"With POSILAC 1 STEP® we see more two-year-olds over 100 pounds, and they come back strong."

At Bel-Ridge Farm, in Paradise, Pa --"Fairy" is a favorite. After 200 days, she is still milking 100 lbs/day and is confirmed safe in calf

The motto at Bel-Ridge Farm in Paradise, Pa. is: "beg milk from the cow, don't force it," says the farm owner and manager. The combination of cow comfort, attention to forage quality, and POSILAC 1 STEP® have coaxed the Bel-Ridge herd of about 50 cows from an RHA of 18,000 pounds to 27,000 pounds of milk.

In fact, the production increase made it necessary to replace the 600-gallon bulk tank with a tank that holds 1000.

"We can really see the results," the Bel-Ridge owner and manager explains. "When we gave the herd a more comfortable cow stable and POSILAC in 1997 -- the average came up real fast."

"We see more of our two-year-olds milking over 100 pounds than we used to. And in their second lactation they're coming back strong. Our culling and conception rates are as good or better than before POSILAC. We focus a lot of attention on forage quality because forages are the biggest key to cow health and reproduction."

"In the heat of summer, our cows are tested pretty hard. POSILAC does its part helping the cows maintain intake and production. And we have to do our

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part managing them. Appetites really pick up, so we make the extra effort to keep fresh feed in front of the cows, especially in the summer."

"POSILAC also makes it profitable to keep a cow that has aborted because her production stays high enough to keep milking her. We had a first calf heifer fresh 620 days. She made more than 50,000 pounds of milk for us. Because of POSILAC we could keep her and breed her again, and she came back to make 30,000 pounds in her second lactation, and now she's safe in calf for a third lactation. POSILAC extended that first lactation, so we could give her another chance."

"POSILAC pays even when milk prices are low. We don't change our herd management in times of lower prices. We look for other ways to keep our cost of production down. We have to keep things in place that keep production up and keep the cash flow."



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