



McClannahan figures he has about 1,500 ag-related caps in his collection of approximately 3,700.

"3,700 CAPS AND STILL GROWING"

"Hats Off" To Cap Collector

Our story in the last issue of FARM SHOW (Vol. 6, No. 4) on Pete Backus, Marietta, Pa., and the 780 agricultural hats he's collected put us in touch with several other hat collectors.

Q.S. McClannahan, Mondamin, Iowa, reports that his collection, at last count, was "right at 3,700 caps and still growing". McClannahan, who started collecting caps 17 years ago, estimates that about 1,500 of the caps in his collection are ag related. Neighbors have helped add to his collection, plus he has traveled 49 of the 50 states to add to his collection. Besides his "states" collection, he has caps from Italy, Spain, Egypt, Israel and many more countries. His

friends have urged him to go for the Guinness Book of World Records, which as yet doesn't list a world's record cap collection.

A FARM SHOW reader wrote to report that William "Bill" Birdsell, Cole Chemical Supply, 2715 South Eleventh St., Springfield, Ill., has a collection of more than 1,200 agricultural caps.

In South Dakota, Dean Daly, of Columbia, has more than 2,300 ag related caps in his collection. He's trying to fill out a complete set of caps with the state name on it and, at last count, had 39 states accounted for. He'd like to see a national organization started for cap collectors.

ALL CAME FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Six Windmills Pump Water For Fish Pond

If you'd like to have a trout or bass pond on your place but have no water stream to dam up, you might try doing what Vern Rindels did on his small acreage near Plainfield, Iowa.

He dug out his pond and decided to supply it with well water. It takes six wells to maintain the water level in his one-acre pond. They are shallow sandpoint wells that reach the water table at 9 to 15 ft. below the surface.

Rindels installed a windmill at

each well to pump the water. The mills all came from the neighborhood and are old Aermotor or Monitor brands. Each one is on a 30 to 35 ft. tower, and when all, the mills are pumping on a windy day they can put out 3,000 gals. of water in 24 hrs.

The mills didn't cost much, and after they have been renovated, they take almost no maintenance except for annual changing of the oil.

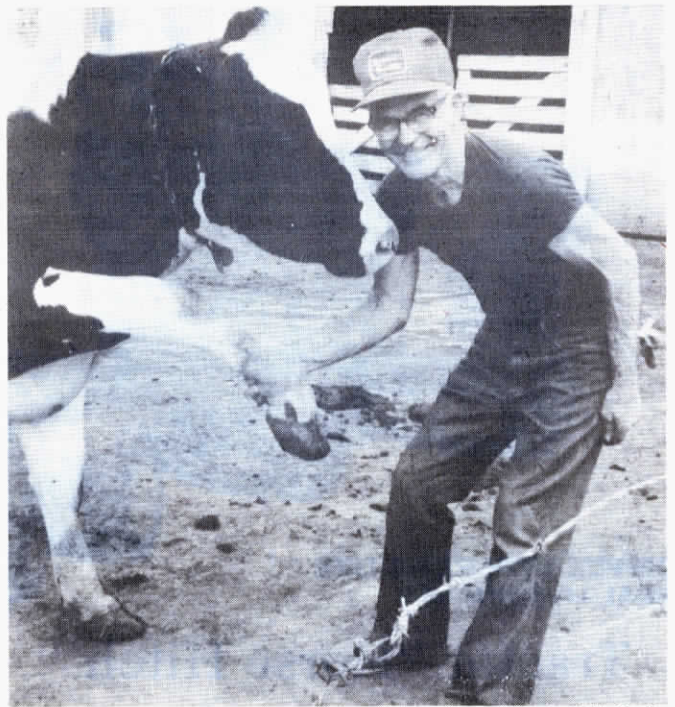


Photo by Cathie Shaffer

Francis knows it's important for people to have good manners, but he thinks cows ought to know the basics of etiquette as well. So to get them started on the right foot, he's taught a number of his cows to shake hands.

"EASIER TO TEACH THAN DOGS"

These Cows Will Shake Your Hand

"It's a lot harder to convince skeptics that cows can be easily trained to shake hands than it is to teach the cows to do the trick," says retired Ohio dairy farmer Francis Mack, of Metamora. For 40 years, he's been teaching his Holstein cows to shake hands and now his grandchildren are teaching their 4-H cattle to "shake".

Says Mack: "It's really not that hard to teach cows to handshake. In fact, it might be easier than teaching a dog. I

just pet them and lift their front foot a couple times and pretty soon they learn to do it on their own. When we still had horses, I taught them how to shake, too."

Mack is out of the dairy business now but his "handshaking cow" tradition carries on through his grandchildren, their 4-H projects, and the 12 cows his son keeps on the home farm. (Excerpted from Farm-land News)



On a windy day, the six windmills pump about 3,000 gals. in 24 hrs.