

# Berks Holstein Tour To Bedford And Blair Counties

**BERKS COUNTY** — This year Berks County Holstein Club is hosting an interesting and educational tour to Bedford and Blair counties featuring new facilities, famous Holstein genetics, red and polled Holsteins as well as niche marketing. The trip is open to any person wishing to have an enjoyable day with other Holstein enthusiasts. Following is our itinerary:

**Loren Woy & Family, Everett**  
 Within the last month, the Woy family has moved into a new 6-row free-stall barn with a state-of-the-art milking center. The Center features an Universal double-10 expandable to a double-16 parlor. To maximize milker comfort, the floor of the pit is on hydraulic cylinders enabling it to be raised or lowered. The milkhouse (tank, controls and wash systems) are all located in a basement area beneath the parlor. Employing a water reservoir system, the Woys pump water during off hours into holding tanks to be used throughout the day. Feed is stored in bunker silos. The farming operation consists of 250 cows and 1,100 acres of crops and is owned and operated by Loren and his two sons, Brian and Barry. There are two full-time employees and some part-time help.  
**Singing Brook Farm, Imler**

Singing Brook Farm is owned and operated by Obie Snider and his family. Obie has served as a director of the National Holstein Association, and is currently on the Board of Trustees for Penn State University. The Singing Brook herd is home to the "Mandy" family which has produced Mascot, Marvel and numerous other bulls that have entered A1 service. Their consignment topped the National Holstein Convention Sale held in

Pittsburgh in 1995. The herd consists of 180 cows housed in a 120-stall barn with the low cows residing in a loafing barn. Cows are milked in a carousel parlor. A visit to the display room off the farm office will pay tribute to the many great cows bred and developed at Singing Brook Farm. Obie concentrates his efforts on record keeping and the cropping program, while son Bruce and a herdsman care for the cattle and the flush program. The farming operation covers approximately 1,000 acres in a beautiful Bedford County valley.

**Burket Falls Farm, New Freedom**  
 This scenic dairy farm located at the end of farm country in Blair County is owned and operated by David Burket and his family. Masters of niche marketing, the Burkets and their Polled (hornless) cattle and red or red-factored Holsteins are drawing interest from around the world, especially Europe. The 100-cow herd is housed in a stall barn with heifers in either counter-slope pens or freestalls. Several of the bulls which the Burkets are currently marketing are housed in the bull barn. This family operation consists of 450 acres, probably 600 acres if it were all laid flat! Be sure to look in the farm office to see another crop that grows and harvests great in this area!

**Carl Rowser Elk Farm**  
 This exciting farm, where Carl raises his elk, is located in the Dutch Corner area of Bedford County. His herd consists of 11 cows and yearlings and 5 bulls. All of the animals are registered by the North American Elk Breeder's Association. The elk are raised primarily for their velvet (immature antlers) which are used in Asia for medicinal purposes. Breeding stock sales and meat

production also contribute to their value. Mr. Rowser's elk are kept in large pastures that serve as a natural environment to these giant deer-like animals. We will also see the work station where the elk are treated and worked by the vet. Carl will explain the breeding, bloodlines and marketing of registered elk; many aspects of which are similar to breeding registered Holsteins.

**Travel Information**  
 Perkiomen Valley Bus Company will be providing charter bus service for the farm tour with the

following pick-ups:  
 7:15 a.m. - Depart Fleetwood Grange Hall (Park in the rear near the buses.)

8 a.m. - Depart the Bethel Public Library; located at the Bethel Exit of I78. (Park behind the Library to allow patrons easy access.)

Please be prompt!  
 Bring a brown-bag lunch for your noon meal, the Berks County Holstein Club will supply a beverage. A supper stop in Everett before heading east will be sponsored by Star Silo. We appreciate their generous support of this

event.  
 9:30 p.m. - Return to the Berks County area.  
**Cost**  
 Transportation costs will be \$28 per person. Make checks payable to the "Berks County Holstein Club." Checks must be presented upon boarding the bus.  
**Reservations**  
 Please make reservations by calling any of the following no later than March 10, 1997:  
 Dave Bitler - 610-944-0541  
 Don Stoltzfus - 610-286-7378  
 Dennis Sattazahn - 610-589-2310

## The Information Age Comes To Dairy MAP

**ROBERT TURNER**  
 Eastern Regional Coordinator, Dairy-MAP UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Are you wondering about the "wonders" of the World Wide Web? Confused about your course on the information superhighway? Intrigued about the mysteries of the Internet? If you have a modem on your computer and access to the Internet, let the new Dairy-MAP web site be your guide to finding information.

The Dairy Management And Profitability (Dairy-MAP) program has a new web page with not just the dairy producer, but all of agriculture in mind. Designed by Rob Walker, the new web page can assist individuals and businesses in locating information in agriculture from Dairy-L to Graze-L, from Bees to Sheep, from Cows to Beef; it is all on the Dairy-MAP web pages and linking pages. Dairy-MAP used Clark Consulting International, Inc. in listing the most up to date materials in agricultural data bases. This

information is free to computer users with a modem and Internet access. Information about the treatment of mastitis or animal diseases, mechanical problems with your tractor, tapping into the National Dairy Database, and much more is available through the Dairy-MAP web page with links on the Internet Superhighway of information.

The web page is designed not only for managers but also for all users interested in researching dairy and agricultural information. From the Dairy-MAP home page you can link to agricultural publications, dairy software, agricultural organizations, commercial dairy sites, dairy publications, dairy farmer home pages, fun cow stuff, computer resources, Internet resources, newspapers, search engines, Internet/web training, weather sites, agricultural software companies, and other agricultural related links and much more. Most important is the Dairy-MAP workshop schedule pages for each of the workshops

being held in Pennsylvania, from Managing For Success, Financial Management, Human Resource Management, to the newest workshops being scheduled on Focus on the Future just released last week by the Dairy-MAP team.

The Information Age and web pages are very much in line with the mission statement of Dairy-MAP, which is: "To create opportunities for people in the dairy industry to learn new business management skills."

The new web pages by Dairy-MAP do just that, they make available new management technology for the collection of data to assist your daily business decisions to increase the opportunity for profitability. Try the new Dairy-MAP web pages at: <http://www-das.cas.psu.edu/users/dairymap/>

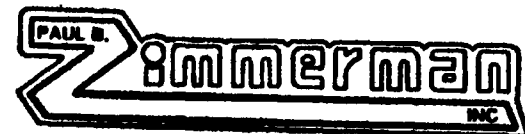
Leave your comments and please check out the scheduled Dairy-MAP workshops in your area. The Information Age is available through the Dairy-MAP Home Page on the Internet Web.

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