

MARK AND MELODY STOLTZFUS



Two big English walnut trees provide shade and nuts for making cookies and pies on the 135-acre dairy farm owned by Mark and Melody Stoltzfus, located along September Road, a deadend township road south of Honeybrook. The herd is comprised of about 65 mostly registered Holsteins that have a rolling herd average of 25,399 pounds milk. They keep about the same number of young stock. Mark's grandfather, also a dairy farmer, purchased the farm in 1948. Mark and Melody have six children, and two of their boys, aged 12 and 9, milk cows, while Mark's father Gideon frequently helps out with maintenance and field work, as well as teaching his grandchild-

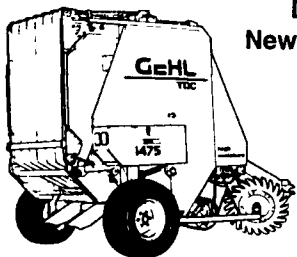
dren carpenter skills. The buildings sit in the middle of the farm property, and is back off the road somewhat. Cornfields reach out to the main road (Route 10), and looking back to the farm, the passerby can see the silos and the back of the 54-tie stall, white-painted bank barn. The house is a large 1872 Victorian house with an older section that is being restored. There's also a tobacco shed, a machine shop, a heifer barn, and a one-story 1970s-era turkey house with curtains that is currently being used for machine and hay storage. They make their own TMR and use a nutritionist. The meadow has some wetlands in it, and Melody said it provides aesthetic pleasure.

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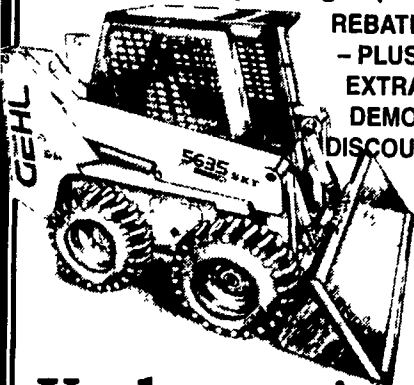
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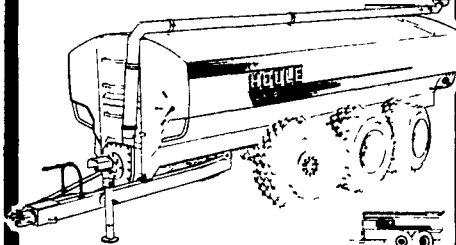
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