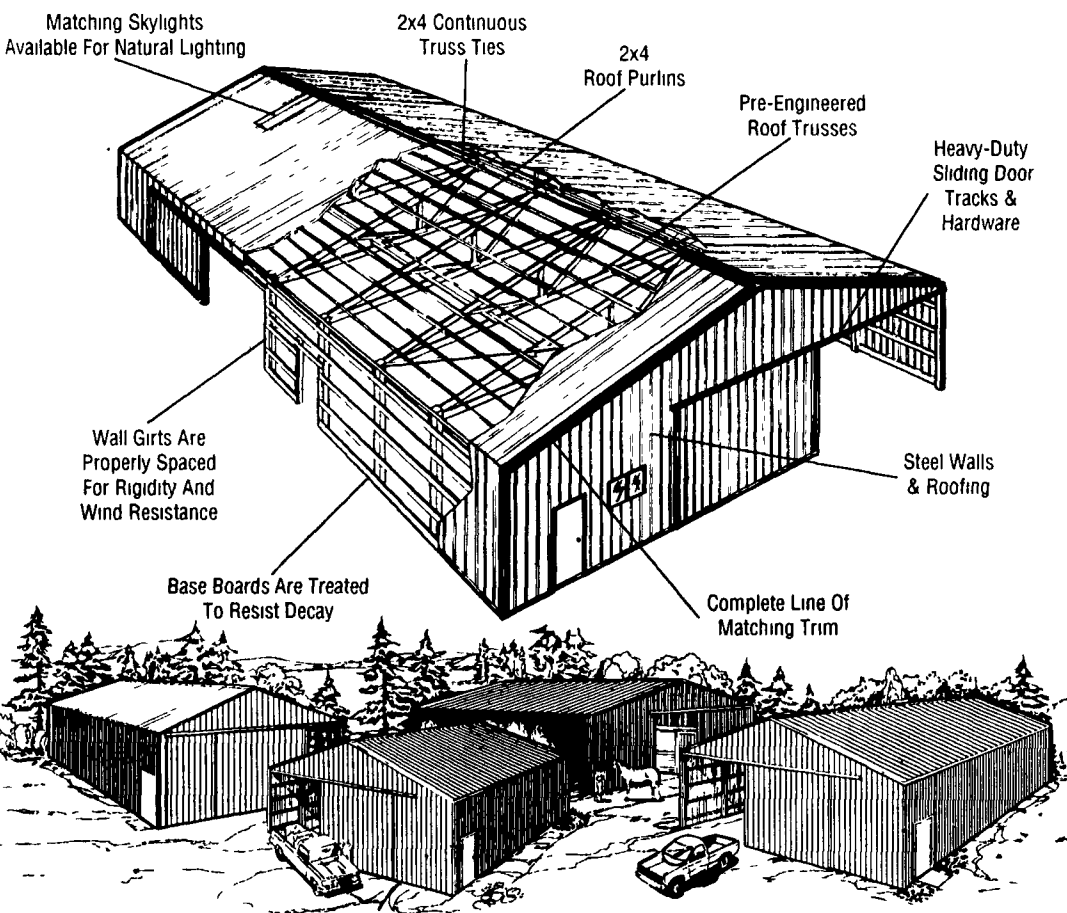
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