

Lancaster Farming

OPINION

A Cow Is Still A Cow

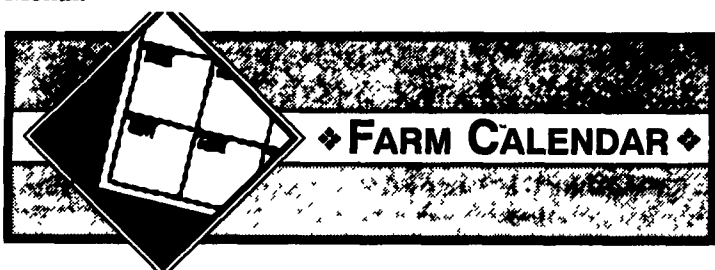
A cow is still a cow, not a machine. She has personality and often a mind of her own. No amount of modern technology has been able to put her into a factory setting. She eats, chews her cud, sleeps just over the knoll on the leeward side to protect herself from the mid-night breezes, and fills her udder with milk two or three times a day. In fact, she is queen of the dairy farm, and all her subjects, the dairy men and women who care for her, must set their daily schedules around the dairy cow's whims and wishes.

We admit that over the years a lot of modern equipment and feeding methods have changed the way things are done on the dairy farm. But today, as always, the dairy farmer's job is a demanding one. He works from before sunrise until well into the evening. No sick days, no days off, and no sleeping in. The cows must be milked and fed 365 days a year.

Of course, today's cow produces the milk that once took 10 or 12 cows to produce. It is not unusual for two-year-old first-calf heifers to produce 100 pounds of milk per day. And it is good they do because Americans consumed 588 pounds of dairy products, per person, in 1995. According to the American Dairy Association, this accounts for a 10 percent share of total consumer grocery spending.

Flavored milk sales grew to more than \$600 million in 1995. Among the flavors appearing in supermarket dairy cases were: Blueberry Blast, Bubble Gum, Mocha Cooler, Pina Colada, Chocolate Irish Cream, Java Malt, Chocolate Peanut Butter and Banana Split.

Since 1937, the month of June is dedicated to the dairy farmer and dairy products. From the farmgate to the dairy case, the wonderful world of real dairy products has a lot to celebrate. We join the millions of dairy enthusiasts in the Northeast and around the nation as they celebrate nearly 30 years of promoting June Dairy Month.



◆ FARM CALENDAR ◆

Saturday, June 1

Mid-Atlantic Highland Association 5th Annual Highland Cattle Show, Garrett County Fairgrounds, in conjunction with Garrett County McHenry Highland Festival.

Bradford County dairy princess pageant, Northeast Elementary School, Rome, 8:15 p.m.

Huntingdon County dairy princess pageant, Juniata Valley Elementary School, Alexandria, 8 p.m.

Berks County Wool Pool, Leesport Farmers Market, Leesport, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday, June 2

Monday, June 3

15th Annual Md. 4-H Calf Tournament, Piney Branch Golf and Country Club, Hampstead.

Jefferson County dairy princess pageant, Jefferson County Service Center, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, June 4

Economics and Environment Workshop, Lebanon County Extension Office, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 5

Frederick County, Md. Pasture Walk, Holterholm Farms, Ron and Kathy Holter, Jefferson, Md., 10 a.m.-noon.

Thursday, June 6

Chester County dairy princess pageant, Russelville Grange, Russelville, 7:30 p.m.

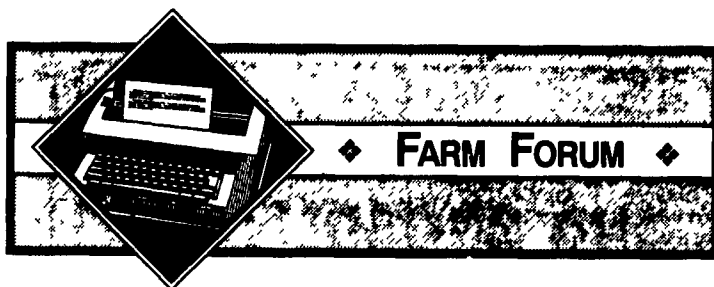
Friday, June 7

Pa. Forest Stewardship Conference, Days Inn Penn State, State College, 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 8

Bedford County dairy princess pageant, N.B.C. High School

(Turn to Page A34)



◆ FARM FORUM ◆

Editor,

During the last 25 years dairy farmers have been attempting to receive a realistic price for their milk through "over order premiums."

While the Federal Milk Marketing Orders may have provided stability to the dairy industry, the same orders only generate a minimum price to dairy farmers and this price, in most cases does not cover the average cost of producing milk. Consequently, nearly 80 percent of the dairy farmers in Federal Order 2 have left the dairy farms since 1960.

Recognizing the inadequate prices being paid to dairy farmers, dairy co-ops and farm organizations have formed various Bargaining Agencies to alleviate the problems of low milk prices paid to dairy farmers.

The old RCMA, the Empire Bargaining Agency, the new RCMA and the Special New York Order are some of the organiza-



Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Salute Dairy Farmers

Everyone knows June Is Dairy Month. The dairy industry has done an excellent job of promoting dairy products during this month.

In today's modern world where very few people have any ties to farms, promotion becomes more important. The old saying "out of sight — out of mind" applies also to what we eat and drink.

Without promotion activities and advertising, people will not think about eating and drinking our products. Through creative ideas that are in touch with the concerns and issues of today's society, we will be able to hold and increase our market share.

The name of the game is market share. This week we hold our glass of milk high and toast all the dairy farmers for their efforts to promote their good and nutritious product. If dairy farmers are to survive, they need to be aggressive in promoting their products.

June Is Dairy Month should be a reminder on how important promotional activities are.

To Identify Bur Cucumber

According to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent, bur cucumber is a major problem weed on our farms.

Originally found along stream-

banks and other damp and shady areas, bur cucumber is beginning to invade upland fields. Bur cucumber is a summer annual broadleaf weed that is related to the garden cucumber. It is characterized by pentagon-shaped leaves, long vines, and spiny seed clusters.

Individual seeds are flattened, 1/16 inch long and 1/32 inch wide. The seed is covered with a hard coat which is responsible for a prolonged dormancy.

Bur cucumbers germinate from early May through mid-August. Mature vines may be 20 feet long. The vines often make crop harvest impossible.

To Control Bur Cucumber

High rates of Atrazine made bur cucumber control easy. However, with the restrictions of using two pounds of Atrazine per acre, control is much more difficult, according to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent.

Control is essential because severe infestations may destroy almost the entire corn or soybean crop.

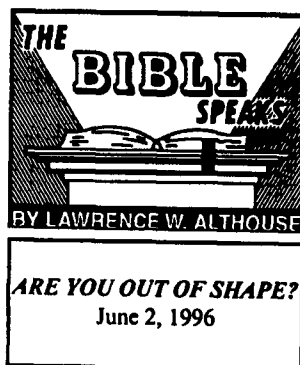
Research at Penn State has confirmed that non-triazine preemergence corn herbicides do not effectively control bur cucumber. In the 1995 Penn State Weed Trials, postemergence applications of Beacon and Exceed provided the best control.

Research in Maryland suggests that Classic would be a good option for soybeans. Management of bur cucumber in corn and soybeans requires an effective post-emergence control program that may include split applications or a follow-up cultivation.

Harvesting of infested fields as silage before weed seeds mature may help prevent the spread of the weed. A thorough cleaning of equipment between fields, especially harvesting equipment, will reduce the spreading of weed seed.

Above all, specialists suggest, watch for new infestations and keep them small and isolated. Attack the small infestations before they become big problems. Prevention is the key to management of bur cucumber problems.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "You cannot get ahead while you are getting even."



ARE YOU OUT OF SHAPE?
June 2, 1996

ARE YOU OUT OF SHAPE? June 2, 1996

Background Scripture:

1 Timothy 4:6-16

Devotional Reading:

Psalm 37:1-11

When I was a seminary student some forty years ago, I was graded on my knowledge of the Bible and theology, Church history, administration and education, pastoral psychology and even preaching—although in seminary they call it *homiletics*.

But I was never evaluated, graded or classified on "godliness," as the writer of I Timothy puts it. "Train yourself in godliness, for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come" (4:7b,8). As far as the writer of I Timothy is concerned, godliness is probably the minister's most important subject—much more important than theological speculation: "Have nothing to do with godless and silly myths" (4:7a).

Actually, although I did rather well in my seminary studies, I'm glad I wasn't graded on godliness. Can you imagine getting your report card and finding you failed it! Although I didn't think the study of theology was easy, godliness would have been a lot harder.

50 PERCENT!

It still is. I can get 50 percent on the curriculum in I Timothy, "Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching" (4:13). Yes, I can handle that well enough. The writer also says the "good minister of Christ Jesus" is nourished on the "words of the faith and of the good doctrine which you have followed." Yes, I've got the words and I know the doctrine. But, what about godliness?

I've looked at my commentaries to find what the writer meant by "godliness," but none of them gave me a clue. So, I've turned to some varying translations and find the

following translations of verse 7b:

Living Bible: "Spend your time and energy in the exercise of keeping spiritually fit." *New English Bible*: "Keep yourself in training for the practice of religion." *Phillips Bible*: "Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit."

Jerusalem Bible: "Train yourself spiritually."

What the writer of I Timothy is talking about, then, is keeping ourselves in a state of spiritual fitness. And I'm still not sure how I stack up there. I do pretty well in the physical fitness department. Five days a week my wife and I walk three miles every morning and then do a half-hour of aerobic exercises. In the summertime we supplement that with water exercise as well.

SPIRITUAL AEROBICS

When we travel we marvel at the great number of people who share our concern for keeping physically fit. Lots of hotels and most cruise ships have jogging courses and a fitness center, often complete with the latest equipment. Hotel managers tell us that, unless they offer physical fitness facilities and equipment, they cannot attract the regular business travelers.

Undoubtedly, physical fitness has captured the public imagination and I am glad. The physical being and our health are gifts from God that we ought not to abuse or neglect. But, if we could also make people aware of the need for spiritual fitness as well, how much better would this world be! And Christians must lead the way: "...set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (4:12).

So, speaking in terms of spiritual fitness, are you in or out of shape?

The Althouses will lead a group to the Holy Land, Oct. 9 to Nov. 2, 1996. Space is limited. For information, write them at 4412 Sheandoah Ave., Dallas, TX 75205.

Lancaster Farming
Established 1955
Published Every Saturday
Ephrata Review Building
1 E. Main St.
Ephrata, PA 17522
—by—
Lancaster Farming, Inc.
A Steinhilber Enterprise
Robert G. Campbell General Manager
Everett R. Newswanger Managing Editor
Copyright 1996 by Lancaster Farming

(Turn to Page A23)