

Quality Dairying Makes The Difference

David Bigelow
PA DHIA Marketing
Manager

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Outstanding somatic cell counts along with excellent production statistics are commonplace at Little Hill Farm in Lebanon County.

This third generation farm, which consists of 75 cows, averages 28,400 pounds of milk on the Holsteins, and maintains more than 23,000 pounds on the Brown Swiss herd. This is accomplished without BST on a 3x milking schedule.

Current outstanding somatic cell count on 58 Holsteins is 150,000 and 40,000 for 13 Brown Swiss.

Over the years, numerous production and quality awards have been earned by this high-achieving herd, including low somatic cell for Lebanon County in 1997 with 99,000, first place, 1997 county herd management award, and third place 1998 county herd management award.

This all-registered herd, situated on 150 acres, formed a part-

nership five years ago. The farm includes Rich Hill; Rich's sister, Terry; and Terry's husband, Kevin Shuey.

Having moved from Sussex County, New Jersey, in 1987, and later buying this farm from Rich's and Terry's father, the operators' good record keeping continues to be of utmost importance.

Consistent evaluation of the current ration, working hand-in-hand with Larry Beat of

Pennfield Feeds, and the constant review of herd health with veterinarian Brian Reed, are a reflection of excellent management skills.

Successful udder health practices include predip, postdip, using individual towels, and constantly scraping down manure, which makes for low tolerance of mastitis.

Today PA DHIA continues to provide services to this herd with Linda Genth, 10-year vet-

eran, providing the leg-work, which includes same-day test reports. The reports are used to monitor the last five-year steady climb in milk production. Terry is quick to point out that "relia-

bility, accuracy, and Linda Genth's personality, along with the same-day test cow reports, are great, winning managing tools.



dhia

Scott Williams
Training Coordinator

Call 1-800-DHI-TEST, fax (814) 365-3294
Web site <http://www.dhia.psu.edu>
Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association
DHIA Service Center, Orchard Road, University Park, PA 16802



Little Hill Farm, Lebanon County. From left, Kyle 3-1/2 years old, Kevin Shuey, and Terry Shuey holding Allison, 1-1/2 years old. Linda Genth, 10-year PA DHIA technician, shows same-day test results available through PA DHIA.

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October 1 thru November 6, 1999

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