

New Master Farmer Named

(Continued from last week)

Roy William Crow

When Roy Crow left home in 1974 to attend University of Maryland, his father dispersed the farm's dairy herd. So when the young farmer from Kennedyville, Md., decided to go back to the farm after graduating, he had to start his herd from scratch.

Not to be deterred, he started by buying 23 of his father's heifers. At the end of 1978, he owned 35 cows, 20 heifers and a Farm Credit Loan.

Feed and facilities at the home farm were first leased for 50 percent of the milk check plus his helping hand with cropping operations. After dairying for four years, he started purchasing used equipment, and in 1987 began renting the entire Kent County farming operation.

Today's operation. Caw-Croft Holsteins is a 450-acre operation with 130 acres of mostly cropland owned and 235 acres leased from his family trust.

With one hired employee and family help, Crow milks 70 cows, averaging close to 23,700 pounds, using a pipeline milking system. Milk is shipped to Land-O-Lakes. Over the years, longevity and pedigrees were bred in via artificial insemination to where he now sells purebred animals domestically and abroad, and is a recognized Holstein breeder.

This farm's equipment costs are low; all equipment is kept well maintained and shedded when not in use. The newest tractor is almost 10 years old.

Average per-acre crop yields on this farm are: 140-bushel corn, 22-ton corn silage, 49-bushel full-season soybeans, 35-bushel doublecrop soybeans, 105-bushel barley and 75-bushel wheat.

Crow does his own planting and haying. But he custom-hires corn, wheat, barley and soybean harvesting, plus corn silage chopping. "What took us two to three weeks is now done in three days," he notes. "Now, we have no dips in milk production due to silage changes from one silo to another."

Relies on expert help. Crow strongly believes in relying on expert help. He readily credits his employee for his cow management skills.

His veterinary and feed company keep him informed of new products and technologies on the dairy side. He works with a local fertilizer company on a nutrient management plan involving testing manure and soils in all fields. "Good relationships with these people are as important to our success as well as theirs," notes Crow.

Land's caretaker. Crow's home farm was tilled by his great-

grandfather in the early 1900s. Four generations later, "Now it's my turn," notes Roy. "As a farmer, I'm just a caretaker of what God created. My responsibility is to preserve the land for future generations to enjoy."

Is expansion in the future? "Our choice is to not get bigger. We'll continue to make changes that make the operation easier to run," he says. "But to size-up, that's the next generation's decision."

The personal side. Roy and wife Elizabeth (Sue) devote much of their non-farming time to their three teen-agers, Karl, Robert and Roy (R.J.). "We spend as much time with them as we can, and provide the best education possible," notes Sue. That involvement for Roy has included being a coach and referee for youth basketball teams and hosting school tours of the farm.

Crow has served on two committees urging development of a new comprehensive plan for Kent County. Among many other activities, he's been a delegate of Atlantic Dairy Co-op, a director of Kent County Farm Bureau, and in 1996 was one of four outstanding young farmers honored by the National Junior Chamber of Commerce.



NFO Meeting Set

PLUMSTEADVILLE (Bucks Co.) — The 32 annual meeting of the Bucks County National Farmers Organization will be Saturday night, March 28, 1998, in the Plumsteadville Fire Hall. Starting time is 7 p.m.

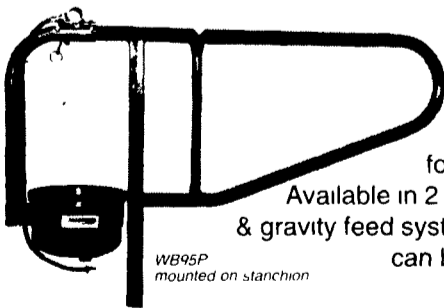
George Donnon, a Maryland farmer and promoter of ARMPPA, will be the speaker. The cost for tickets is \$14.00. For reservations call William Garges at (215) 348-5514. Deadline for reservations is Saturday, March 21.

MILK AMERICA'S HEALTH KICK

Paul B. **ZIMMERMAN** INC.

Bring Your Cows To The Super Bowl

Increase Milk Production Naturally!



Water Bowls with Instant Recovery! Supply fresh water continuously in larger bowls for more milk at no extra cost. Available in 2 models for both pressurized & gravity feed systems, the Zimmerman bowls can be built into new or added to existing tie stall housing

- 3 gallon capacity
- Unbreakable PVC construction
- Exceptional durability
- Minimizes water waste



Call or write for free catalog.
LAPP'S BARN EQUIPMENT

5935 OLD PHILADELPHIA PIKE, GAP, PA 17527

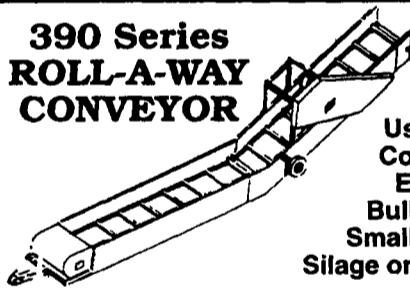
PHONE: 717-442-8134
SALES & SERVICE

ZIMMERMAN MFG. CORP.

125 King Court/
Hollander Rd.
New Holland, PA 17557
(717) 354-9611

Contact Us For
Literature Or
The Dealer
Nearest You!

390 Series ROLL-A-WAY CONVEYOR



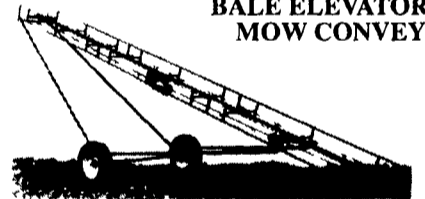
Useful For
Conveying
Ear Corn,
Bulk Feeds,
Small Grains,
Silage or Manure

A Full Line Of Exhaust Fans



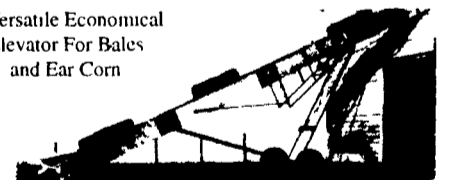
Including Efficient
Belt Drive Units With
Housing & Shutter
24", 30", 36", and 48"

880 SERIES BALE ELEVATOR AND MOW CONVEYOR



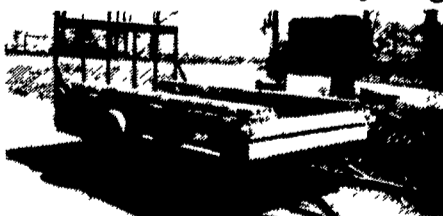
380 SERIES PORTABLE ELEVATORS

A Versatile Economical
Elevator For Bales
and Ear Corn

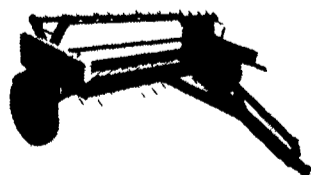


WELL BALANCED, RUGGEDLY BUILT FOR MANY YEARS OF TROUBLE FREE SERVICE

Check our inventory of trailers currently in stock, ready to go.



ZIMMERMAN HEAVY DUTY HAY TEDDER - 790 SERIES



Increases hay crop value with faster drying time...

ZIMMERMAN WAGON GEAR RUGGED HEAVY DUTY MODELS 6,8,10 & 12 TANDEM

Zimmerman Custom Built Utility Trailers



RT SERIES



FRT SERIES

RT and FRT Series Trailers Available In 5000# thru 12,000# GVW
We Also Build Other Models, Sizes, and Capacities. Call For Information