

Cattle Change Carteret County Farm Scene

Bayside Farms, Crab Point, Produces Registered Holstein-Friesian Cattle

Like a color picture out of a farm magazine, Bayside Farms, Crab Point, sparkles in white and green grandeur before the eyes of the visitor. By the broad waters of Newport river, on level pastures graze registered Holstein-Friesian cattle.

The largest dairy farm in Carteret county, Bayside Farms, owned and managed by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Blair, has attained state-wide recognition and prominence in the short period from January 1951 when it was changed over from a truck farm to a milk-producing enterprise.

Prizes Won

Three of Blair's black and white beauties walked off with blue ribbons at the state fair at Raleigh in October. A two-year-old won first prize; senior and grand championship went to an age cow, and a senior yearling won first prize and junior champion.

For the grand championship two of the Blair Holsteins were competing against each other. Nothing like keeping it in the family!

The late Dr. R. H. Ruffner of State college, Raleigh, obtained Bayside's first 15 Holsteins from Pennsylvania. The herd now totals 60. An atmosphere of sadness prevailed as the Blairs and their right-hand man, Reuben Willing, manager, got the animals ready for the showing for Dr. Ruffner passed away the day before the cattle were entered. He would have been proud of those animals from the newly-established dairy farm.

Forty-eight of Bayside's 300 acres are in ladino pasture. As the herd increases, more land is cleared and put into pasture, the formula for efficient operating being one acre of pasture for each milk-producing cow. Last year approximately 30 acres were cleared by dynamiting.

The herd yields daily 150 gallons of milk which is sold to White's dairy in Morehead City. Mechanical milkers drink up the milk from the cows at 5 each morning and 4:30 each evening, yes, Sunday too. Cows walk up a ramp to the three-stanchion "milking parlor" where two are milked while the third munches her daily quota of grain. At present 32 head are being milked. A certain number always stand dry. The routine is 10 months of milk-giving, then two months of rest in preparation for bearing the next calf.

For one and a half months after a calf is born it is kept in the "nursery" barn in wooden pens raised off the floor to allow complete drainage and comfort. Until five months of age it stays in a box stall, larger quarters, and from five to 12 months is turned into the exercise yard. At one year it goes into the pasture and is ready for breeding at 18 months.

Charlie Performs

Charlie, the bull, is quite a specimen of roaring virility. All the cows know him as Charlie but when he's on show, the program reads "Wisconsin Aristocrat Ideal."

Charlie's special pen is of heavy posts sunk in concrete. Over his inside stall is an apartment guest house, designed for housing buyers who come to the farm planning to purchase cattle.

Records Kept

A record is kept of each cow. Because the marking on every Holstein is different, like human finger prints, a plotting of their markings is made on each individual record. Mrs. Blair keeps the "books" and statistics on each animal make gov-

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Symbol of the new Carteret county is the dairy cow. Producing purebred Holstein-Friesians are Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Blair, viewing one of their prize milk-producers at Bayside Farms, Crab Point. Equally proud of the animals is Reuben Willing, herd manager, right. (Photo by Jerry Schumacher)

B. J. May, PMA Secretary, Defends Payment of Agriculture Subsidies

B. J. May, county PMA secretary, today released information on agriculture subsidies. May's statement, explaining subsidies, follows:

Recent attacks on farmer subsidies in the form of ACP payments for part of the cost of carrying out soil building measures on the farm and charges that subsidies are un-American, have prompted friends of the soil to prepare a few facts on use of subsidies in America and these are published here for the benefit of the public. We who work with the farmers and help to administer the farm program, would like the general public to know the full story of subsidies.

Are "subsidies" un-American? In searching for an answer to this question the following facts were developed:

1. Many of our original thirteen colonies were planted on land

granted as a subsidy by the king of England to a company or individual for real or expected favors received or for personal friendship. Examples of this are Maryland and Pennsylvania.

2. British Parliament gave subsidies to American colonial industries to encourage production of naval supplies such as tar, pitch and turpentine. Some colonial assemblies gave subsidies to encourage production of hemp, sail-cloth, indigo and linen.

3. One of the first laws passed by U. S. Congress was a tariff which have indirect subsidy to American manufacturers through price protection it afforded by keeping out foreign competition.

4. Postal subsidies were granted to special types of mail early in history of U. S. Postal Service. Much of press crying out against

farm subsidies still enjoys these benefits. Post Office Department deficit 1950 fiscal year amounted to 521 million dollars all represented by subsidies of one type or another.

5. Development subsidies were granted to American railroads in the form of 158 million acres of land — an area almost equal to the state of Texas.

6. Subsidies have been granted to states for many years for construction of roads and highways.

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Artificial Breeding Pays Off

Does artificial breeding give good results?

A Union county farmer, Bradley Reid of route 3, Waxhaw, has an answer to that question.

According to T. C. Blalock, dairy specialist for the State College Extension service, Reid owns a grade Guernsey heifer that resulted from artificial breeding to the registered Guernsey bull Beechwood Ruler.

She was in turn bred artificially and freshened at exactly two years of age. In 305 days on twice daily milking, she produced 8,350 pounds of milk and 377 pounds of butterfat.

"This is truly outstanding production for a first calf heifer and represents almost twice the total amount of milk produced by the average cow in North Carolina," comments Blalock.

Another dairyman, Gordon Baker of Catawba county, has two Guernsey heifers from artificial breeding that recently freshened, both with heifer calves. The first heifer to freshen, sired by Elmcrest Peter Grey, is producing more than 28 pounds of milk a day, while the other heifer, sired by Priscilla's Fashion Duke, is averaging more than 34 pounds of milk per day. Both of these animals are producing as much milk as their dams, and Baker is sure they'll soon be outmilking them.

Specialist Blalock points out that it takes the same amount of time and money to raise a heifer from a poor bull as it does from a good one. He believes artificial breeding will do much to raise average milk production in the state from its present low level of 4,600 pounds per cow annually.

Newport FFA Boys Learn To Grow Trees as Crop

Newport FFA boys are learning to grow trees as a crop by caring for their own 10-acre plot of longleaf pine on the Nine-Foot road about a mile from Newport.

The property was obtained through the federal government and the state division of forestry and parks. Soon a rustic sign will be erected there reading: "Demonstration Forest, Managed by Newport Chapter, Future Farmers of America, Property of Croatan National Forest."

The project was started just last year when the FFA chapter was given a special use permit and is the first experiment of its type the Newport FFA boys have ever undertaken.

One thousand longleaf pine seedlings were planted last year and are now about a foot high. The boys regularly visit the plot, clearing out undesirable trees and carrying out suggestions and advice given them by their advisor, C. S. Long and district forest rangers.

The number of dairy cows in Carteret county has doubled during the past 10 years and beef cattle on Carteret farms comprise a scene that would amaze a visitor returning to these parts after an absence of just five years.

Agriculture leaders and specialists attribute the entry of cattle on the Carteret picture to the establishment of permanent pasturelands. At one time the growing of pasture which would withstand the tugging and constant chawing of feeding bovines was believed an impossibility on this loose, sandy loam.

Ladino clover and Kentucky fescue grass has changed that, and thus the county's broad level reaches of land are being cleared of scrub pine, tangleweed, and brush. With the opening of broad ranges came the picturesque brown and white Herefords while on other farms the milk-producing breeds are bringing in a year-round income to the farmer who formerly depended solely on seasonal crops.

John Smith, near Sea Level, is clearing land each year to provide more grazing space for beef cattle. Thomas Oglesby, Crab Point, Roland Salter, Bettie, and Gib Farrow, have also gone into the beef cattle business and each purchased a purebred Hereford bull during the past year. Cecil Morris, Atlantic, has entered beef-producer ranks also.

Leading the county in the production of dairy cattle at the moment are the Crab Point and Wildwood sections. Herds upward of 20 head are producing milk on the Dennis Turner farm west of Morehead City, on the H. L. Joslyn farm, the Rufus Oglesby, J. T. Oglesby, and W. J. Blair farms, Crab Point.

Rufus Oglesby and Robert Laughton supervise the dairy herd operations on the Joslyn farm. Joslyn maintained the farm as a milk-producing enterprise until world war II when labor became scarce and the herd had to be sold. The Oglesby-Laughton cows are Guernsey.

Last year Rufus Oglesby purchased 12 more cows for his herd which was begun in 1950, and J. T. Oglesby, who has had dairy cattle for quite a few years added six more to his herd in 1951.

Establishment of a dairy calf chain in the county has aroused interest in dairy cattle on the part of 4-H boys and during the past two years prizes on the dairy calves were won at the fall shows at Wilmington.

Members of the chapter are Harlan Carraway, Henry Clement, Jack Farrow, Spence Garner, Larry Howard, Sheldon Howard, Floyd Hardesty, Jimmy Kelly, Ernest Willis, Ronnie Kelly.

Ronnie Garner, Carlton Lewis, Ralph Simmons, Ronald Chadwick, Wally Chapman, Gerry Garner, Howard Garner, Clarence Hardison, Aubrey Mason, Ray McCain.

Harry Rivers, Larry Smith, Billy Wigen, John B. Allen, Keith Godwin, Albert Murdoch, Billy Rowe, Gaston Simmons, Gilbert Slaughter, and William Small.

Princess Victoria 29th, a heifer bred by Greene Pastures farms of Elizabethtown, is the new grand champion of the Polled Hereford section of the Southwestern Fat Stock show, held recently at Fort Worth, Texas. Princess is now owned by M. P. Moore of Senatobia, Miss., who bought her at a sale at Statesville last spring.