

Somerset County Jerry-Mill Farms



Mildred Berkebile with son Galen and his family manage Jerry-Mill Farms near Somerset with a herd of 80 Holsteins on about 400 acres.

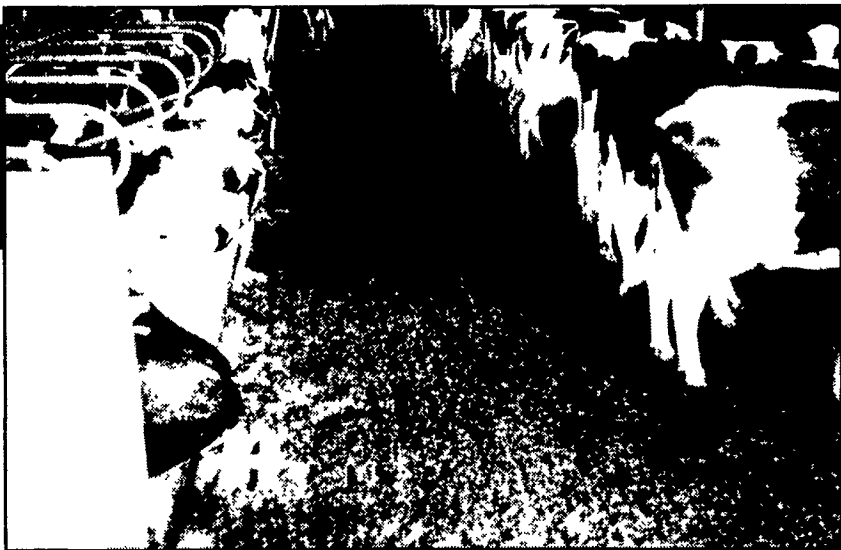
The Berkebiles grow hay, corn, and oats on the farm, including feed for the milking herd.

When it comes to who does the work to keep the farm grounds neat and pretty, Galen's wife Brenda said, "We all do." That includes children Dorsey, 12, and Chelsey, 8.

Jerry-Mill Farms was named by combining the name of Mildred's late husband, Jerry, and her own.



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"We would use slats again if doing it all over!"



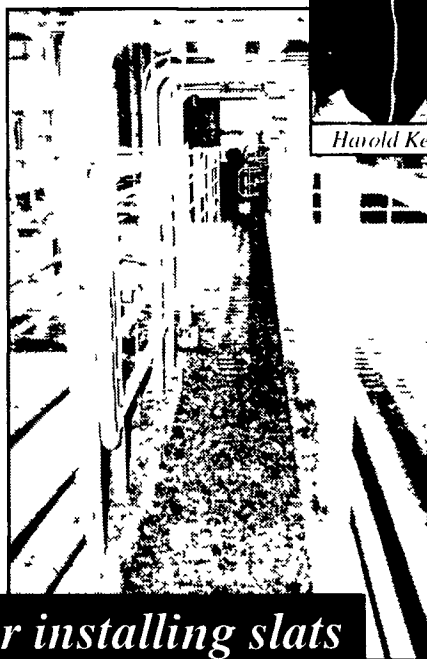
Harold Keeney, David, Nancy & Mark Wolfskill

Our original plan was to install scrapers. But after 10 minutes in a slatted barn in Somerset County, we changed our minds. Some people stay away from slats because of the initial cost, but that extra cost is made up for in the first couple years.

The one thing I like the most about slats is that there is no expense. I don't have any scrapers or drive units to maintain. I don't have to run scrapers every day or haul manure like we did in

our previous tie stall barn. The cows' foot health has been a lot better, and the cows stay much cleaner. Our milk production is up and the somatic cell count has gone down. I give at least some of the credit to the slats because with less moisture on the floor, there is less bacteria.

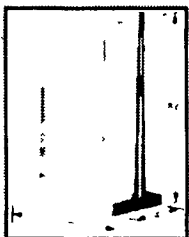
-David Wolfskill



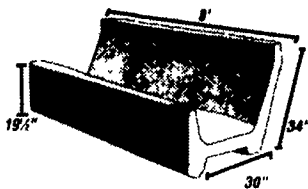
"The answer to the most common question is 'No, there is no build-up.'"

Thank you, Wolfskills, for installing slats

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