

Carrie Carries On Pioneer Spirit With Lineback Cattle

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Bedford Co. Correspondent

BEDFORD (Bedford Co.) - Still living in the rambling farmhouse with the gingerbread trim where she grew up, Carrie (Harman) Beckley, 66, farms because she loves it.

Located on the picturesque Glade Pike overlooking the lush farmland of Bedford County, Carrie is the epitome of the pioneer spirit she inherited.

"This farm has been in my family for so many generations I really don't know how far back it goes," she says. It was originally a tavern stop on the old road to Somerset from Bedford County.

The original 400 acres had dwindled to 178 by the time Carrie was a little girl. When her father died, her mother took over the farming, and when Carrie married they continued to live on the farm.

Carrie always helped heavily with the farm work as well as maintaining a lawn so glorious

with flowers passersby are in awe at the array of colors.

When Carrie's husband died four years ago, it was her decision to remain on the farm and maintain her herd of 30 to 50 Lineback cattle. This breed was first introduced to the farm by her grandparents.

Carrie was delighted to read a recent article in *Lancaster Farming* about another farm with this ancient breed. Her own come from the Holstein and American Dairy lines. Some look like Holsteins and others have the familiar splattered paintbrush lines.

After much research, she has been able to find a source for semen which allow her to breed a stronger herd.

"My cattle live up to the Lineback tradition of being excellent milkers," says this spunky lady. Arising each day at 5 a.m., milk is ready for the milk truck, which carries it to Maryland and Virginia.

Known for her soft heart,

Carrie feeds and cares for 14 dogs, all strays. She begs people to please not drop off anymore.

Ranging in size from petite

poodles to a lumbering Great Pyrenees, the dogs welcome visitors politely keeping all paws on the ground. They don't have

to be tied as Carrie has trained them to stay on the property.

The dogs also visit the cows

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The front room is ablaze with plants in Carrie's home.



Willie the llama is a favorite on the Beckley farm.



A paintbrush Lineback calf is one of Carrie Beckley's favorites.

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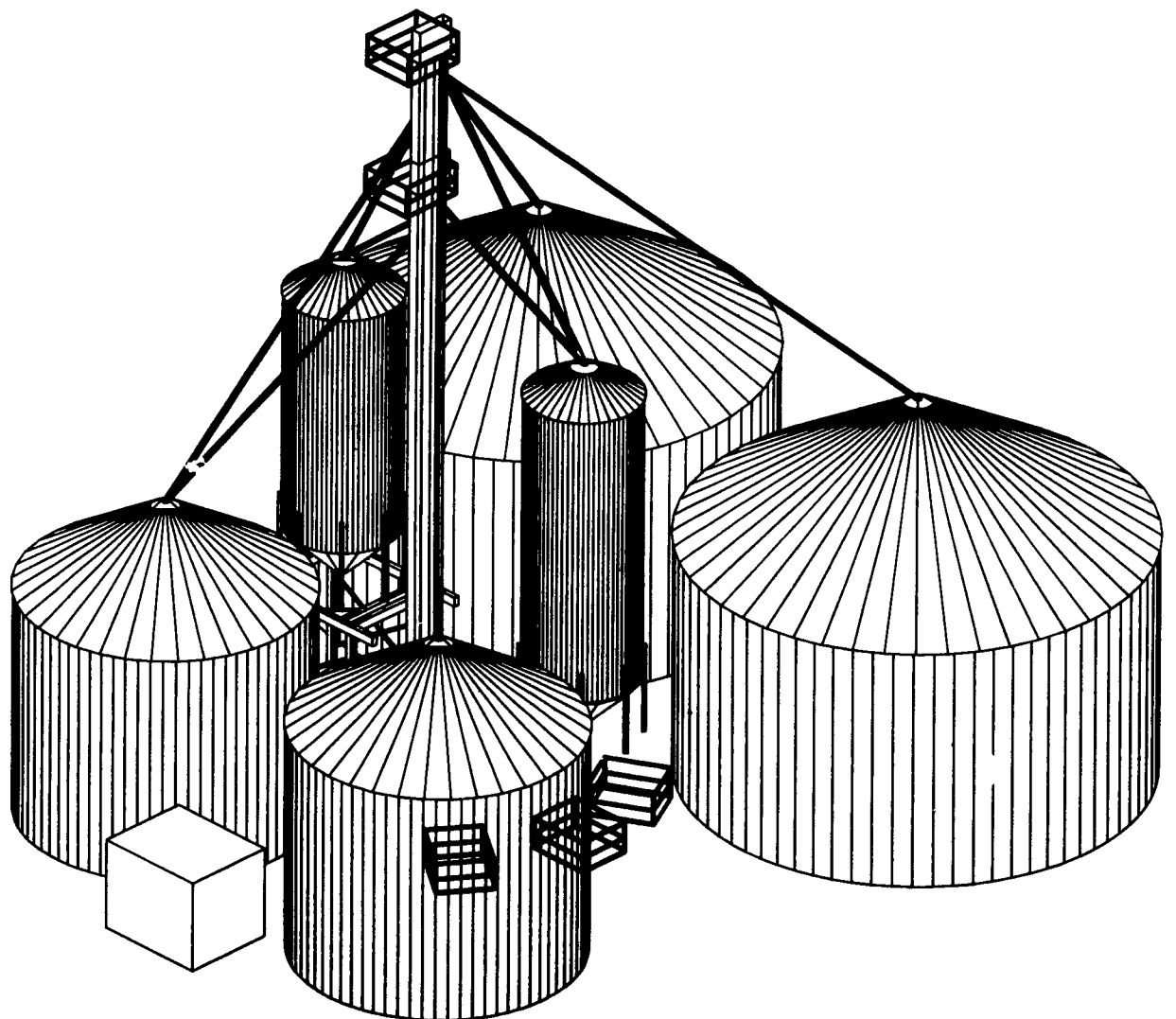
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