

**On being
a farm wife
- And other
hazards**

Joyce Bupp



The grass is green, the roses are blooming, swimming pools are officially open. Shorts have replaced jeans for casual wear, weddings blossom with beautiful brides and nervous grooms and evenings beckon us all to linger out on porches and patios.

Flies are back. Our calf pen is beginning to fill with the early — summer burst of black-and-white bawling babies. And strawberries are ripe! Celebrate!

You betcha' 'cause June

is here. June. The month during which we dairy farmers — and we hope all milk and dairy product consumers of ours — celebrate the cream of the cow.

Now plop a big scoop of vanilla ice cream down on top of that bowl of strawberries because we have some language studying to do. In order to best appreciate June Dairy Month, it helps to understand the lingo.

So, class, we present: **COWSPEAK**

COW — The female of a bovine animal (That's real Webster, friends.)

COWNT — To number your cows, as in: 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.

COWNTER — Person who numbers those cows.

ACCOWTANT — Professional numbers person who keeps track of cow expenses.

COWCH — Furniture on which a cow stretches out to take a nap.

COWNTY — Municipality in which cows live; may resemble a pasture.

COWNCIL — Ruling board of officials who oversee the cownty.

COWARD — Whole bunch of cows, i.e. cow herd.

COWCATCHER — Person chasing that whole, blasted, coward that escaped through the fence.

COWPUNCHER — What this "cownter" chasing our escaped "coward" threatens to become if she ever corrals the rascals.

COWSLIP — What a cownter might do if she doesn't watch where she's running while chasing the coward.

COWHIDE — What cowards

try to do after jumping the gate to avoid recapture.

NO ACCOWNTS — Mischief-making cows that constantly stir up trouble.

COWNSEL — Legal advisor hired by no accownts to bail them out of trouble.

COWLICK — How cows groom one another.

COWBOY — Usually known as a "bull;" with slight alterations, a "steer."

COWGIRL — Often called a "heifer"; a young female cow.

COWLENDAR — Record on which you keep track of important herd dates.

COWLENDER — Agricultural lender who finances the purchase of your dairy herd.

And, in the interest of avoiding gender problems and eqcow rights, we include these terms as well:

BULL — The male of any bovine (That's real Webster, too.)

BULLHORN — What the bull blows at you when you cut him off on the Route 30 Bypass.

BULLHEAD — One end of bull, opposite of tail.

BULLETIN — Publication read by bulls to keep up with the cownty news.

BULLPEN — Where to keep a bull who leads the coward outside the fence.

BULLFIGHTER — Farmer (or farm wife) who didn't pay attention to where the bull was in the coward.

BULLION — Broth made from bull who led the coward outside the fence one too many times or who threatened the bullfighter.

There, Now that you've mastered the lesson, reward yourself.

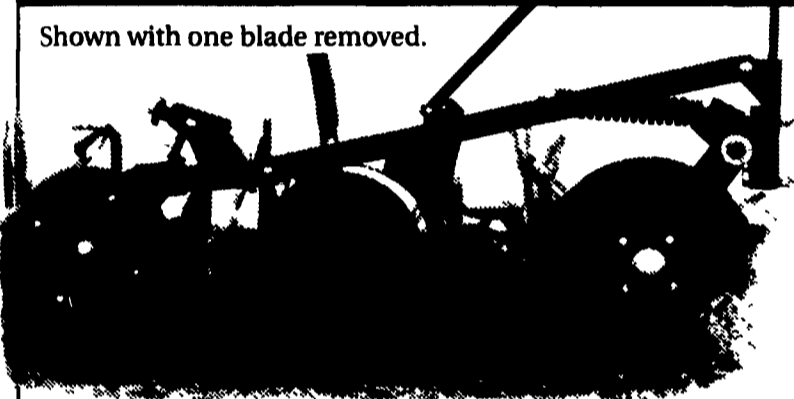
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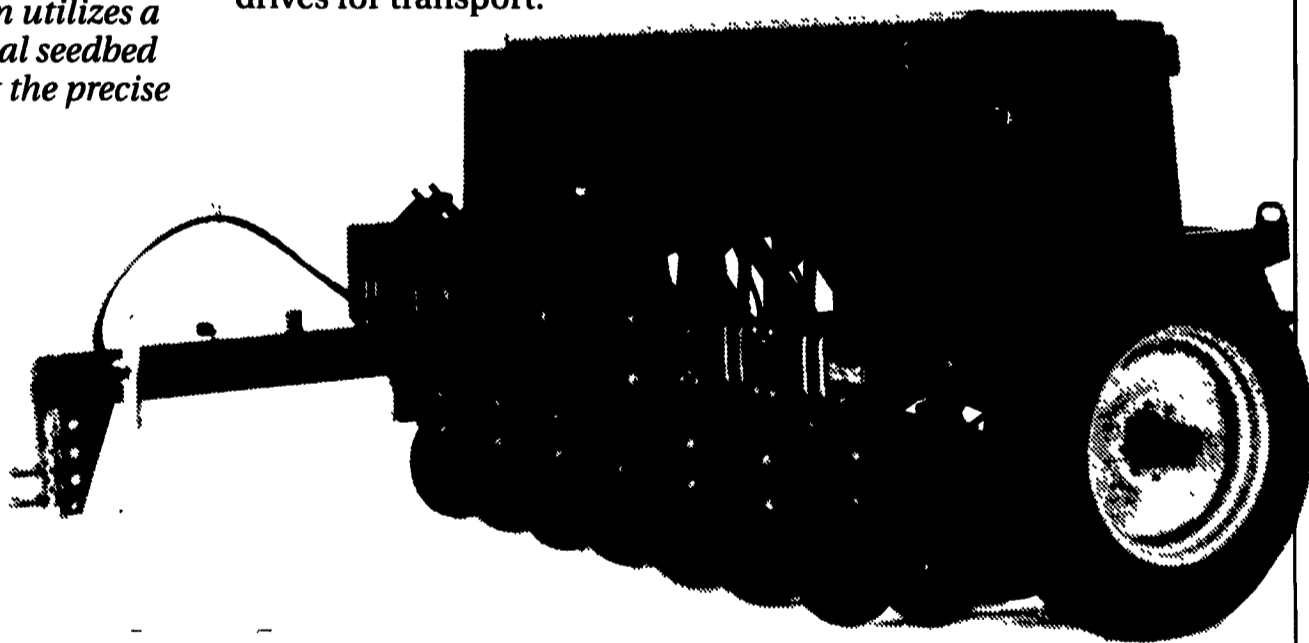
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