

Hillegass Family

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A-Way ASTAR Granite and continues to bread for type, production, and index.

After two years at Penn State,

Doug began farming full time. Subsequently, he was named the Outstanding Young Farmer Under 30 and the Outstanding Young Farmer Over 30 in both the regional and state competitions



In the barn, Justin Hillegass, the driver, pushes feed up to the cows. His passenger is employee Mike Welmer.



Desirae Hillegass is pictured in the calf greenhouse where the Penn State student helps her parents at Mountain View Farms, near Berlin.

and placed first in the Northeast Forage Contest.

On the 600 acres he owns and the 800 that he rents, having ended potato cropping, Doug sows corn on 500 acres, soybeans on 200 acres, alfalfa and mixed grass on 500 acres, new alfalfa seedlings on 150 acres, and barley to be

used as grain on 75 acres.

In a 25- by 200-foot bunker silo, haylage is stored at 70 percent moisture. At 45 percent moisture, haylage is also stored in a 25- by 90-foot upright silo.

The bunker where corn silage is stored measures 50 by 200 feet. High moisture shelled corn is

stored in a 20- by 80-foot upright.

The former potato barn was renovated to accommodate a bin for storing soybeans. As needed, they are moved to a Brock bin, which augers directly to a roller mill and onto a feed belt.

Bulk mineral is kept in a second Brock bin.

Inside an existing machine building — so feed can be mixed out of the weather — four commodity bays were built.

With about half of them registered and the rest grade, the cows are on a TMR ration that uses corn silage, haylage, bakery, pro-lak, HMSC, chocolate, roasted beans, soybean meal, and minerals.

"Any cow should eat and lay down," said Doug.

And if space allowed for it, Debra would love to see them able to go outside because she believes going outside is good for cows. The size of the herd renders it an impractical idea.

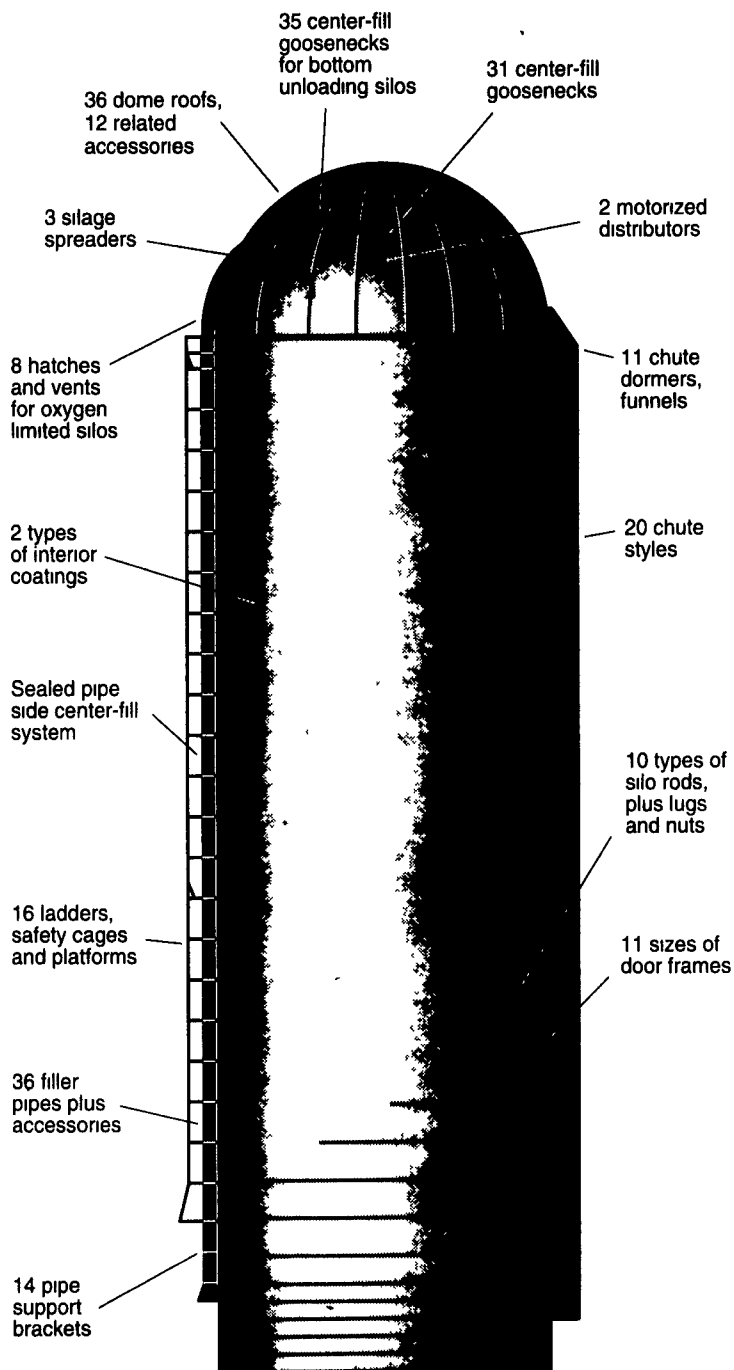
Although he could be content forever on the farm and has a strong bent for mechanical work, Justin, now a high school senior, is unsure that college after graduation — despite the gentle promptings from his folks — is for him.

After their marriage in 1977, about seven years passed before Doug and Debra got a day off from work. They therefore en-

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