

# Diamond Farms

## Smithfield, Fayette County



Alvin and Pauline Diamond and their sons Louis and Paul are partners in this 300-plus milking Holstein operation on the western foothills of the Allegheny Mountains. The cows are housed in a freestall barn and milked in a double-10 parlor. The Diamonds grow 400 total acres of corn, alfalfa, and grass hay to supply about half the herd's forage needs, and buy the remainder from a neighboring farmer.

Alvin started dairying here in 1957. His father had been a steel mill

worker.

The herd today includes 90 cows owned by employee Joe Harim. According to Louis Diamond, the family is looking for more animals to fill the 500-cow capacity freestall and milking setup, "even if they come with a person."

The Diamonds recently hired a full-time veterinarian, Damien Lettieri from Argentina.

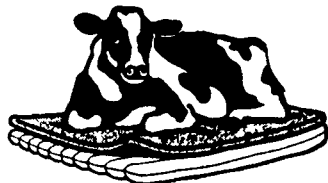
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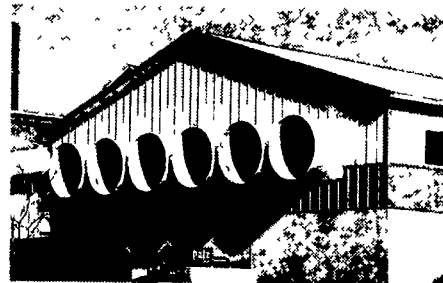


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