

# 'Seven Blessings'

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which includes haylage/silage, high moisture corn, with a supplement protein and soybean meal.

"Good feed and cow comfort are big things," said Martin. "Good feed is key. You can tell the difference early on."

Martin noted that mattresses in the stalls improve herd health. Some of the cattle are pastured in a exercise area.

Gene Martin supplies all feed, except the supplements. Dwight and Charlene have been farming at the Schoeneck location for about two and a half years. Dwight is from a dairy farm in Springville.

Milk prices began to improve back in May. And when the addition to the cow barn is complete, there'll be room for about 120-130 cows.

Gene also feeds about 4,500 beef cattle, maintains a flock of pullets, and also crop-farms about 2,000 acres in the area.

The Martins' other children also farm. Steve farms near Schaefferstown, Dan helps with herd health, and other children help around the farm as needed.

Gene noted that he enjoys the lifestyle of farming. Working with the family all day in the farm business, he said, is the "greatest benefit."

## Dairy Tour Oct. 24-25

TOWANDA (Bradford Co.) — AgChoice Farm Credit, Monsanto Dairy, and Bedford Farm Bureau/Purina Mills, Inc. have organized a "Dairy Improvement Tour" Oct. 24 and 25.

A tour bus will carry a load of dairy producers up to the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania.

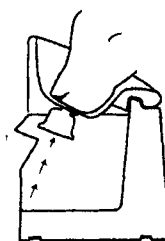
If you are interested in visiting some progressive dairy operations that have re-tooled their facilities to improve profitability, then this Dairy Improvement Tour is a "must do."

The tour will take you into eight different farms in Bradford and Potter counties. Each farm is unique and offers practical ideas that you can put to work at home. All eight farms have modernized their facilities within the past three years. Each operation is highly efficient and has put into practice many up-to-date management procedures and technological systems for you to observe.

For a copy of the complete itinerary and to secure a seat on the bus, contact any of the following: Dan Brogdon, AgChoice Farm Credit, (814) 793-3783; Jeff Harding, Monsanto Dairy, (814) 466-3366; or Ben Wilson, Bedford Farm Bureau, (814) 839-4477.

There are only 40 seats available and they are filling up fast, so claim your spot early.

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