

MAULFAIR ACRES

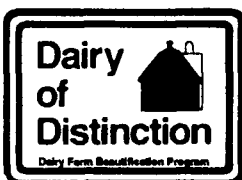


As a representative of the day-to-day dairy industry, the 250-acre Maulfair Acres dairy farm near Jonestown has perhaps more public exposure than many other one-family farms. Owned by Dale and Patie Maulfair, with three 4-H aged children — Jennifer, and Daryl, and David, 8, the farm sits in a wide hollow just north of the banks of the Swatara Creek. The east-west Jonestown Road courses along the northern bank-ridge of the Swatara, and from it, a narrow public road cuts down a hill and through the Maulfair Acres farmstead — between the farmhouse lawn and the barn and sheds. While the road appears to be more a farm lane than anything else, it has received its share of increased use with residential development and commuterism. Because of the road's non-public appearance, it can probably be assumed that many who use the road are familiar with the farm, though Dale said he still gets surprised now and then by a car coming around the garage. A residential development along the Jonestown Road provides a lot of neighbors for the Maulfairs, something that has affected the farming operation — sometimes badly,

but much has been good. Dale said that he has hired many development kids looking for summer work, and when his parents — Paul and Marion — lived at the farmhouse, Marion kept a small flock of layers and sold eggs on the honor system to the neighbors. His parents now live in the development, and his father is "semi-retired," coming down the hill to work everyday at the farm with feeding and field work and whatever else he can do to help Dale with the total 80 milking head of Holsteins and Ayrshires. The milking herd is split about evenly between the two dairy breeds. Dale said the Holsteins, about half registered, are averaging just under 26,000 pounds of milk, while the Ayrshires are right around 20,000. "(The Ayrshires) don't eat as much, they are smaller cows to begin with, but with the butterfat and protein they give you, I think if you sit down and figure it out, they're right there with the Holsteins," Dale said, adding that the Ayrshires are also "... what the wife and kids want to show, and we're lucky enough to have the second highest average in the state for Ayrshires, right behind the Gables."

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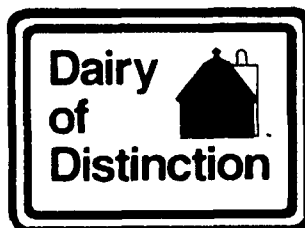
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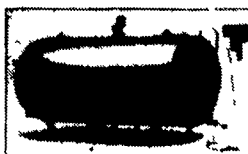


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