

## Florida Horse Sends Sunshine

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will train at Penn National Race Course for the summer. Jogging 3-4 furlongs a day three to four days a week will build stamina, said Minnich.

Additionally a speed workout about once a week will ready Wild Kipper to race in the fall in Philadelphia, Saratoga, or Belmont, "it depends on how far along we are with him and how he looks," said Minnich.

"I told the trainer after the Derby, 'next year we're going down to the Derby and we're going to show them how it's done,'" said Minnich. "That's just wishful thinking but hey, you never know."



Above, Royal Ticket is one of Minnich's racing string. At right, Minnich has big hopes for yearling "Iron Princess."



## Conservation Successful At Schertel Farm

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measures to protect the stream from the erosion and pollution that was occurring from the cattle. The cattle would do most of their grazing in the area of the stream where the grass was lush and water was plentiful. By constructing stream bank fencing with a livestock stream crossing, they have protected almost a half-mile of the stream.

Prior to protection of the stream, the cattle had unlimited access and would cross, lounge, and drink wherever they wanted. The quality of the water they drank naturally was not in the best interests of the animals' health. By erecting permanent fencing along the stream, 15 feet on both sides is now off-limits to the cattle and protected from erosion and pollution.

Along with the installation of stream bank fencing, a livestock stream crossing was constructed by installing six hog slats, 20 tons of 2B stone, and geotextile fabric to protect the streambed by providing a stable surface for the cattle to use

when crossing the stream.

At first Schertel was concerned that the herd seemed hesitant to cross at the designated area, but that concern was short lived as they became accustomed to the new surroundings.

The Schertel family has already noticed the results of their efforts. Where once the stream was suffering from the free access of the cattle, there is now a pristine stream, not only providing a cleaner and safer source of water for their cattle but also feeding into the nearby creek used by hundreds of people for fishing, recreation, and sources of drinking water to nearby cities.

Water samples taken before and after construction of the conservation methods show a dramatic improvement in the water quality. While the improvement at test site #1 went from 50 colonies of fecal coliform bacteria per 100 milliliters to 45 colonies per 100 milliliters, the results of test site #2 and #3 were quite impressive. Fecal coliform bacteria are used as an indicator of the sanitary quality of the water. Results of

test site #2 improved from 355 colonies per 100 milliliters to 52 colonies per 100 milliliters. Even more impressive were the results of test site #3 with 1,390 colonies per 100 milliliters, which decreased to less than one colony of fecal coliform per 100 milliliters. One can readily see the physical improvements of the area; however, test results are further verification that protective measures to eliminate or control erosion and pollution are effective.

The Schertels also noticed that since the cattle now graze the slopes of the valley instead of only the bottom area, not only is the vegetation being better managed but also the manure is spread throughout the pasture instead of being concentrated and flowing into the stream.

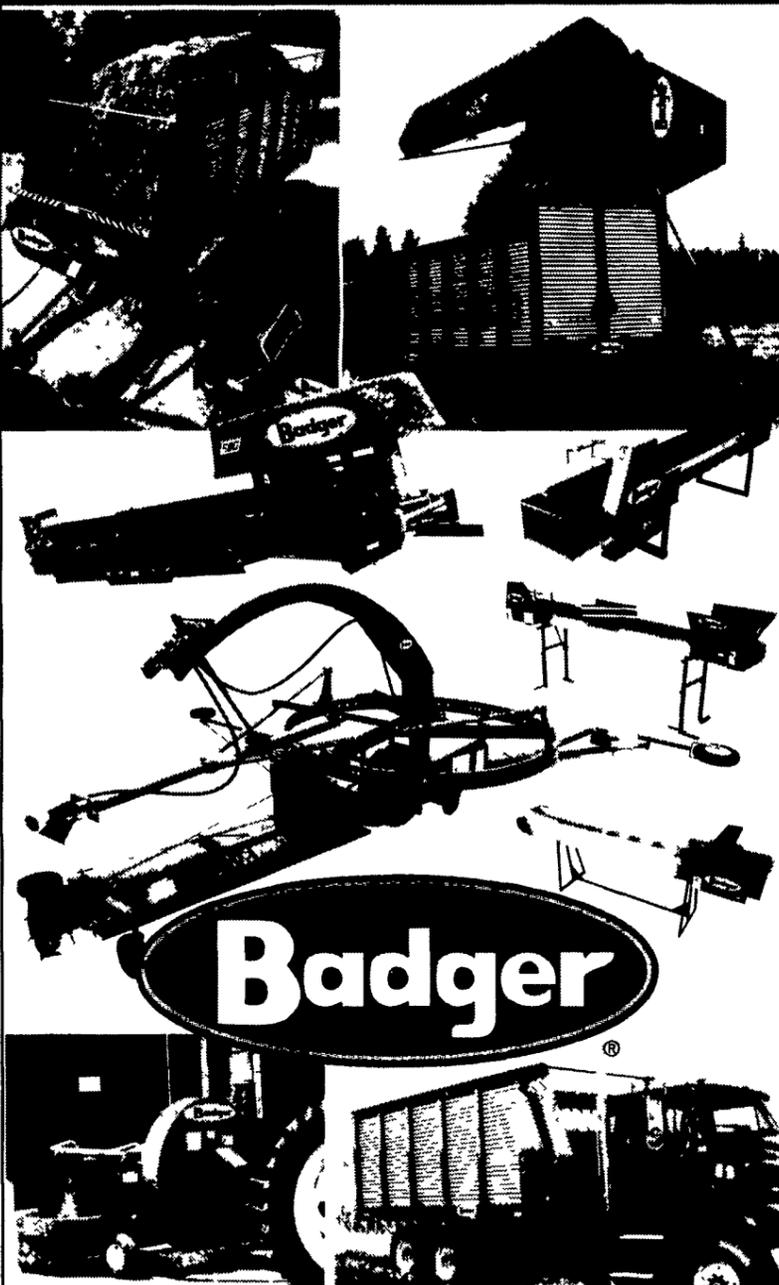
As a further measure of improving the drinking water quality, the Schertels installed a livestock watering system using the now-clean stream as the source of water. They use a one-half horsepower pump and one inch PVC pipe to pump

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The roofed feedlot erected by the Schertel family to manage runoff from rain and melting snow is attached to an existing Quonset shelter used as a bedding area for their cow-calf herd.

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