

Ohio Offers Attractions For Holstein Enthusiasts

COLUMBUS, Oh.—The excitement is beginning to build with the approach of the 2000 National Holstein Convention to be held in Columbus, Ohio on June 29 through July 1, 2000.

The Ohio Holstein Association of over 1,200 members welcome fellow breeders and dairy cattle enthusiasts from across the United States and the world to visit some of the premier Holstein herds in the country. Whether your interest is index, type, large commercial, or show cattle, Ohio has selected a diverse group of herds for your inspection.

The other Host Day opportunity, attendees can visit several unique tourist attractions that are close in proximity to the convention center and give a special blend of nature, history, and chocolate treats.

The Logan County sightseeing tour will provide some very interesting attractions along with a stop at Select Sires for lunch. Ohio Caverns will be the first stop. The Caverns feature Ohio's largest and most colorful caverns that are still in the process of forming.

The next stop will be Mac-O-Chee castle, home of editor, writer, social critic, and diplomat Donn Piatt. The castle started as a Gothic rural retreat in the 1860's. The Mac-O-Chee castle is one of two castles owned by the Piatt brothers.

The final stop of this tour will be Marie's Candies located in West Liberty. Winfred King, who was struck with Polio in 1941, started the business. Winfred and his wife began giving candies as a way to express their gratitude to fellow farmers who aided their young

farm family. Today it is located in a restored train depot.

If attendees just can't get enough of the great Holstein cow while at home, they can join Ohio members in visiting a diverse group of Ohio's premier herds. Four Henry Holsteins are located just outside of West Liberty. They currently milk over 250 registered Holsteins in a four-year-old facility with a double 12 parallel parlor. Bob and Nyla Henry along with their sons Doug, Dean, and Mark have combined their efforts to establish a well-respected type and production herd with plans to expand in the near future. They are also proud of their grandchildren's Junior All-American nominations in 1998 and 1999.

Hickory Plains, owned by Randy and Jayne Rausch, are located 10 miles from Select Sires in Milford Center. The Hickory Plains prefix can be found on numerous bulls in the Holstein Red Book and continue to supply large A.I. demands from the foundation Pete Bubbles family.

Oakvale established the new family operation nearly five

years ago, after relocating from the heavily developed Columbus area. Dale and Jean King and daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law, Randy Finke are currently milking 45 cows after hosting the Oakvale Breeder's Invitational in 1999. The herd has a BAA of 110.2 with a Rolling Herd Average of over 23,000M. Oakvale, home of several All-American nominations.

Stan-Mar-Dale and Express Holsteins is located one hour west of Columbus. A family owned operation for 95 years. Dale and Marilyn Smith and daughter Kim and son-in-law Tony Broshes comprise Stan-Mar-Dale with partners Express Holsteins-Jeremy Adams and Cindy Howman. These partners have bred and developed 14 All-Ohio winners in 1998 and 1999 along with 4 Junior All-American nominations. They are also a Top a-Value Herd, Top 200 BAA herd-108.0, and a PBR Herd with a Rolling Herd Average over 22,000M. Cattle are housed in an older freestall barn with a four-year-old 14-Cow boxstall barn for foundation females.

Scientists Decode Genetic Makeup Of Rice

PARK RIDGE, Ill. — Scientists have decoded the genetic makeup of rice and will share the data with researchers around the world. The information will enable researchers to greatly accelerate the development of more nutritious and higher yielding rice.

The rice genome sequence is the first crop genome to be described in such technical detail, and will provide a new level of understanding of almost all the genes in rice.

A new gene sequencing approach produced the data primarily in the laboratories of Dr. Leroy Hood, at the University of Washington in, Seattle, under contract for Monsanto.

This information will provide countries and research institutions with the ability to accelerate development of improved types of rice. In the years ahead, rice with better nutritional value, greater yields, and more adaptable to seasons, climates and soils will be developed, both through traditional methods of crop improvement (breeding) and biotechnology.

This research may also lead to the development of rice varieties that require less environmental resources, including land and water, and utilize natural resources more effectively.

Monsanto's data will be made available to the International Rice Genome Sequencing Project (IRGSP), a 10-member consortium of rice genome sequencing projects around the world.

Mapping of the rice genome sequence is expected to lead to similar developments in other major crops such as corn and wheat.

Monsanto will make its data available to researchers outside the international rice sequencing program. "We want to facilitate and encourage basic research to improve rice and other crops. This is a concrete example of our support for global agricultural research," said Hendrik Verfaillie, president of Monsanto Company. No fees will be charged to scientists for the use of this information, he said.

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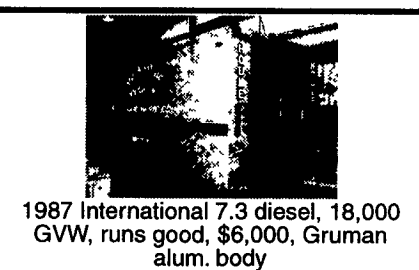
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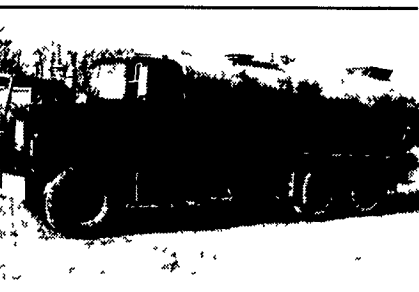
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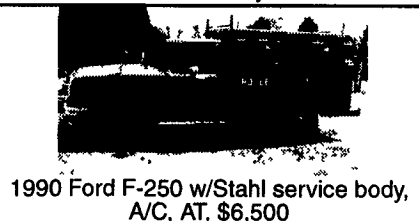
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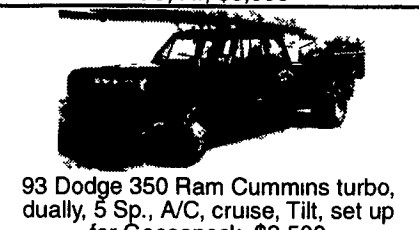
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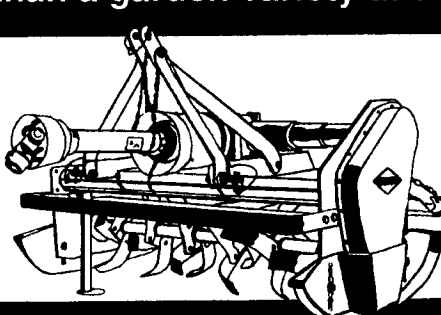


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