

## Why Treat A Dry Cow?

These days, the unlucky number for a dairyman is 10 not 13.

When a dairy plant test shows that milk in a dairyman's bulk tank has a leukocyte (white blood cell) count of 10 or higher he knows that some of the cows in his herd probably have mastitis — the industry's nightmare.

The figure 10 indicates an actual leukocyte level of 1,000,000. Dairy plant mastitis test results are usually reported back to a dairyman by numbers 1 through 10, with five zero's omitted from the actual count.

Mastitis, most frequently caused by a bacterial infection of the udder, is estimated to cost producers anywhere from \$250 million to \$500 million a year, counting discarded milk, loss of cows, cost of treatment, and loss of production from permanently damaged tissues.

Controlling and treating mastitis is a year-round chore. The chief causative organisms, staphylococcus and streptococcus, better known as staph and strep, are everywhere.

Recently, there's been much interest in treating for mastitis while the cow is dry, and with good reason. When cows are treated while dry, there is no need to discard marketable milk.

Last spring, the virtues of dry cow therapy were explained at a series of meetings in key dairy states. Various aspects of the mastitis problem were covered by representatives of milking machine manufacturers, drug makers and other specialists. Many more such sessions are planned for 1970.

"A dairyman may be reluctant at first to treat a disease which may appear minor at the moment, particularly at a time when his cows aren't paying their own freight because they aren't producing milk," says Dr. Thomas G. Schalk, Manager for Animal Health



A case of chronic mastitis. Disease costs U.S. dairymen at least \$250 million a year (USDA photo).

Research and Development at TUCO, one of the co-sponsors of the spring meetings.

Beyond the fact that milk needn't be discarded, Dr. Schalk said dry cow treatment has these other advantages:

- Higher levels of antibiotics can be administered economically without discarding milk.
- The size and activity of the udder is reduced, meaning that higher concentrations of antibiotics are attained per gram of tissue.
- Since the cow isn't being milked, special formulations which stay in the udder longer than in a lactating animal may be used.

Many dairymen, observing cows with signs of mastitis, immediately after freshening, have assumed they were new infections. Actually, the disease may be inapparent and carried throughout the dry period, which is why TUCO tailor-made a preparation, Biodry, specifically for dry cows.

Mastitis control experts generally appear to feel that dry cow mastitis therapy is essential to a sound management program. Some say it may help to reduce the mastitis infection rate in lactating cows by 80 to 90 per cent.

"If there's any doubt as to the extent of mastitis infection in the herd, or the best method for dealing with it, a veterinarian should be contacted," Dr. Schalk said.

## Homeowners Insurance Has Personal Liability Plan

A visitor breaks a leg after tripping over the toy your child left on your front steps.

The broken lamp you throw in the trash can might arouse a person's curiosity enough that he rummages around cutting his hand severely, leaving you liable under an "attractive nuisance" ruling.

Or when golfing, your wild shot could inflict injury on a playing partner or spectator (it happened to a prominent public figure during a televised tournament recently).

Chances are that none of these tragedies, common as they are, will befall you. But if they should and you are judged liable by a court, you will be glad to know that personal liability is one of several coverages of your homeowners insurance policy, the Insurance Information Institute points out.

If a suit is brought against you, your insurance company will pay the legal costs of defending you. Furthermore, if it is agreed by the parties involved, or decided by a court, that you are legally liable, your insurance company will pay the damages assessed up to the limits stated in your policy.

The Institute states that the minimum limit for each form of the homeowners policy is \$25,000, but larger amounts can be purchased.

Another important coverage in all homeowners policies is medical payments, in which medical expenses for those who incur injuries on your property are paid regardless of fault up to the limits of your policy.

Since these expenses are designed to cover minor acci-

dents, the amount of protection is normally limited to \$500, although higher limits may be purchased.

And finally, an important supplementary coverage of all homeowners policies covers minor damage that you or someone in your family might cause accidentally to another person's property, regardless of who is at fault.

Damage caused by children not over 12 years old is covered whether accidental or intentional. The maximum amount of coverage for one incident is \$250. Other supplementary coverages include first aid expenses and the cost of bail bonds up to \$250.

"Most policyholders think in terms of protecting against loss or damage to the property and its contents when purchasing homeowners insurance, but these additional coverages can save a family from hardship," Institute spokesman concluded.

## Land Bank Institute

Jacob F. Grigg, assistant manager, and Jennings Carland, Jr., fieldman of the Federal Land Bank Association of Asheville, have just returned from Columbia, S.C., where they attended an advanced management development institute, according to J. Simpson, manager of the association.

"The institute was conducted to keep Land Bank association personnel abreast of the latest developments and techniques in modern management," Simpson said.

The institute was conducted by the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, S.C. in cooperation with Gus W. Campbell Associates of New York, a management consultant firm. Instructors were Gus Campbell; R. A. Darr, president; Frank L. Barton, vice president and secretary; and W. M. Harding, vice president.

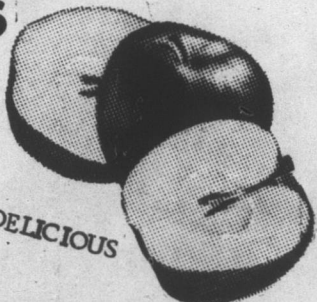
"The Federal Land Bank of Columbia makes long-term agricultural loans through the farmer-owned Federal Land Bank Associations serving every county in the two Carolinas, Georgia and Florida," Simpson said. "The Bank has loans outstanding to over 41,000 farmers, growers and ranchers in the amount of over \$647 million through the 46 Land Bank associations in the four-state district."

Some of the more important topics presented during the institute included developing leadership ability, maximizing management potential and speaking effectively.

The Federal Land Bank Association of Asheville serves the long-term credit needs of 1,000 farmers, growers and ranchers in twelve Western counties with more than \$11,500,000 in long-term credit.

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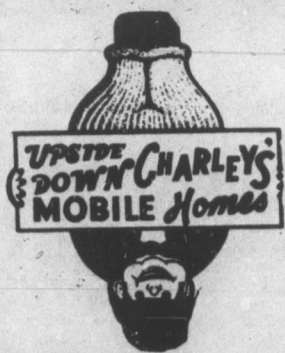
### Student Teacher

Miss Patricia Letterman, daughter of James E. Letterman of Green Mountain, Route 1, is teaching home economics at Hall Fletcher junior high, Asheville, under the supervision of Mrs. Virginia Keeling.

Miss Letterman is one of the 74 students which the Mars Hill College education department placed as practice teachers in 39 public schools from Eden west to Lake Junaluska.

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### Attendance Important

The Yancey County School System will complete our seventh month of school on April 3, 1970.

The total enrollment in Yancey County at the beginning of the school year was 2718. The total membership at the end of the seventh month is 2664. There has been a total of 52 students that have dropped out of school this year.

The Average Daily attendance for the schools this year (not counting contagious sickness and absence due to bad weather) is as follows:

Bald Creek Elem.	236.7
Bee Log Elem.	205.6
Burnsville Elem.	450.1
Cane River H.S.	359.4
Clearmont Elem.	214.1
East Yancey H.S.	392.3
Micaville Elem.	288.8
Pensacola Elem.	76.5
South Toe Elem.	188.2

Average Daily Attendance is the means by which our teachers are allotted to the county by officials in Raleigh