

Alcus W. Powell Owns And Operates Dairy At Mystery Farm Number 41

Thirty-five gallons of milk a day is the normal amount shipped from Mystery Farm Number 41, located just over the hill from Sigley's Dairy, east of Columbia and just a short distance north of Highway 24. Alcus W. Powell is the owner of this farm.

Powell married Donnie Baughman in 1933, on April 11. They have two daughters, Betty Jane and Patsy.

Betty Jane attended school at Improve. Last summer she married Kenneth Sauls. Kenneth is in the Marine Corps. They live at Jacksonville, N. C. Kenneth recently returned from a trip to Iceland.

Mrs. Powell said she had a letter from Kenneth Friday which said they would leave December 10 to

come home for a stay of nearly a month. She is looking forward to seeing Kenneth and Betty Jane. They have not been home since they were married and it seems a long time since August 22 to Mrs. Powell.

While in school at Improve High, Betty Jane was a member of both the 4-H Club and the Future Homemakers of America. Mrs. Powell says she was very interested in home-making projects.

Patsy is in the fifth grade at Improve and her mother says she is making straight A's. Patsy's hobby is reading. This is her first year to be a member of the 4-H Club and she enjoys it immensely. She is working on some sewing projects at this time.

The radio at the Powell home stays on most of the time, but it isn't tuned to the Hillbilly Hayride program when Patsy gets home from school in the afternoons it doesn't take her long to turn the dial.

The Powells belong to the Improve Baptist church. Mrs. Powell is a member of the Enon Home Demonstration Club. She says she enjoys the meetings very much and hates to miss one. She stated that she learns a lot at the club meetings and thinks every woman should belong to a club if at all possible.

Mrs. Powell was baking a fruit cake for Christmas when the reporter visited her Friday morning and gave her the aerial photograph

of Mystery Farm Home Number 41.

There are 22 Jerseys living and working on Mystery Farm Number 41. Fifteen of these are milking at the present time, but more will freshen in December to replace those that are dropping off in their milk supply. Mrs. Powell stated.

The Powells try to hold their milk production to a steady amount year around. This is the way to get the most money from your dairying enterprise because a spring flood of milk is not worth as much as a steady amount that takes advantage the whole year of the base built in the fall. Mrs. Powell stated.

Mr. Powell made between four and five hundred barrels of corn this year. He had gone to the feed mill to have corn crushed and mixed with other feeds when we visited the farm. Nearly all the feed stuff used on this dairy farm is produced at home. This holds down the expenses.

Mr. Powell began dairying about five years ago, when he was asked by a local processor to start in the dairy business and sell to him. The dairy barn was built at this time.

The pasture program began when Mr. Powell figured that everything grown at home would cut expenses and everything gathered by the cows would lessen the work of feeding them.

Ten of the eighty acres that make up this farm are in timber. A large part of the farm is in permanent pasture. Mrs. Powell stated, because Mr. Powell believes that a large part of a dairy feeding program should be built around permanent pastures.

Permanent pastures work well in a soil conservation program. Mr. Powell has used soil testing quite extensively. It is an important part of any fertilizing that is done.

Mystery Farm Number 41 is electrified. Electricity pumps the water, milks the cows, heats the house, cooks, irons, operates the deep freeze and does other odd jobs.

Mrs. Powell says a lot has happened since they moved in their house 12 years ago. Thanksgiving day their farm has seen much improvement since then and the Powells are enjoying farm life as it is lived at Mystery Farm Home Number 41.



MR. FARMER —

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