

## CHAPTER 14 Agriculture By Gary Fisher

The early logging industry was an extension of agriculture and farmers came by it naturally as they cleared land. Farmers often were self-employed in endeavors other than food production during the winter months and often worked during their spare time in the timber industry. Some worked in saw mills and others were coopers. Over the years the farm woods of Enfield have been logged periodically as re-growth occurred supplying building materials for farmer's barns and equipment, electric and telephone poles, hardwoods for lumber companies, houses, and even timbers which were used in the building of the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

While logging occurred throughout Enfield from its formation to present, no permanent sawmills are known to have existed. Most mills except those water powered, would be hauled to the site to be logged, set up, and then moved after the logging was done. The earliest mills were known as up and down mills since the saw cut in an up and down motion. These mills were very slow compared to the circular sawmills that appeared after the Civil War. In fact, a log could be hewn with axes faster than the early mills could cut four sides of a log to make a beam.

Four sawmills, which were likely water powered were, located along Five Mile Creek and its tributaries according to the 1866 Topographical Atlas of Tompkins County. Sawmills powered by steam and internal combustion engines have appeared throughout the town in the last 100 years. In 1906 Ira Bower operated a sawmill on the Bodle Farm (currently Curtis Switzer Farm), which was powered by a Lang and Button Traction Engine. Burt Updyke had a steam powered mill in Enfield Center in the 1920's. Royal Johnson had a mill south of Enfield Center for about 5 years in the 1930's. The mill was powered by a 75 horsepower Case Traction Engine. Claude Rumsey fired the traction engine using slabs and sawdust for fuel. Gustav Lokken had a mill on the south side of Enfield Center Road opposite his house from about 1922 until 1942. He used an International Bull engine, which burned kerosene and was rated at 20 horsepower. Morris Willis had a saw mill near the woods west of the buildings on the Claude Place farm. Charles Loveless set up an American Number One mill at the Leslie Hine farm near the corner of Porter Hill and Hines Road to saw lumber to build a barn. Arthur Baker and Son from Caroline Center, New York had a mill for about a year on the Alan and Homer Rumsey farm on Rothermich Road. They later moved the mill onto property owned by Mrs. Schutt on Waterburg Road, which later became the site of the Enfield Town Dump. From about 1947-1948 Raymond Johnson had a mill on the Francis McFall farm on Rockwell Road. In the 1950's Francis Strong and Gerald Morley had a saw mill near the foot of Buck Hill on the Weatherby Road farm operated by John C. Wellman. Hugh Curry had a resaw mill in one of the buildings behind his house on Harvey Hill Road. It was used to rip planks into lumber for crates, slats, and lathe. Walt Rumsey had a mill east of Miller's Corners for about 10 years starting in 1956.

Today Calvin Rothermich continues this extension of the farm. He has a saw mill on Fish Road where he saws locally cut timber from his and surrounding farms. His sawmill has been located on his farm and in operation since March 1961. He also has a wood shop where during cold weather months he and his hired men can be found building chests, gun cabinets, and turning at the lathe.

In the early years "Logs for these mills and labor to keep the saws running came wholly from farms to the great help of agriculture." In recent years, most logging in Enfield has been done by contracted full time loggers. Large permanent mills located miles away from the cutting site contract with an owner for cutting rights and in most cases subcontract with a two or three man operation to have the logs cut and skidded to a roadside loading site. Once roadside the logs are loaded and trucked to the mill either by the mill or a contracted trucker.

Numerous logging accidents, mishaps and injuries have occurred in Enfield. At Bert Updyke's sawmill in Enfield Center a falling log resulted in the death of Raymond Teeter, son of Luther Teeter in 1922.

Teeter suffered a broken leg, head and internal injuries when a log that was rolling onto the skid way slipped and struck him. Arthur Everhart sustained a broken arm while cutting a tree.

### 1821 Through 1865 Marks and Strays

Rural towns in 1700 - 1800's had a position within the town called "Fence Viewer". This person inspected farm boundary fences in a town or other localities. Many settled disputes about wandering cattle, boundary lines, and fence adequacy. Enfield supported a "Fence Viewer".

In 1821, the Town of Enfield recorded the marks farmers identified their livestock with. Following is a list of the names of the farmers who registered their marks with the town and a few of the descriptions of the marks.

When stock-raising is practiced on a smaller scale, cattle, hogs, and sheep are marked by metal ear-tags or by notching the ears. In this way each animal has a number of its own, which facilitates the keeping of individual records.

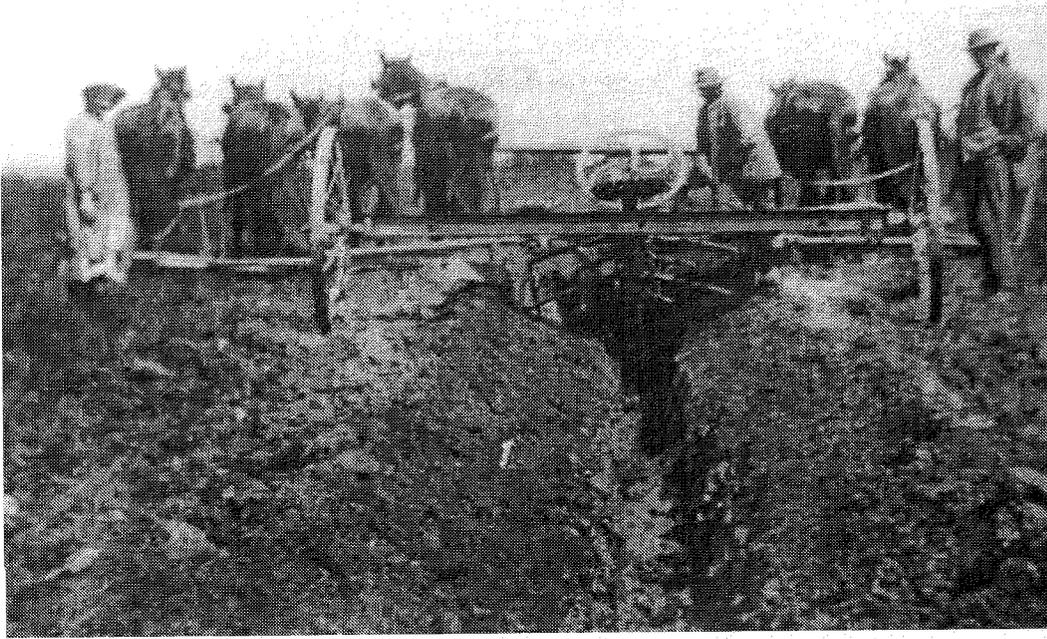
### A Few Samples of Enfield Livestock Marks

Nathan Benedict - mark a crop of the left ear and a slit in the crop recorded 7th day of April 1821. Samuel Rolfe mark a crop of the left ear and a split in the crop and happening under the same ear , July 1821. Jonathan Rolfe mark a crop of the right ear and a slit in the crop and a happening under the same ear, July 1821. John Applegate mark a crop of the left ear. 4th day of May 1821. Squire Nobles mark a hole in each ear, 20th, 1821. Charles Woodward mark a square crop off both ears and two slits in the end of the right ear, 11th, December 1824

### List of farmers with livestock in the Town of Enfield

Allen, David	5/26/1827	Allen, Nathan	12/24/1821
Ammack, John	6/2/1826	Applegate, Carlos	11/9/1831
Applegate, John	5/4/1821	Atkins, Samuel	1835
Atkins, William	5/22/1822	Badcock, Jesse	12/14/1822
Bagley, James	3/3/1827	Baker, Judah	3/3/1823
Baker, Nehemiah	11/3/1821	Baker, Obadiah	6/1823
Bailey, James	5/26/1821	Bassett, Robert	4/11/1825
Beach, Isaac	6/19/1821	Benedict, Nathan	4/7/1821
Brown, Silas	6/20/1821	Budd, Gilbert H.	10/6/1821
Burlew, David	1/13/1831	Burlew, Frederick	4/12/1824
Carman, Caleb(f) D.	5/30/1825	Chase, Ezra	2/11/1823
Cook David	1830	Cook, Sele	6/4/1822
Cowen, Lewes	5/29/1824	Coykendell, William	6/21/1821
Crotsley(G?)	6/7/1821	Currey, Thornton	5/23/1823
Curry, Amos	5/21/1827	Cutter, David	8/20/1823
Emley, Charles	5/15/1824	Fish, Samuel	4/1823
Follett, Silas	7/3/1821	Gleason, Moses	6/4/1822
Glover, William	5/4/1821	Grey, Nathaniel	7/23/1821
Hadglen, James	12/13/1824	Hanford, John	6/21/1821
Harvey, Joseph	6/7/1821	Harvey, Robert	5/5/1826
Harvey, Ruben	5/4/1821	Harvey, Seneca	5/7/1830
Harvey, Silas	6/7/1821	Hed, Stephen	4/10/1821
Herreman, Jefse	6/3/1822	Hinkley, Lewes	1/24/1829

Hollister, Justen	5/25/1822	Homes, Nathaniel	4/1823
Hooper's, John	11/10/1821	Hooper's Lawrence	3/15/1823
Hulse, Anthony	5/22/1823	Hulse, Thomas	5/13/1823
Hunter, William	3/14/1831	took Nehemiah Baker mark	
Hunter, William	3/14/1831	Ink, Aaron	4/5/1823
Ink, George	8/20/1823	Ink, Joseph W.	6/3/1822
Ink, Peter	4/20/1822	Irwin, William	6/20/1821
Kackstir, Daniel	3/22/1822	Kellogg, Nathan	1 2/4/1824
Kidder, Samuel	5/23/1821	Kinman, David	7/24/1822
Kirby, Ichabod	6/17/1821	Konkle, Casper G.	6/21/1821
Konkle, Jacob	5/29/1824	Ku(fr)el, Ruben	6/19/1821
Lanning, Joseph	1/16/1824	Lanton, John	12/1/1823
Larcom, (Goab)	6/9/1823	Larcom, Silas	8/20/1824
Lee, Ebenezer	9/11/1821	Lee, Moses	9/17/1821
Levings, Joseph	5/24/1821	Longstreet, Gilbert	1823
Longstreet, Gilbert	5/1835	Lovell, Aaron	6/20/1821
Lovell, Moses	12/24/1821	Lyon, Ruben D.	6/19/1821
Macks, Charles	5/30/1831	Mariken, Isaac	11/14/1822
McCallam, Abraham	12/30/1826	Meade, Ephraim	11/1834
Merchant, William A.	1821		
took over mark of Stephen Hed 1821 because Hed left state.			
Meriman, Nathaniel	7/16/1827	Miller, Christopher	5/26/1827
Mills, Abraham	4/21/1822	Misner, Peter	5/1835
Molum, Thomas	10/1823	Murray, Daniel	4/30/1821
Nettles, John	8/15/1826	Nettles, Ralph	12/30/1826
Newman, Harman	5/10/1826	Newman, Harry	6/1839
Newman, Nathaniel	5/22/1822	Nobles, Charles	12/1/1821
Nobles, Squire G.	6/20/1821	Ogden, Amos	6/19/1821
Ogden, Gilbert	6/5/1821	Paddock, Ephraim	11/5/1821
Pane, Walter	6/20/1821	Parish, Thomas	6/5/1830
Pease, Elijah	3/21/1822	Pengrave,	3/3/1832
Phelps, Warren	2/22/1822	Pickney, Jacob B.	5/12/1841
Purdy, David	10/25/1821	Purdy, David	10/25/1825
Purdy, Lewis	3/3/1827	Queal, John	6/20/1821
Rockwell, Ruben	10/26/1821	Rolfe, Chester	3/21/1825
Rolfe, Chester	1821	Rolfe, Ephraim	5/19/1827
Rolfe, Jonathan	4/7/1821	Rolfe, Ruben	5/4/1821
Rolfe, Samuel	4/7/1821	Rolloson, John	11/1823
Rumsey, Jacob	12/1/1821	Rumsey, Josha(w)ay	2/17/1822
Selover, Asher	6/10/1822	Sherman, John	7/21/1821
Smith, Hanford	11/9/1831	Smith, Harm	5/1835
Smith, J.H.	1836	took Robert Harvey mark	
Smith, John	8/20/1821	Smith, Leonard	1835
Smith, Samuel	5/28/1827	Stelle, John	5/2/1821
Stephens, George	5/7/1827	Stephens, Reuben	8/26/1826
Steward, George	1821	Stringer, James	6/19/1821
Summerton, Thomas	6/4/1821	Taber, Humphrey	11/6/1822

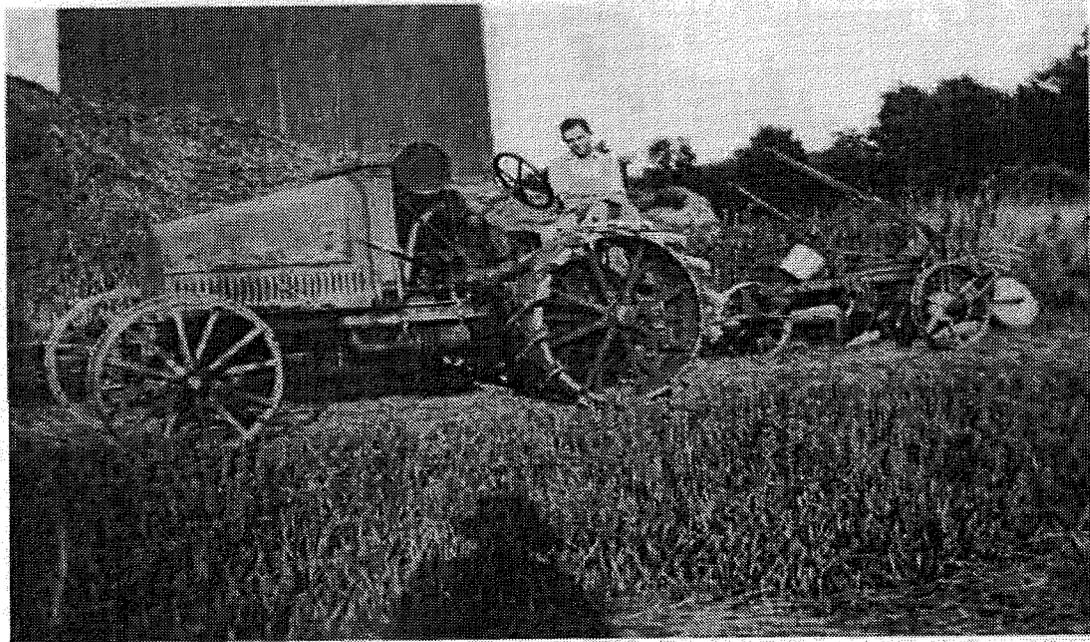


**53. Ditch Digging Machine**

Tallmadge, Henry	1823	Terrey, Prosper	6/30/1821
Thatcher, Edmond	6/7/1821	Thatcher, Enoch	6/10/1822
Tompkins, James	9/1834	Townsend, Jefse(Gefre)	1821
Treman, Jonathan	5/2/1822	Tunison, John	6/22/1827
Urdike, Reuben	1/11/1826	VanKirk, Joseph	6/22/1821
Wainwright, Daniel	5/1/1826	Watson, Smith	3/24/1822
Weatherby, Edman	5/5/1828	Wheeler, James	7/3/1821
White, John T.	6/20/1821	White, Michael	6/20/1821
Wilken, James	6/15/1826	Wilken, Stephen	7/13/1821
Wilkin, David	6/7/1821	Wilkin, George	6/7/1821
Wilkin, William	6/28/1828	Williams, P.A.	1821
Williams, Parvis	6/1838	Winchal, Ira	1/1/1825
Wood, Abraham	6/3/1822	Woods, Arnzi	4/19/1831
Woodward, Charles	12/11/1824	Woolley, Joel	4/24/1821
Woolley, Silas	6/20/1821		

### **William Henry Brewer**

In 1799 Simeon DeWitt proposed that “a school ‘of practical instruction in the business of husbandry’” be established in New York State. During the first half of the 19th Century other men would pursue DeWitt’s idea without success. William Henry Brewer was one of those men. A native of Enfield, Brewer was an active sponsor for a school of agriculture in the State from about 1850. In 1850 Brewer became president of the Oakwood Agricultural Institute near Buffalo. The Oakwood Institute did not last a year as “Country boys could not see the use of it and city boys did not like it.” After this failure Brewer became acquainted with Dr. Amos Brown. Brewer and Dr. Brown attempted to revive a proposal to establish an Agricultural College in 1853. The college was to be founded at Ovid with Brown as President and Brewer as Professor of Agriculture. “To qualify himself, Brewer spent a year in German agricultural colleges. Returning home in 1857, Brewer found that Brown was not interested in agricul-



**54. Leon Tucker 1917/18**

ture and no plans existed for the new college. NOTE: In December 1857 the first Morrill Act was introduced in Congress. Dr. Brown later became associated with Charles Cook and People's College at Havana, New York where they hoped to establish an agricultural college under provisions of the Morrill Act. In 1865.

### **Post Civil War Through WWI**

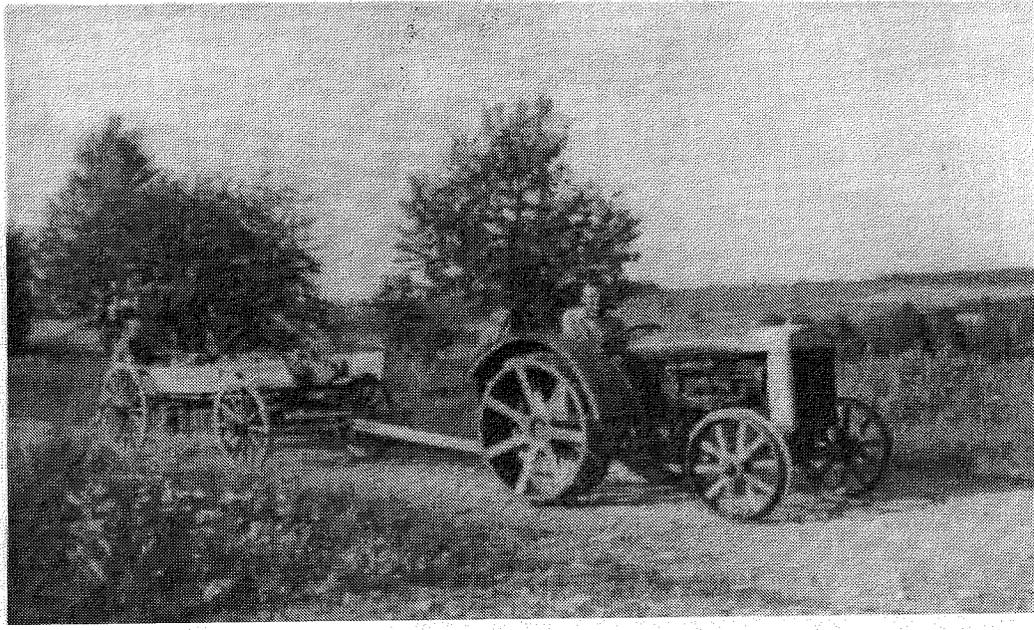
At the close of the Civil War, agriculture was the way of life for Enfield residents. In 1865, there were 13,887 improved and 4,591 unimproved acres in agricultural production equivalent to 80 percent of the entire town's geographic area. Farms within the town were valued at \$1,245,796 and contained stock worth \$165,071, while associated farm tools and equipment was valued at \$50,950. Farmers plowed 6,637 acres in 1865 while leaving 186 fallow.

By 1865 Enfield farms had the following cattle: 457 calves, 545 over one year old exclusive of oxen and cows, 80 working oxen, and 884 milk cows. Horses included 76 colts and 747 over two years old. There were also four mules. There were 829 pigs farrowed in 1865 while there were 1358 pigs from the season of 1864 or earlier.

Crops raised in 1865 were spring wheat, winter wheat, oats, winter rye, barley, buckwheat, Indian corn, potatoes, peas, beans, flax, tobacco, and apples. Other production included maple syrup, maple molasses, grape wine, honey, and wax. Most of the 6,521 bushels of spring wheat produced in the county came from Enfield.

Animal production 1865 included 23,101 pounds of shorn wool from 5,972 sheep, 95,945 pounds of butter, and 1,735 pounds of cheese, 18,669 pounds of pork. In 1864, 155 cattle were killed for beef and 595 head of sheep were also slaughtered. Enfield farmers sold poultry and eggs valued at \$2,824 and \$2,772, respectively. Domestic manufactures for 1865 included fulling cloth, flannel, and linen. Farmers lost 22 sheep killed by dogs in 1864.

Much of the farm land in Enfield alternates between high and dry and low and wet. The early farmers found that with ditching and tiling the land would become more easily worked and productive. It is unknown when the first stone ditches were installed but evidence of their existence can be found in many fields. The early stone ditches were dug by hand and stones were placed in the bottom of the ditch. One



55. Kenneth Stoughton on tractor and Donald Warren take early 1940's.

type found on the Floyd Guthrie farm was constructed with a flat stone on the bottom and two flat stones leaned against each other so as to form a triangular opening. One unusual type of drain found on the Alan and Homer Rumsey farm was constructed of Chestnut wood. A two inch by six inch plank formed the top and bottom while the sides were two by four inch pieces. Holes were drilled into the top plank at intervals to let water into the wooden tile. Convinced of the benefits of tiling their land Wheeler Smith, Alva Godding, Addison McCoy, Wilmon Culver, and Arthur Kelsey purchased a Bryurus ditching machine just after 1900. The machine had tracks with wooden treads. The digging wheel is estimated to have been about 16 foot in diameter. As the trench was dug a belt carried the removed dirt away from the digging wheel and to the side of the trench. Using this machine numerous acres of the owners farms were tiled with six inch bell tile and small diameter clay tile. Bell tile has been found on the former Wheeler Smith farm and small diameter hex sided clay tile has been found on former Addison McCoy farmland.

The American Agriculturist Farm Directory of 1914 listed 194 farmers.

### **Post WW I through WWII**

In less than thirty years between the end of World War I (1918) and World War II (1941) dramatic changes occurred in agriculture. Mechanization accelerated so that most farm work that was done by hand and with horses at the end of World War I, would be accomplished by machines and with tractors by the end of WW II (1946).

Mechanization brought new hazards to the farm. In 1933 Frank Rothermich and Emmet Harvey each lost four fingers while working with corn huskers. Another machine that became popular during this period was the hay press. During the summer local farmers would put up loose hay in their barns for feeding their livestock. If farmers had excess hay, they might be able to market it through hay dealers if it were pressed into bales. During the winter farmers would schedule a hay presser to come to their farm. The hay press would be hauled to the barn and set up. After the pressing was done, the press would be taken down and move onto the next farm.

The earliest hay presses were the upright type while later presses were horizontal. Harry Willis had an Ann Arbor Hay Press, which he first powered by an International Mogal 8-16 tractor. Later he

powered the press with a Titan 8-16 and finally with a McCormick Deering 10-20 tractor. Alan and Homer Rumsey had a Hazard Press, which was the upright type and was built by Bill Hazard of Trumansburg, New York. Probably the last hay pressings with a stationary upright press in Enfield was done by Clyde Coats, D. Frank Fisher, and Raymond Darling in 1940.

### **Post WW II through 1985**

During this 40 year span the face of agriculture changed dramatically within Enfield. Remaining horse power was replaced by mechanical horsepower. By the late 1950's very few teams of work horses remained in daily service. Following World War II, most farmers readily embraced the tractor. By the early 1950's nearly every farm had a tractor capable of pulling a two bottom plow. Few older models such as the International 10-20 and Farmall F-12 remained in use. In the southwestern part of the town Hulse Smith owned a thrashing machine and traveled to surrounding neighborhood farms to thrash. I remember setting shocks of oats to dry when I was about five years old. I also remember the thrashing machine in my fathers' barn and blowing straw into the barnyard. Silo filling was also a neighborhood effort. In the 1950's Hulse Smith owned an ensilage cutter and also had a International Harvester W-9 tractor, which was used on the ensilage cutter due to its great horsepower out put. Corn was cut with a corn binder pulled by a tractor. Wagons pulled by teams of horses or a tractor were loaded by hand with the bundles of corn in the field and taken back to the silo. The W-9 would be started up and the belt driven ensilage cutter started. A metal table belt was operated by a lever and would nest be started. The bundles of corn would be unloaded one at a time onto the metal conveyor belt, which carried the bundles into the cutter-blower. Usually one or two boys would be up in the silo to keep the entering silage level and packed down around the silo wall. A 12 X 30 foot silo would usually take 3 to 4 days to fill. Neighbor farmers would arrive at the farm where the silo filling was to be done after morning chores and work until late afternoon when they left for home. Noon dinner was always served at the farm house where the silo was being filled. By the late 1950's tractor towed forage choppers, which cut and chopped corn directly into a box wagon. The early unloading box wagons where home made and used a cable winch system to pull a movable bulkhead. To unload the rear of the wagon was opened and a electric motor driven gear drive was attached to the cable take-up shaft at the back of the wagon. The moving bulk head pushed the chopped corn out a door at the rear of the wagon, which was opened, for unloading. By the late 1960's a self-unloading wagon was manufactured. D. Frank Fisher and Richard H. Fisher were the first purchasers of an International Model 45 Baler within the town. The baler was one of the first light weight portable balers on the market.

On 5 March 1971 more than 500 sheep and other livestock died in a barn fire on the Donald K. and Linda Gunning farm on Weatherby Road. Several horses escaped the fire as they had gotten out and the Tannings were not able to round them up to put them in the barn the night of the fire. Their 80 foot by 80 foot two story barn was a total loss. In the fall of 1971, a new pole barn was built on the north side of the road. The sheep were replaced with about 100 ewes and a few cattle added. In 1978 the Gunnings had discussions with the Brown Cow Yogurt Company in Newfield, New York about supplying milk to the expanding yogurt manufacturer. However, it was not until 1979, that an agreement was completed that resulted in the Gunnings buying the Brown Cow Yogurt Company's herd of purebred Jersey cows. The cows arrived at the Gunning farm on May 1, 1979. The Gunnings supplied milk to Brown Cow until 1989 when they started shipping to Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative headquartered in Syracuse, New York.

### **The Last Ten Years Agricultural District**

In the 1970's Agricultural Districts were formed in Tompkins County for the purpose of taxing

farmed land on the basis of soil classification. This afforded farms some protection from the onslaught of development in agricultural areas. Today Agricultural District Number Two encompasses all farm land in Enfield. The current Agricultural District Number Two was started by the County Board of Representatives resolution 84-160 on June 26, 1984. Agricultural District Two also includes farm land in Ulysses, Newfield, Danby, and Ithaca Townships. Agricultural District Number Two was modified and approved for an additional eight years in 1992.

### **Dairy Termination Program**

During the 1980's surplus milk continued to be a problem for the United States Department of Agriculture. Existing programs to support and maintain a base price for milk were both expensive and ineffective. The program eventually decided upon called for the federal government to "buyout" or pay existing dairy farmers to quit the dairy business and sell all their dairy cattle and replacement heifers for slaughter. In theory this would substantially reduce surplus milk by reducing the number of farms with dairy cows.

The impact within the Town of Enfield was substantial. Of nine Tompkins County farmers electing to participate in the buyout program, four were from Enfield. It is estimated that the four farms represented approximately 25 percent of the existing Enfield dairy farms when the program was initiated in 1986. The four Enfield farms accounted for 3,199,937 pounds of milk removed from the market through the sale and slaughter of 261 dairy cows. The four farms also sold 180 replacement heifers for slaughter.

### **Dairies of Distinction**

Three dairies within Enfield have been selected for the designation as a Dairy of Distinction by the New York Dairy Farm Beautification Program. The program is designed to recognize dairy owners and operators who maintain attractive, well kept farmsteads in an effort to promote a positive dairy industry image.

Larchmont Farm owned by Peter L. and Jane B. Hansen is located on North Buck Hill Road and was selected for the Dairy of Distinction Award in 1989. The Hansen's were also awarded a Northeast DHIA Outstanding Quality Milk Award for 1992.

G-Quist Farms owned by George and Julie Holmes was selected as a Dairy of Distinction in 1985-86. The former Burr Chase farm was operated as a dairy by the Holmes' from 1971 until they retired from dairy farming. At that time the Holmes' daughter, Marsha and son-in-law Steven Gokey took over operation of the dairy farm and changed the name of the dairy to Stargo Farms. Stargo Farms owned by Marsha and Steven Gokey were also selected as a Dairy of Distinction. The Gokey's have now moved to northern New York State.

### **Dairy Princess**

The 1994-5 Tompkins County Dairy Princess was Carry Gunning, daughter of Donald and Linda Gunning. As Dairy Princess, she is charged with promoting dairy products throughout the county. Teresa Holmes, daughter of George and Julie Holmes, was the 1986-7 Tompkins County Dairy Princess. Sarah Holmes, daughter of George and Julie Holmes was also chosen Dairy Princess.

### **Livestock Shows and Exhibitions**

Over the year's farm residents of Enfield have taken pride in participating in livestock shows and agricultural fairs.

In recent years a majority of agricultural exhibiting has been done by farm family members through the Schuyler and Tompkins County 4-H Fairs, the Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society of the Towns of Ulysses, Hector, and Covert (Trumansburg Fair), and the New York State Fair at Syracuse. At

the 1994 Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society Fair three of five farm families exhibiting cattle were from Enfield.

### **Farm Implement Dealers**

One of the early farm equipment dealers in the township was G. Howard Miller of Enfield Center who sold farm implements, buggies, cutters, and sleighs.

Most noted and largest farm implement dealership in the town was Ithaca Farm Equipment owned and operated by Mervin Schroeder. The main line of equipment sold new was Massey-Ferguson. Mr. Schroeder also was a John Deere dealer from 1956 to 1960. In addition to new equipment sales, all types of tractor and machinery repairs were completed by Mr. Schroeder's mechanics. Employees of the business were Donald Warren, Charles Searles, Randall "Rink" Wright.

Ithaca Farm Equipment was located at the southwest corner of Sheffield Road and State Route 79. Later, Mr. Schroeder built a large two-story concrete block building on the north side of State Route 79 opposite the original site. The new building was erected shortly after the State of New York took part of the original equipment business site to rebuild and widen the Mecklenburg Road and VanDorn Road intersection. The new building was built by Francis Strong, Donald Warren, Howard "Tub" Havens, and Elmer Newberry. Mr. Schroeder retired and closed the business. In 1980's, Larry Dickinson re-opened a Massey-Ferguson machinery dealership called Dickinson Farm Supply at the former Ithaca Farm Equipment site. He remained in business until the late 1980's when the business was closed.

Just east of Applegate's Corners on the north side of State Route 79 was located a Minneapolis-Moline dealership. This business was owned and operated by Gene Leonard.

At Applegate's Corners, farmer William Achilles, was a designated dealer for Shepard tractors. Mr. Achilles states that they were not very popular in this area and he never sold one.

### **Other Farm Dealerships**

Through the years various Enfield farmers have held company dealerships for a variety of agriculture related products. Most have been on a small scale and originated when the farmer began buying a particular company's product. Donald R. Fisher sold Vigortone Feed Company products and Trojan brand seed corn, Richard H. Fisher and Sons were dealers for Smidley Livestock Equipment.

### **Other Farm related Businesses**

David K. Gunning operated a livestock trucking business from his farm on Harvey Hill Road starting in 1970. In 1991 the trucking was taken over by David K. Gunning's youngest son Douglas due to the elder Gunning's failing eyesight. In the early years much of the trucking consisted of produce. The Gunning's have trucked livestock throughout New York, the Eastern states and as far away as Iowa and Canada. They have also trucked cattle to Miami, Florida and Houston, Texas for export. Today, the main business centers on trucking dairy cows and young stock to livestock sales barns in Dryden, Bath, and Sennet from farms in Tompkins, Schulyer, and Seneca Counties.

Jerry Stark operates a livestock trucking business from his home on Rothermich Road. He provides trucking to the Valley Livestock Yard Auction in Athens, Pennsylvania on a weekly Monday schedule. Mr. Stark trucks cattle, calves, and hogs.

Dr. Pamela Karner, a 1984 graduate of the Pennsylvania State Veterinary College, opened Starland Veterinary Services on Hayts Road on April 4, 1986.

### **Eastern Artificial Insemination Cooperative, Inc.**

Eastern Artificial Insemination Cooperative is a leading supplier of dairy cattle genetics. Eastern is headquartered in Ithaca, New York and has production facilities in the Towns of Enfield and Ithaca.

Eastern produces over 2 million breeding units each year. A breeding unit is a quantity of semen, packed in a small plastic straw, sufficient to inseminate one cow.

Eastern is owned by 23,000 members in New York, New England, and Northern Pennsylvania. In 1990 a total of 1.2 million breeding units of semen were sold by Eastern in its member area. Eastern is the major supplier of semen to farmers in New York and New England.

Eastern is a partner with Atlantic Breeders Cooperative of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and Louisiana Animal Breeders Cooperative(LABCX) of Baton Rouge, Louisiana in an organization called Federated Genetics.

Eastern was formed in 1966 by the merger of five New York and New England artificial insemination cooperatives.

NYABC was formed in 1940 when artificial insemination was a new method for dairy farmers to use to breed their cows and was one of the first organizations of its kind in the United States. The cooperative was originally located in Syracuse, New York. The Cooperative moved to a site on Judd Falls Road, Ithaca, New York in 1944. The site was selected due to the proximity to Cornell University which provides support and resources for development of programs at the cooperative.

In 1947 NYABC bought the 250 acre Hunt Farm located on Sheffield Road in the Towns of Enfield and Ithaca to produce feed for the bulls and to provide some supplemental bull housing. Additional property adjacent to this farm was purchased over the years to increase the farm to the current size of 610 acres. This farm came to be called the "West Hill Farm".

The West Hill Farm was used to grow crops and house about 50 bulls through the 1950's, 1960's and early 1970's. By the mid-1970's there was a need for additional bull housing and due to rapid development around the original Judd Falls Road complex it was decided that future expansion would occur on the West Hill Farm.

In 1976, the first new livestock unit was built near the corner of Sheffield and Hayts Roads. This unit is called the Young Sire Complex and provides housing for young bulls between the ages of 14 and 48 months. Additions were built in 1977 and 1981 bringing the unit to its current capacity of 310 bulls.

The Eastern Production Center was constructed on the west side of Sheffield Road in the Town of Enfield in 1979. This center was designed as an intensive care facility for 48 superior mature sires. It has a modern semen processing laboratory capable of producing 3 million breeding units of semen each year. Semen produced in this facility is routinely shipped to most states in our country and has been exported to over 60 foreign countries.

Another livestock facility was built on the west side of Sheffield Road in 1981. This facility is the Isolation Unit used to process the 150 bull calves that enter the Eastern herd each year. This unit consists of two identical barns with a capacity of 42 bulls each. All bulls are quarantined in this unit for 56 days after arrival to be certain that they do not bring any cattle diseases into the herd. Completion of this facility allowed Eastern to expand to its current size of 600 bulls.

In 1989, Production Center II was built on the east side of Sheffield Road to replace the three original barns on Judd Falls Road. Similar in design to the Production Center on the West side of Sheffield Road, it houses 125 bulls of various ages and contains a complete semen processing laboratory. These facilities allow Eastern to intensively select bulls that will promote genetic progress in dairy cattle through artificial insemination.

Eastern is well-poised to remain a leader of the industry in the future.

### **ISA Babcock**

On June 17, 1981, the Institut de Selection Animale (ISA) acquired Babcock Poultry Farm from A.

H. Robins and a downsizing of the Babcock Poultry Farm was put in motion. ISA quite selling commercial day old chicks and eliminated franchise arrangements preferring instead to concentrate on providing parent stock to other hatcheries worldwide. As a result employees numbers declined significantly from the 176 employed at the time of the acquisition. Facilities were closed and eliminated. Within Enfield Farm 20 facilities which were built in the mid-1960's on Podunk Road were closed and sold. Facilities on Farm 20 were used for laying hens which provide incubator eggs for production of commercial day-old chicks which were sold to individual chicken farms. Today Farms 4 and 5 on Iradel Road continue to be an integral part of the ISA poultry operation and the only remaining ISA facilities in Enfield. Farm 4 along with Farm 2 on Cold Springs Road in Ulysses are used to produce eggs for hatchery chicks. Farm 5 facilities are used to rear day old chicks for ISA hatchery production. Each year ISA replaces the chickens on Farm 4 and 2 from those grown on Farm 5. ISA hatchery facilities are located on State Route 96 in the town of Ithaca. Chicks hatched in the State Route 96 facility are shipped to Europe and worldwide locations.

### **Weather and Climate**

Weather plays a large roll in agriculture in Enfield. Some years are too wet such as 1992 and other are drought stricken such as 1968. Winters frequently mean frozen pipes, moving snow to remove manure from livestock barns, broken equipment which takes longer to fix due to the cold, and occasionally catastrophic failures of structures due to snow and wind. A March 1994 blizzard caused the collapse of a Larchmont Farm quonset machine storage building, the roof of small storage building on the former Floyd Guthrie Farm on Buck Hill Road and the roof on the Alfred Eddy dairy barn on Bostwick Road.

### **Institute of Ecosystem Studies Cooperative**

While not a weather observation station, The Institute of Ecosystem Studies [IES] and Cornell University have continuously operating the Connecticut Hill Precipitation and Atmospheric Chemistry Research Site on Connecticut Hill Road northwest of the Griffen Road intersection since 1976. Precipitation, both rainfall and snowfall, has been collected daily at the site since it was established. The site is one of the oldest continuously operated precipitation chemistry sites in the country.

## CHAPTER 15 - NOTES AND BOOKS

### Books

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