

The Tuttle Farm has been in the same family since Charles I was King of England. IN SAME FAMILY FOR 10 GENERATIONS

Oldest Farm In America

Many North American farms have been in one family for several generations, but imagine one that's been in the same family for 10 generations.

That's how long the Tuttle Farm near Dover, N.H., has been in Hugh Tuttle's family. After 363 years, it's reportedly the oldest farm in North America - and possibly the Western Hemisphere - to remain in the hands of one family, according to historians.

"People come from all over the U.S., Canada and Mexico - even Europe - to buy fresh vegetables and canned goods at our roadside store. 'Life' magazine even did a 10-page spread on us in 1974," Hugh Tuttle told FARM SHOW.

"Our farm has been transferred exclusively from father-to-son ever since John Tuttle first settled here in 1632 with a land grant for 15 acres from Charles I of England."

Hugh Tuttle now raises 18 different vegetable crops on the 245-acre farm, which is home to 12 greenhouses. Home-grown fresh vegetables represent only about 5% of what the Tuttles sell at their year-around roadside store, however. In addition, they sell ornamental plants. And their recently expanded store, called the Red Barn, now also features a deli and bakery. Another expansion is in the works to handle all the traffic the place attracts.

"It's become a pretty complex business, nothing like farming was when the Tuttles planted their first crop," notes Tuttle, who's "semi-retired" but still handles the planting and harvesting chores.

Son William Penn Tuttle III, and daughters Rebecca and Lucy, are slated to take over the farm when Tuttle retires. That'll be the 11th generation of Tuttles on the farm, and there are undoubtedly a couple of farmers among the members of the 12th generation who have already been born, says Hugh's wife Joan.

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The iron horse rolling ride can hold as many as 25 kids at a time.

OFFSET HUBS GIVE 21-FT. RIDE A HORSE-TYPE ACTION

"Galloping" Parade Float Popular With Children

Kids who live in and around Jacksonville, Ill., got a treat last summer when the Classic Iron Club of Greene County built a firstof-its-kind mechanical horse ride float and brought it to the local antique tractor show. Named "Old Iron", the rolling ride can



Wolf-dogs are large, powerful animals. Males sometimes weigh over 200 lbs.

"THE BEST DOG YOU COULD EVER OWN"

"Wolf-Dogs" Make Great Farm Pets

If you're looking for an unusual pet, you may want to take a close look at buying a wolf-hybrid which is a cross between a wolf and dog, says J.D. Hooker, of Kendallville, Ind., who breeds wolf-German Sheperd hybrids for sale.

"If you spend a lot of time with them when they're small, you'll end up with the best dog you could ever own," says Hooker.

Breeders consider a wolf-hybrid to be any species of wolf bred with any breed of domestic dog. The most common crosses are between wolves and German Shepherds, though other breeds, such as Malamutes or Huskies, have been used. Since there are 32 subspecies of wolf, there are many varieties of hybrids.

"The wolf-hybrid has a finer sense of scent than even a bloodhound. Some wolf-hybrids we've sold are now serving as drug, explosive, or poison locators, cadaver dogs, tracking dogs, lost child locaters, etc. The jaw strength of wolf-hybrids and their control over jaw power is almost unbelievable. They can chew up a big beef bone like it was a dog biscuit. Yet they can carry an egg without leaving the slightest mark."

Wolf-shepherd hybrids are very adaptable and can make themselves at home under most circumstances, but they aren't for everyone, says Hooker. "They're very large, powerful animals. My males average about 150 lbs. with some of the largest ones weighing over 200 lbs. Females are generally a little lighter and faster."

According to Hooker, the wolf is a highly social animal, and the wolf-hybrid thrives on companionship, play, and training. "It can't do well without a lot of attention, especially when it's young and imma-



It's important to spend a lot of time with wolf-dogs, starting at birth.

ture. If you can't spend at least a few hours each day with it, I strongly advise you to consider some other type of dog. The neglected animal will become totally unpredictable, alternately cowardly and vicious, unreliable, a danger to everyone and everything, unfit for any purpose, and miserable."

For speed, stamina, and endurance, wolf-German Shepherd hybrids are nearly impossible to outclass, says Hooker. "Most females can hit bursts of over 40 mph for short distances. Even the largest and heaviest males can easily cover 100 miles in a day without over tiring. They're also very intelligent. There's about as much difference in intelligence between the wolf-German Shepherd hybrid and a normal dog as there is between Einstein and the average person."

Hooker sells wolf-hybrid pups for \$250 each.

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hold as many as 25 kids at a time. What makes it fun is that the wheels mount on offset hubs so it has a realistic galloping horse movement to it.

Bob Lamb, who runs a welding shop in Greenfield, Ill., built the float for the Classic Iron Club and warns that you must have a responsible driver pulling the unusual float. "You can't pull it too fast," he notes.

The iron horse was made from a 21-ft. long piece of well casing pipe with 1/4-in. sidewalls. It mounts on a conventional

wagon running gear and is covered with household carpet. A fixed handrail runs down the full length of the pipe on one side and a safety chain down the other. There are also stirrups with two levels of foot rests for kids of different sizes, and safety belts.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Lamb Welding Shop, 516 S. Main, Greenfield, Ill. 62044 (ph 217 368-2131).