



Except for the extra tail, the Bublitz's gilt is developing normally.

A Tale Of Two Tails

On the Harley and Carol Bublitz farm near Grafton, Iowa, there is a pig that had two tails, one in the usual position and one near the middle of its back.

It almost went unnoticed when Harley was clipping tails one day. He noted that one pig in the crate, at the end of the clipping chore, had a misplaced tail. "I figured it was the tail I'd clipped off that stuck to its side and forgot about it.

"But the next day, I noticed the tail was still stuck there, and I wondered how it could have stayed on so long. So, I picked up the pig and saw that the stuck-on tail wasn't just stuck on at all, but was actually an extra tail

growing out of the pig's side," Harley told FARM SHOW.

The rest of the pigs in the 10-pig litter all had normal tails. The "extra tail" pig is growing normally and weighed about 70 lbs. at this writing. Its funny tail is positioned about half way between the front and back legs, kind of on the rib cage, and a half inch to an inch down from the top ridge of the back.

The pig is a gilt, and Harley is trying to decide if he should breed her. But he doubts he'd get more two-tailed pigs. "My vet tells me the extra tail may be the result of an unusually-occurring branch off the spine," he says.

TASTES GREAT AND MAKES GREAT CONVERSATION

Pop Yourself Some Black Popcorn

"We're selling it faster than we can produce it," says Bernie Wagner, Jordan, Minn., pioneer developer and marketer of black popcorn.

Unlike regular yellow or white kernels, Wagner's black popcorn pops from black kernels. The black kernels turn into white fluffy popcorn with a blackish tint around the edges.

Bernie says the black popcorn was developed by a private grower. "We're obviously not interested in divulging its genetic background, except to say that it is a double cross hybrid," Bernie told FARM SHOW.

He notes that state franchises for selling black popcorn will be established as the seed supply and contracted production acreage of black popcorn is increased. "At present, we have more than enough contract growers lined up to produce the limited amount of seed we now have available," he explains.

He notes that it doesn't work to plant black popcorn sold over the counter in hopes of growing your

own supply of black popcorn. "Like regular hybrid field corn, it will revert back to its inbred lines if you try to plant corn taken from a bin or crib. It will grow but all you'll get will be stub kernels and stalks," he points out. "To grow black popcorn, you have to have hybrid seed from seed fields, the same as with regular hybrid corn."

If you'd like to test-pop a trial batch, Bernie's black popcorn is available in 5 lb. packages for \$5.95, including shipping and handling.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bernie Wagner's Health Food Store, Route 2, Box 205, Jordan, Minn. 55352.

If you're driving to the Minneapolis-St. Paul area of Minnesota, you can pick up a sack of black popcorn at Bernie's Health Food Store. It's located along Highway 169 seven miles south of Shakopee.



Hand-knitted sweater has kept this fine-fashioned fowl from freezing to death until she grows her feathers back.

SOMETHING TO CACKLE ABOUT

Classy Coverup For A Nude "Chick"

When a cold snap caught one of Delbert Bower's chickens with her feathers down, Delbert's wife Violet decided to knit the little red hen a sweater to keep her from freezing to death.

"She may have molted too late and just got too cold to grow her feathers back," suggests Violet. At any rate, Violet found the hen lying nearly

dead one day on their Vinita, Okla. farm. She brought the hen indoors to recuperate. To prevent a recurrence, Violet knitted a protective sweater, complete with wing-holes. "We'll keep the sweater on until she grows her own feathers back. She's just now starting to sprout a few pinfeathers," Violet told FARM SHOW two weeks ago.

54 YEARS OLD AND STILL GOING STRONG

Ageless Cornbinder Still Bringing In the Sheaves

By Karen Wittwer

He's said the same thing every year. And every year has proven him wrong.

"This is the last year I'm gonna use it. Said that twenty years ago," laughed Albert Mohr.

Mohr, who has farmed northeast of Burwell, Neb., for most of his 76 years, still uses an old-fashioned cornbinder to cut cane and corn.

"You get attached to something and don't want to give it up," says Mohr. A neighbor of his bought the binder new in 1926 for \$185. "I got it in 1947. The neighbor gave it up as wore out," explains Mohr. But, with a little bit of rebuilding and some new parts, he got the machine to work as

good as new. To keep it running, he has gathered up several other old binders for the parts they can offer in case there is a breakdown.

Last fall, the machine was brought into service to cut 30 acres of corn. Through the years, nothing has deterred Mohr from using his 54-year-old cornbinder, not even the good-natured ribbing he takes from friends and family. But Mohr says he will continue using the cornbinder as long as he farms. And farming is what Mohr does best.

When Mohr finally does decide to retire the cornbinder, he says it may find a permanent home in a museum somewhere.