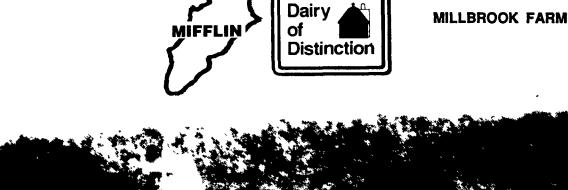


For the last 16 years this new Dairy of Distinction in Lycoming County has been in the Ulmer family. Charles and Bonnie Ulmer Jr. and their children Seth, 18; Sara, 17; and Rachel, 14; farm 600 acres north of Williamsport. They milk 60 Holsteins and have a corresponding number of helfers and calves.

Bonnie spends a lot of time caring for the cows and she likes

things neat and clean. Her flowers add a great touch to the appearance of the homestead too. Son Seth studied carpentry in high school and he has become quite proficient in building and fix-up projects that improve the place. With everyone working together, especially with the help of the children who Bonnie says they couldn't do without, the farming operation is successful.





Charles and Doreen Pent and their sons Charles and Daniel own Milibrook Farm located north of McVeytown in Mifflin County. They have a herd of registered Ayrshires they began on this new Dairy of Distinction farm four years ago after moving to Pennsylvania from Connecticut. Their 55 cows average 15,900 pounds of milk but are noticable high in protein and butterfat. In addition, the average cost to feed Ayrshires is just a little over half of what the other cows take on the county DHIA records.

The milking herd is housed in a tiestall barn with pipeline milkers and fed TMR. The young stock and dry cows are housed outside all year. The forage grown on the farm includes sudan/sorghum and peas/grass. These forages have higher protein content and show an increase in milk production when fed to the cows. Charles believes the dairy business will get better because many dairymen are leaving the business. But he still feels the government controls the price more than necessary.