Farm News

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 1953

Average Oat Yields Drop in 1952

Illinois farmers planted 3.4 million acres of oats in 1952 and harvested an average yield of 37 bushels. This average was 3 bushels below the 40-bushel 10-year average from 1942-51.

Lower yields last year were caused by above-normal temperatures during the time the grain was developing, and wind and rain storms at harvest time, explains J. W. Pendleton, agronomist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

More than 80 percent of oats acreage in 1952 was seeded to either Clinton or Clinton selections, Pendleton reports.

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12/30/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 1953

March 1 Deadline for Junior Chicken Entries

March 1 has been set as the deadline date for entries in the 1953 Illinois Junior Chicken-of-Tomorrow contest.

S. F. Ridlen, secretary of the executive committee in charge of the contest, says that contest entries should be sent to Clarence Ems, assistant superintendent, division of markets,Fairgounds,Springfield, Illinois before the deadline date.

You will be able to get your entry blanks from your county farm adviser, vocational agriculture teacher, 4-H club leader or local hatcheryman.

Hatching dates for all entries have been set as March 16, 17, 18, or 19, Ridlen says. An entry will consist of one breed or one cross. A contestant may have more than one entry as long as each entry is a different breed or cross.

An entry will be made up of 100 straight-run chicks or 50 cockerels. Each entry will be wingbanded by the hatcheryman within 24 hours after hatching. Wingbands will be supplied to the contestant's hatchery when the entry blank is received.

Eligibility for the contest is limited to any boy or girl between the ages of 10 and 21 on March 1 who resides in Illinois and is enrolled in either a 4-H or vocational agriculture poultry project. Chickens entered must be grown and cared for by the contestant in Illinois.

Ridlen reports that the state judging contest will be held in Lincoln on June 5. Prizes will be awarded on a sectional basis covering the three sections which the state is divided into for this contest. The top five entrees from each section will be judged for top state honors. Contestants will submit 10 live cockerels and the best 8 will be considered by the judges for the final placings.

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RAJ:mi
12/30/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 1953

Farm and Home Week Offers Features For All

Farm and Home Week at the University of Illinois, February 2 through 5, will feature something educational and entertaining for every member of the family.

Program Chairman W. D. Murphy reports that the special Sunday evening program on February 1 again this year will feature the Illinois delegates to the International Farm Youth Exchange project. Margaret Dail, Erie, and Norma Jean Hanell, Bloomington,will tell of their experiences in Israel and Sweden this past summer.

Educational sessions are scheduled for farmers on agricultural outlook, farm drainage and farm manchinery, small grains and grain marketing, dairy and dairy marketing, livestock, farm forestry, land use and tenancy problems.

Two half-day sessions will cover legume-grass crops, with three farmers telling how and why they use grass silage on their dairy and beef farms and how they handle forage crops. Mechanizing farm chores and an agronomy research revue will be two other interesting sessions.

Other meetings include the Rural Pastors' Short Course, the Illinois Home Bureau Federation, five district camping associations, FFA Foundation luncheon, Illinois Crop Improvement association, the Illinois Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, and the Illinois Turkey Growers association.

Special programs for farm women will be held each day. A total of 18 different classes will be presented at six different sessions. An outstanding general session speaker will be featured each afternoon.

Entertainment will include the Music and Drama Festival, Open House, the Winter Festival and many other events.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 1953

Award Borden Scholarship to James Gill

James W. Gill, Bradford, Stark county, has been named 1952 winner of the $300 Borden scholarship award in agriculture.

Assistant Dean C. D. Smith of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in announcing the award points out that Gill's scholastic average for his first three years of work at the University has been 4.355 average out of a possible 5 point average.

One Borden scholarship is awarded each year to the senior in agriculture who has achieved the highest grade average among all students who have included two or more dairy courses in their curriculum. A similar award is made to a girl enrolled in the home economics curriculum.

Gill ranked fourth in his class of 37 at Bradford high school.

In FFA work he earned both Chapter and State Farmer awards, took part in judging team and athletic activities and served as delegate to the State FFA Convention.

He was an 8-year 4-H Club member with projects in beef, swine, corn, soybeans, concrete and tractor maintenance. He was a state outstanding 4-H member two years, champion swine showman two years, state winner in tractor maintenance and sixth in the United States, and an Illinois delegate to National 4-H Club Congress in 1949.

At the University, Gill has been treasurer of the Agriculture club, chairman of the 1951 All-Ag Field Day program, and has served on Plow Boy Prom, Little International and Field and Furrow judging contest committees.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 1953

4-H and FFA Calf Club Sale February 28

February 28 will be the date of the fifth annual 4-H and FFA Purebred Dairy Calf Club Sale at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, according to an announcement by C. S. Rhode, Illinois extension dairyman.

Rhode, who is in charge of sale arrangements at the College, expects about 100 head of select dairy heifers born after July 1 to be offered by auction to 4-H and FFA members. There will be about 20 to 25 calves from each of the Holstein, Brown Swiss, Jersey and Guernsey breeds, and 10 to 15 ayrshires.

The sale is sponsored by the Illinois Purebred Cattle Association to help the club members get excellent project heifers.

This event, held in the Stock Pavilion on the ag campus, offers an unusual opportunity for young folks to find so many top heifers to choose from at one sale, Rhode says. Many of the calves from the previous sales have made fine show ring records.

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1/7/53

Corncobs Not Cheapest Ration for Beef Cattle

How does corncob ration compare in cost with other wintering rations for beef cattle used in Illinois?

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that as one of the questions cattle feeders have been asking.

Carlisle lists the costs of four wintering rations for steer calves that have resulted from actual tests at corn belt experiment stations. Costs have averaged 20 cents on corncob ration, 17 cents on corn silage, 19 cents on grass silage and 23.5 cents on hay for each pound of gain.

Cost of corncobs is figured at $10 a ton at Purdue University where much work with corncobs has been done and that figure is used in computing the cost of these rations. Corn silage and grass silage costs were figured at the value of the grain or hay crop ensiled, plus a labor and machinery cost for putting the crop into the silo.

Fifteen pounds of corncobs fed daily to each steer at $10 a ton plus 3.5 pounds of Supplement A at $100 a ton equals 25 cents feed cost a steer every day. With a daily gain of 1.25 pounds, cost for each pound of gain on this ration is 20 cents.

On a corn silage ration fed at Illinois, 22 pounds of corn silage at $12 a ton, 2.5 pounds of alfalfa hay at $30 a ton, and 1 pound of soybean meal at $100 a ton equals a total feed cost of 22 cents a day for each steer. Daily gains on this ration were 1.3 pounds, making the cost of the ration 17 cents for each pound of gain.

Using grass silage at the rate of 20 pounds a day along with 2 pounds of hay and 4 pounds of shelled corn gave 1.3 pounds of daily gain at a cost of 19 cents. Hay figured at $30 a ton and fed at the rate of 12 pounds a day along with 4 pounds of shelled corn brought 1.25 pounds of daily gain at a cost of 23.5 cents for each pound of gain.

RAJ:mi
1/7/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 1953

Buy Chicks Free From Pullorum Disease

Before you buy your baby chicks, check to see what kind of progress the hatchery has made in its pullorum-disease eradication program.

Dr. J. O. Alberts of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says pullorum disease is still the number one enemy of the poultry industry. Prevention of the disease in your flock this year will depend largely upon how well your hatcheryman has done in ridding his breeding flocks of it.

Here's how you can tell. If the hatcheryman has "pullorum clean" chicks, his breeding flocks were free from pullorum disease on the first test. "Pullorum passed" chicks are from flocks that were tested more than once and were free from reactors on the last test. "Pullorum controlled" chicks are from flocks with up to 2 percent pullorum infection.

"Pullorum clean chicks are the safest ones to buy," Dr. Alberts states.

Pullorum clean, passed and controlled are the classifications for flocks cooperating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan. The flocks are tested and rated by the State Department of Agriculture. The hatchery's rating can be no higher than its lowest-rated supply flock.

Practicing a good sanitation program will help keep your chicks healthy after you get them home, Dr. Alberts adds. This includes putting them into a brooder house which has been scrubbed and disinfected and keeping them separated from the laying flock.

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1/7/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 1953

Rural Youth Day Monday, February 2

Illinois Rural Youthers will lead off on the Farm and Home Week program as usual on Monday, February 2.

Registration for Rural Youth begins at 10:00 a.m. in Gregory Hall on the University of Illinois campus. Mrs. Marcus Selden Goldman of Urbana, assistant state director of civil defense, will discuss "A Foot Across the Iron Curtain" concerning her travels in Europe, including Yugoslavia last summer.

At noon, a community service awards luncheon at the YMCA will be open to all Rural Youthers. S. A. Robert of Jackson, Tennessee, director of agriculture and forestry for the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad, will present 1952 Community Service Scholarship awards to seven winning counties enrolled in the community service program.

Featured at the afternoon session for the young people will be the Rev. Donald R. Crocker, pastor of the First Methodist church of Champaign, talking about "A One-Word Philosophy."

Norma Jean Hanell, Bloomington, and Peggy Dail, Erie, both Illinois delegates to the International Farm Youth Exchange program this past summer, will tell of their experiences in Sweden and Israel at the annual Rural Youth banquet Monday evening. In addition to good eats and fine fellowship, the banquet will also feature group singing and Rural Youth music.

As a windup for the evening, the Rural Youthers will join the square and ballroom dancing at the Farm and Home Week Open House at the Illini Union.

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1/6/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 1953

Start the New Year With Good Farm Records

Here's a prescription that can help avoid many a tax reporting headache when another year rolls around--a good farm record book.

G. B. Whitman, farm management specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, says it's only dreaming to think you can satisfy the tax collector every year with incomplete and inadequate records.

An easy-to-keep farm record book that is entirely acceptable to the Bureau of Internal Revenue is the Illinois Farm Record Book, available from farm advisers.

Help at income tax time, however, is only one of the many reasons why the modern farmer depends on good farm records, Whitman points out. In these days of high-cost farming it's next to impossible to manage an efficient and profitable farm business without adequate records.

The Illinois Farm Record Book is also especially designed to help you make a careful study and analysis of your farm business.

Whitman reports that more than 30,000 farmers in the state used this economical book in 1952. It is distributed at cost of printing and handling, usually about 50 cents a copy.

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Point 4 Head Talks at Farm and Home Week

Stanley Andrews, administrator of the Technical Cooperation Administration in the U. S. Department of State, Washington, D. C., will be the general session speaker on Tuesday, February 3, at Farm and Home Week in Urbana.

Andrews will tell about the foreign technical aid program, commonly referred to as the Point 4 program, which is designed to help the free nations of the world help themselves along the road to economic recovery. President John Hannah of Michigan State College, previously scheduled to speak at that general session, has asked to be released from that date because of the pressure of duties in connection with his recent appointment as Undersecretary of Defense.

Formerly director of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations in the Department of Agriculture, Andrews is widely known as an agricultural authority and editor. He has had a varied career since 1940 in government work, and has traveled widely in the countries where Point 4 work is being developed.

The Point 4 program, which has been in operation about 2 years in the Near East and South Asia, has American technicians in 11 countries in those areas working on projects in agriculture, natural resources development, health and sanitation and education.

Other general session speakers include President George D. Stoddard, University of Illinois, February 2; Mrs. Ava Milam Clark, Oregon State College, February 4; and Clarence W. Klassen, Illinois Department of Public Health, Springfield, February 5.

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1/14/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Full Program at Urbana For Livestockmen

Timely information and tips on how to do an easier, more profitable job on the home farm will be on hand for Illinois livestock producers who visit Farm and Home Week at the University of Illinois, February 2-5.

Problems of growing, cutting, storing and feeding legume-grass silage will be discussed at the Tuesday morning session, February 3. Three farmers, Paul Montavon, DeKalb dairy farmer and Doren Bricker and Archie Heap, both Media beef producers, will be among the panel members telling how and why they use grass silage on their farms. A roundup of making grass silage in stacks illustrated with colored slides taken in every section of the state is also scheduled.

Tuesday afternoon will see sessions on both swine and poultry production. Much of the information given at these sessions will tell the latest research results found at the Illinois Experiment Station covering swine and poultry.

One feature of the Tuesday swine program will be the panel of Illinois swine producers who have tried artificial milk in their feeding program. A highlight of the poultry program will be the movie on the formation of the egg.

The annual stockmen's banquet Tuesday evening will honor J. L. Edmonds, professor of animal husbandry and former coach of the University's livestock judging teams.

Sheep producers will share the stage on Wednesday morning with a panel session featuring two sheep producers discussing self-feeding lambs and handling yearling wethers in Illinois. Beef cow herds will get their share of discussion on Wednesday afternoon with the questions of what age heifers should be bred and whether Brahman blood has a place in Illinois heading the list of topics.

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1/14/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Plan Your Spring Building Needs Now

There's a good chance that you can save from 25 to 50 percent of the cost of your spring building needs if you can use home-grown lumber.

Many times lumber that comes from the south or far west with a big freight bill tacked alongside is no better for your purposes than local lumber cut from farm woodlands, according to T. W. Curtin, of the forestry department at the University of Illinois.

If you can use your own lumber, cut it this winter so that it will have a chance to season before you need it next summer. All green lumber should be seasoned before use and there is practically no difference in the moisture content of lumber cut in the winter or summer, Curtin says.

Problems of what species and how many trees to cut, where to have the logs sawed, how to season the lumber and other questions may best be answered by your district farm forester. He will advise you on harvesting your farm timber.

You will need to contact a mill operator and reach an agreement about sawing the logs. Then the lumber should be carefully stacked for seasoning as soon as possible.

For more information about cutting lumber from your own woodland write to the Department of Forestry, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Urbana. Ask for Vocational Agriculture leaflet Unit 102, "Home-Grown Lumber for Farm Buildings," and the Leaflet, "Home-Grown Lumber: Saw It From Your Own Woods."

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1/13/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Fire Marshal Wants Safe LP Gas Storage

State laws as well as common sense tell you how to store LP gas safely on your farm.

Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says the state fire marshal states specifically how far LP gas storage tanks should be set away from buildings and property line.

Minimum requirements are: 500 gallon tank shall be set at least 10 feet away from any building or property line; 1,000 gallon tank, 25 feet; any tank over 1,199 gallons must be at least 50 feet away.

Tank owners and LP gas users must send a written statement to the state fire marshal showing the address where the tank is set and the distance it is set from adjoining property lines and buildings. The state fire marshal has the right to spot check LP gas tanks and does so on his inspection trips.

Biggest difference between LP (liquefied petroleum) or propane gas and gasoline storage is that the LP gas is stored under pressure,Bowers points out. LP gas vapor is heavier than air. A leak in the pipes inside your house may cause the gas to collect in the basement and form a serious explosion hazard. Storage tanks need to be on a solid foundation so the tank will not shift and open gas line connections.

By law, propane gas has an artificial odor so that you can detect leaks. Never try to find a leak with an open flame, use soap bubbles or shampoo instead. Piece tanks made of several sheets of steel welded together are not considered safe.

Never smoke when you are near your storage tank or build a bonfire near it just in case there is a leak somewhere. Before you work on any major appliance in your house or buildings that uses LP gas, be sure and turn off the supply line at the main tank. As a matter of fact, Bowers says, it is always a good idea to call a service man to make any repairs on your gas equipment.

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1/13/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Make Some New Year's Safety Resolutions

"I want this year to be accident-free, so I will practice farm safety in '53," would be a good New Year's resolution for you to make right now.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, points out that it would be a good resolution for the whole family to make for their mutual benefit.

Making and keeping New Year's safety resolutions by the whole family is recommended by the Rural Safety Council, Matthews says. Keeping such resolutions is a way to help assure continued health and happiness for farm people everywhere this year.

Here are some suggestions for New Year's safety resolutions to be kept by every farm family throughout 1953.

1. "We will check the farm and home to locate and remove hazards."

2. "We will keep all shields and guards in place on machines."

3. "We will handle poisons and explosives carefully, keeping them well labeled and out of reach of children."

4. "Regardless of the emergency, we will not permit young children to operate or ride upon farm machinery."

5. "We will be cautious in handling all farm animals."

6. "We will keep guns unloaded and out of reach of children."

7. "We will encourage farm safety activities in all our organizations."

8. "We will be alert for safety fifty-two weeks of the year."

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1/13/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 1953

Iron, Copper Prevents Anemia in Pigs

If cold weather keeps your baby pigs inside this winter, they'll need a source of iron and copper to prevent anemia, according to Dr. G. T. Woods of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Baby pigs often becomes anemic if they are kept in floored pens or lots without access to soil or pasture, Dr. Woods says. Sow's milk is low in iron and copper, so until the pigs can get to rooting or eating forage or grain, these minerals should be supplied to them.

An easy way to provide iron and copper is to dump a few shovelsful of soil in the pens every few days until the pigs get outside or start to eat forage or grain. But be sure to get the soil from a place not used by the swine herd so it won't contain worm eggs.

Painting the sow's udder once a day with a ferrous sulphate solution so pigs will get the minerals when they nurse is another way to prevent anemia. Some veterinarians prefer to prescribe the tablet form of the necessary minerals.

Dr. Woods says anemic pigs have watery blood and are generally sluggish. They often make a thumping noise when they breathe after moving about. Some die suddenly, while others become thin and unthrifty.

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LEA:mi
1/13/53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

Farm and Home Week Exhibit Show

Farm and Home Week at the University of Illinois will take on a state fair atmosphere this year. The event is scheduled February 2-5 on the College of Agriculture campus, Urbana.

Dr. G. T. Woods, exhibits chairman, says plans are under way to show visitors late developments for the farm and home. Actual buildings, crops, livestock and farm equipment will be shown at the Stock Pavilion. Exhibits of interest to homemakers and other members of the family will be on display in the lower gymnasium of Bevier Hall.

Stock pavilion exhibits will include the corn show and will feature dwarf calves, chinchillas, dairy calves, sheep, broilers, and other laboratory animals used for nutrition experiments. Agricultural engineering specialists will demonstrate construction of roof trusses and adjustments on farm machinery.

The agronomy exhibit trailer will be on display with soil fertility as the central theme. Other exhibits in the Stock Pavilion will include wood products and their use, anthrax disease, VE and

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brucellosis, grass silage preservatives, use of roughages, and low cost protein supplements.

The new slaughter room which adjoins the Stock Pavilion will be open to the public with demonstration carcasses.

Bevier Hall will feature two complete kitchens, including the "Heart Kitchen" designed for persons with heart ailments. The exhibit also will include displays on leisure time crafts, new fabrics, food preparation, rural recreation, and human nutrition.

The University of Illinois Small Homes Council exhibit will show new features in home design and construction. And the Illinois Public Health Service will be represented with a large display.

The exhibits will be open daily during Farm and Home Week and will include evening showings Tuesday and Wednesday, February 3 and 4.

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DTS:mi
1/14/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

Guard Against Undulant Fever

Unless tests have proved that your dairy or swine herd is free from brucellosis, there's good reason to guard against undulant fever at calving or farrowing time.

Dr. G. T. Woods of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says that each time a cow or sow infected with brucellosis gives birth to young she expels millions of brucellosis germs at the same time. Handling the newly born animals or the afterbirth can lead to a painful, disabling undulant fever infection.

A Douglas county, Illinois, swine raiser hopes his experience will help teach other farmers to treat brucellosis with respect. He's now recovering from undulant fever, but after months of illness he belives he's still only half the man he used to be.

The best way to prevent undulant fever is to eradicate brucellosis from your farm. But until you can do that, follow these precautionary measures:

1. Wear rubber gloves when handling newborn pigs or calves.

2. Use a fork or shovel to remove afterbirth and dead pigs.

3. Wash and disinfect your hands after you remove the rubber gloves.

Another thing--it's much safer to have your veterinarian treat a cow that has not cleaned itself properly after calving than to try to do it yourself. Cows with brucellosis and other diseases may fail to clean themselves. In this case it's better to let someone do the job who has had experience in protecting himself against the disease.

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1/20/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

State 4-H Staff Member to Work in India

Miss Florence A. Kimmelshue, member of the state 4-H home economics club staff since 1937, reports February 1 to begin two years of work on the staff of the Allahabad Agricultural Institute in India.

In India, Miss Kimmelshue's job emphasis will be on teaching girls who attend the institute to carry their home economics training out to the women in the Indian villages. This training will follow the present system of home economics extension work being carried on in this country and being developed in India and other countries.

Miss Kimmelshue expects that her home economics teaching will be different in India from what it has been in the United States, with more emphasis on sanitation and nutrition. Allahabad, location of the institute, is situated about halfway between Calcutta and New Delhi, on the Ganges river. Students at the institute speak English, so there will be no language barrier there.

A native of Manteno in Will county, Miss Kimmelshue helped to organize the first rural girls' club that was supervised by state extension people in Illinois in 1912. This organization was the forerunner of today's 4-H home economics clubs which were started about 1914.

In that early club's second year, Miss Kimmelshue became its leader. She attended Monmouth college, later receiving her A.B. degree from the University of Illinois and a master's degree from the University of Chicago. She has also taken post-graduate work in dietetics at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago.

She taught high school home economics in Indiana and Illinois for nine years. Then she was assistant home adviser in Kankakee county and home adviser in Lake county for five years. Since joining the state 4-H staff, she has specialized in 4-H clothing training schools. She has also been serving as 4-H home economics club supervisor for the northern 20 counties of Illinois.

RAJ:mi
1/20/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

Frost Inside Barns Sign of Poor Ventilation

If frost collects on the inside walls or ceiling of your dairy or beef barn you have a ventilation problem that you should correct.

The animals that you keep inside the barn will be healthier with good ventilation and the building will provide years more service if it's kept dry inside, says J. T. Clayton, extension farm structures specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Air inside a "tight" barn housing livestock has a high moisture content because the animals are constantly giving off moisture. When this relatively warm,moist air contacts cold,uninsulated surfaces it condenses and forms frost if the surface is below freezing.

You can keep the frost out of barns by removing the moisture-laden air before the frost has a chance to form and replacing it with drier outside air. Use either ventilating fans to move the air, or open windows on the south or east sides of the building.

If you use a ventilating fan it is important that you use the right size and put it in the right place, Clayton points out. Your local power use adviser will be able to help you locate the fan and get the right size.

One or two large openings will work best if you plan natural ventilation, but place them so that they will not set up cross currents and create drafts. You can control the air movement better if these openings have adjustable doors. You can cut down drafts if you put the openings only along one side of the building.

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1/20/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

Soil Conditioners Reduce Draft on Plow

Draft on the plow was reduced by about 25 percent on test plots at the Urbana Experiment Station of the Illinois College of Agriculture where the soil had previously been treated with krilium soil conditioner.

Since the plow pulled much easier, it was possible to save plowing time by traveling faster and to save fuel because of the lighter load, according to H. P. Bateman and G. E. Pickard, agricultural engineers at the college who conducted the tests.

Researchers also needed less time and power to prepare the seedbed, since the soil broke up into a mellow condition that was suitable for planting. Soil conditioners have the effect of preventing clods from forming at the time of plowing.

Surface soil on the treated plots also looked drier after rains last summer and fall than that on untreated plots. However, there was very little difference in soil moisture, according to the tests. The difference in drying rates was due to increased rate of evaporation rather than increased drainage. Krilium does not affect the soil below plow depth unless the soil at that depth has been actually treated. The conditioner does not leach downward.

The small increase in corn yields on the treated plots was not large enough to pay for the cost of treatment, Bateman and Pickard point out. There was less lodging, resulting in less loss at picking time.

Soil conditioners are still too expensive to be practical on farm fields, the engineers says. Rates of application on the test plots ranged from 500 to 2,000 pounds an acre. Small amounts of conditioner at present cost about $1.50 a pound. If you want to try some, use a small amount of it in your garden, greenhouse or on your lawn.

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1/21/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 1953

Swine Erysipelas Can Be Hard Disease to Eradicate

It's easier to prevent erysipelas than to stamp it out of an infected swine herd. That's because of the resistant nature of the germ that causes the disease.

Dr. G. T. Woods of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says erysipelas germs can live for a long time even in dead hogs. One scientist found live germs in a hog carcass that had been buried for 280 days.

Another reason why it's hard to stamp out swine erysipelas is that the germs may even live and multiply in certain kinds of soil. This may account for new outbreaks of erysipelas on farms where hogs are being raised for the first time in several years.

Most erysipelas outbreaks are probably caused by buying infected hogs and adding them to the home herd, Dr. Woods believes. He says it's always safest to buy hogs only from farms known to be free from erysipelas and other swine diseases.

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1/27/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 1953

Mulch Planting Gives Average Corn Yields

Close to average corn yields have resulted from tests made during the past three years at the Urbana Experiment Station with the mulch tillage planter.

Corn yields have averaged about 6 bushels an acre lower for the mulch planter method than for the conventional method during the past two years, according to George Pickard and H. P. Bateman, agricultural engineers at the Illinois College of Agriculture who conducted the tests. Corn yields by the conventional method averaged 95 bushels in the tests.

This comparison was made with the application of 66 pounds of nitrogen an acre, the engineers point out, and with a corn population of about 12,000 plants an acre. Yield reductions are much greater when nitrogen is not applied in the mulch planting method than when it is not put on in the conventional method.

The mulch tillage planter machine used in the Urbana tests is mounted on a three-bottom tractor and plants two rows at a time. Developed in cooperation with the International Harvester company, the big advantage of the machine is that you only have to go over your fields once compared with four or five times in the conventional method of planting corn.

Another big advantage is that ground cover is on the soil all the time up to the first cultivation. Over a period of years soil will be saved and its physical condition will improve because of less working and packing.

Two cultivations of the mulch-planted corn in 1952 increased the yield by 57 bushels an acre over no cultivation because of the dry season. Success in the tests so far has encouraged the company to make 25 mulch planters for sale next year.

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RAJ:mi
1/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 1953

Tailor Winter Weather on Your Farm

Men and livestock can both be more comfortable in frigid winter weather on Illinois farms behind a windbreak tailored to fit the farm needs.

Every farmer knows how much protection buildings provide in winter, says W. F. Bulkley, extension forester at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. A windbreak can give protection in the open spaces between buildings.

Bulkley reports that farmers who have established windbreaks on their farms are enthusiastic about how comfortable they make outside work when north and west winds are blowing. Protected feed lots make livestock more comfortable, too, and lower the feed requirements of animals, since they need to use less of their feed intake to keep warm.

Douglas fir and Norway spruce, alone or in combination, are probably the two best varieties of trees for Illinois windbreaks, Bulkley says. But you can use other species in small groups to give some variety to your windbreak. There are many combinations of trees, but it is usually better for most farms to plant only one variety.

The size of trees to plant depends on how much you want to pay and how long you want to wait until your windbreak is effective. You can buy the larger balled and burlapped stock or the smaller bare root stock for direct planting. Or you can grow your own transplants in the garden, which is the cheapest but the method requiring the most time.

Locate you windbreak now and order the trees you will need. See your county farm adviser for additional help, or write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of Circular 38, "Windbreaks for Illinois Farmsteads."

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RAJ:mi
1/27/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 1953

Front Porches Disappearing From Farm Houses

Front porches are disappearing from farmhouses the way running boards disappeared from cars, and for much the same reason.

Floors in today's farmhouses are lower, eliminating the need for steps, according to Keith Hinchcliff, extension farm structures specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

But a better reason is that farm folks today would rather have their outdoor sitting space somewhere else than located on a seldom-used open porch facing the road.

When the average Illinois farmhouse was built about 50 years ago, visitors often parked their buggies out in front of the house and entered by the front door. Now they by-pass the front for a parking place along the driveway or in the back farm court.

What should you do with an old porch? Just taking the front entrance away and walling up the door probably won't do at all. You will still need a purposeful front entrance. A window may be a good substitute for the old front door. If you're closer to the road than 50 feet, you can consider strip windows for privacy.

Best place for a new front entrance is facing the driveway and located to give access to both the living and kitchen areas. A small overhanging roof can give weather protection to the new entrance without adding a "sitting" porch. A four-foot entryway with a two-foot-deep coat closet will give both weather protection and convenience.

You can help soften harsh lines on the remodeled front with well-designed landscaping, horizontal windows and trim or a flat or pitched sunshade. For more information, write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of "How to Remodel Your Model-T Farmhouse."

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RAJ:mi
1/27/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 1953

How Much Protein for Fattening Pigs?

It may be that you have been feeding your pigs more protein than they need for most efficient gains.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that recent research at the college has indicated that 16 percent protein is enough for weaned pigs in drylot.

This lowering of protein requirements from the 20 percent thought necessary for weanling pigs a few years ago may be confusing unless you know how much protein is needed each day by pigs of different weights, Russell adds.

Here's how you can check the protein in the ration of pigs in drylot: For pigs weighing 50 pounds, 2.15 pounds of corn and .85 pound of 36 percent protein supplement will give you an average gain of a pound a day with a protein content of 16 percent in the ration.

For pigs weighing 100 pounds, the ration consists of 4.20 pounds of corn and 1.10 pounds of supplement, totaling 14 percent protein in the ration. When pigs get up to 150 pounds, a 12 percent protein ration, made up of 5.8 pounds of corn and a pound of supplement, is high enough. A 10 percent protein ration consisting of 7 pounds of corn and half a pound of supplement, is enough for 200-pound pigs. Pigs will gain at the rate of 1.6 to 1.8 pounds a day on these rations.

You don't need to change the protein content of the ration abruptly from 16 to 14 percent as a pig reaches 100 pounds, for example, but make the change gradually. If your pigs eat more protein than they need when it is self-fed, you can limit the amount by adding extra mineral or by mixing it with ground grain. Just be sure that your protein supplement is well fortified with plenty of minerals and vitamins and that you use an antibiotic in the ration.

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RAJ:mi
1/27/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 1953

Name Four Illinois National 4-H Camp Delegates

Names of the four Illinois 4-H Club members who will represent this state at the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D.C., next June have been announced by the state 4-H staff.

Members of the Illinois delegation are Jean Phillips, 20, Wilmington, Will county; Rita Schertz, 19, Benson,Woodford county; Philip Hobson, 20, Greenfield, Greene county; and Deane Keller, 18, Streator, LaSalle county.

These four outstanding 4-H Club members will represent the 57,000 Illinois 4-H'ers among the delegates from all the states and many foreign countries attending the National 4-H Club Camp.

During their full week in the nation's capitol, these young people will have a full week of citizenship training, visits to Congress and other governmental functions and educational tours to historic places in and around Washington. They will hear some of the top speakers on the nature and operation of democratic government and will meet in discussion groups to summarize what they learn.

Selection to attend National 4-H Club Camp is the highest delegate honor that a 4-H Club member can achieve, according to Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, Illinois state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Club work respectively. Delegates to National Camp are chosen by the state 4-H Club staff at the University of Illinois for their leadership ability, outstanding achievement in 4-H Club work and participation in project and community activities.

State 4-H staff members who will accompany the Illinois delegation to Washington this year are Miss Erma Cottingham and E. I. Pilchard.

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1/27/53

Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 1953

Doesn't Pay to Breed Yearling Heifers

It will probably pay to postpone the breeding of grade beef heifers until they are two years old, according to R. R. Snapp, head of the beef division of the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Snapp believes that, in light of experiment station results in several states, the saving in feed and labor will in most cases be more than the value of the extra calf.

Cattlemen disagree to some extent on whether to breed beef heifers as yearlings or as two-year-olds. Those favoring the older age argue that early breeding stunts the growth of heifers, requires close attention at time of calving and results in lighter weight calves at weaning and smaller calf crops.

Arguments in favor of early breeding say that the value of the extra calf will more than offset these disadvantages, particularly if you feed a liberal winter grain ration to yearling heifers that are to be bred.

Experiment station results in several states and at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station show that it is not advisable to breed

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yearling heifers unless you do feed them liberal grain rations throughout the first winters. That will cause them to develop and reach a size where they can calve successfully and give enough milk for their calves to make normal growth.

For example, 20 heifers at the Kansas Station bred as yearlings and wintered entirely on roughage weaned only 12 calves. The same number fed a liberal grain ration during the winter weaned 17 calves. In addition, 30 percent of the heifers bred as yearlings and fed no grain did not produce calves the following year.

Whether or not you should feed your beef heifers a liberal grain ration and breed them as yearlings or feed them only roughage and delay breeding for a full year will depend upon the relative prices of grain and feeder calves. At present prices of corn and oats, the cost of the grain a heifer would need during her first three winters would nearly equal the sale value of the extra calf she might produce.

Heifers bred as yearlings often have trouble during calving, Snapp points out. At the Oklahoma Experiment Station, 82 of 130 yearling heifers needed help during parturition. Thirteen calves, or 10 percent of the possible calf crop, died at brith, while five of the heifers failed to survive hard labor.

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RAJ:mi
2/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 1953

Treated Fence Posts Holding Up Well

Most Illinois tree varieties, if properly treated, should produce fence posts that will last 15 years or more.

Comparisons between treated and nontreated posts at Sinnissippi Forest and Dixon Springs Experiment Station show striking differences in lasting power, says T. W. Curtin, forestry department at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

At Sinnissippi Forest, for example, 950 treated and 92 untreated posts include 14 different hardwoods (such as oak, elm, etc.) and 5 softwoods, (such as pine, larch, etc.) About half of the untreated posts have rotted off after being in the ground $4\frac{1}{2}$ years. The other half have some decay in them.

In contrast, only 11 of 368 treated hardwood posts have failed and only 7 of 582 softwood posts. All of the posts in this test were treated by the cold-soak method.

The forester recommends pressure treatment of posts where possible, but the cold-soak method is practical for farmers and is suitable if the posts are soaked for a prolonged period.

The story is much the same at Dixon Springs. Nearly all of the untreated posts put in more than two years ago have failed, while more than 96 percent of the treated posts are still serviceable.

Tests of first posts treated by the forestry department originated in 1942. Preservatives used include pentachlorophenol and copper naphthenate.

For more information on preserving fence posts at home, write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of Circular 636, "Preserve Your Posts With Penta," or Farmers' Bulletin 2049, "Preservative Treatment of Fence Posts and Farm Timbers."

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RAJ:mi
2/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 1953

Today's Brooding Methods Better Than Biddy

Wise use of today's equipment and sound planning can brood better chicks than the mother hen herself can do.

Poultrymen starting their chicks early to profit from good egg prices next fall need to give them more care than usual to protect them from cold, blustery weather, says Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

It's important to start early chicks in a clean, dry house. Don't wait until the day before the chicks are due to arrive. Start the brooder to see that it is in good working condition, and operate it two or three days before the chicks arrive so that the house and equipment will be warm.

Litter the floor in advance, too, so that it will be dry and warm when you put the chicks into the house. Ground corncobs, wood shavings or some of the commercial litters work well in Illinois. Cover the litter with paper for the first few days to keep the chicks from eating it. Stir it occasionally, especially under the hover, to keep it from caking.

Keep a confinement ring or chick guard around the brooder for the first week to teach the chicks where to find the heat, Ridlen suggests, and to prevent them crowding into the corners. Put the ring about two feet from the edge of the hover and then move it out each day. After about a week, remove it entirely.

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RAJ:mi
2/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 1953

Award Two 4-H'ers Danforth Scholarships

Beatrice Hill, 19, Macomb, McDonough county, and George F. Connell, Jr., 18, Zion, Lake county, have been named winners of the 1953 Danforth Scholarship awards for Illinois 4-H Club members.

These two outstanding Illinois 4-H'ers will spend two full weeks in leadership training and outdoor life next August at the American Youth Foundation Leadership Training Camp at Camp Miniwanca on Lake Michigan near Shelby, Michigan.

Sponsor of the award is the Danforth Foundation, a private family fund started by William H. Danforth, chairman of the board of the Ralston Purina company in St. Louis. The scholarship covers the cost of the two-week camping period.

Beatrice and George were selected by the state 4-H Club staff at the University of Illinois to represent the 57,000 Illinois 4-H Club members on the basis of their 4-H leadership and activities, scholarship and character. One boy and one girl from each state are selected for the award.

Beatrice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford L. Hill of Macomb, lives in town and has been a member of the Macomb Happy Homemakers club for six years. Her 21 completed projects include six clothing projects, and she modeled in the State Fair dress revue one year. She has been junior club leader for three years, was county federation delegate for two years and attended State 4-H Leadership Conference in 1951. She is a junior at Western State Teachers college.

For the past five years George, a 4-H Club member for 9 years, has been junior leader of his club. His 10 projects have included garden, poultry and dairy. He attended State 4-H Leadership Conference in 1950 and was a delegate to National 4-H Club Congress in 1951 as state winner in the National Garden contest.

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2/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 1953

Skimpy Rations May Lead to Ketosis in Ewes

Skimping on the rations for your pregnant ewes now that the lamb market is down is down is false economy. If the ewes start having ketosis, you may lose them and their unborn lambs.

Dr. R. D. Hatch of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says increased losses from ketosis (pregnancy disease) in some flocks this year may mean that grain is being withheld from the ewes. And feeding them almost wholly on poor quality roughage is almost a sure way to cause ketosis.

Although the lamb market is down now, it will probably be up again next summer. And feeding each ewe $2 or $3 worth of grain will be a good investment.

To prevent ketosis, ewes should have about one-fourth pound of grain a day along with liberal amounts of good-quality legume hay beginning the eighth to sixth week before lambing. The grain ration should be increased slowly to one pound a day during the fourth to second weeks before lambing.

Symptoms of ketosis include loss of appetite, trembling, weakness and inability to stand. If these symptoms occur, call your veterinarian immediately. Prompt treatment will help to save the ewe and her lamb. Ewes carrying more than one lamb are most likely to have the disease.

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2/3/53

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 1953

Veterinarian Describes Poultry Disease Situation

Respiratory diseases of poultry are showing their usual rapid winter increase, according to Dr. J. O. Alberts, veterinarian at the University of Illinois.

Many Newcastle disease and infectious bronchitis outbreaks can be blamed on carelessness, Dr. Alberts believes. Persons visiting different flocks and observing or handling infected birds too often spread the disease germs on their clothing, footwear or equipment.

In describing other phases of the poultry disease situation in Illinois, Dr. Alberts says pullorum disease will be on the increase soon as a result of increased chick and poult traffic. He says day-old stock from pullorum-clean hatcheries is the safest buy for growers who want to avoid pullorum disease.

Poultrymen having trouble with cannibalism should try replacing the corn in the ration with meat scraps for a few days. Hand-feed the meat scraps in the late afternoon. If this doesn't work, the next measure is to debeak the flock.

Dr. Alberts says disease prevention also depends upon keeping the areas around feeders and waterers dry, especially if deep litter is used. If the flock becomes infected with a bacterial or parasitic disease, such as tuberculosis or roundworms, poultrymen should dispose of the litter to help get rid of the infection.

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2/11/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 1953

Name State 4-H Corn, Soybean Winners

John Altman, Freeport; Lawrence Duewer, Waverly; and Herbert Dare, Jr., Mt. Vernon, have been named top winners in the 1952 Illinois 4-H X-tra Yield Corn contest. Dale Niehoff, Altamont, won first honors in the 1952 4-H Soybean Show.

H. J. Wetzel, state 4-H staff member in charge of the contests, reports that 45 oounties were represented in the corn contest and 12 counties in the soybean show, both held during Farm and Home Week at the University of Illinois.

The X-tra Yield Corn contest was judged 45 percent on the yield, cost and quality of the entries, 10 percent on the project record book and 45 percent on the contestant's all-round 4-H activities, Wetzel says. The Soybean Show scoring was based 40 percent on yield, 40 percent on cost and 20 percent on quality.

Top three winners in the X-tra Yield contest received $150 scholarships from the Illinois Farm Supply company, sponsors of the project in cooperation with the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Five district gold watch winners in the corn contest include Ray Pierce, Stockton; Garry Mueller, Reynolds; Gilbert Ash, Allerton; Ray Svoboda, Edwardsville; and Robert Walter, Karnak.

District winners in the Soybean Show include Larry Lewis, Ursa; Paul Luedke, Broadlands; Daniel Hoepker, Oakdale; and Niehoff. Luedke was named reserve champion of the show. Niehoff received a $25 savings bond from the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, co-sponsors of the show with the Extension Service.

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2/11/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 1953

Select Three Illinois Foreign Exchange Delegates

Three Illinois young people have been selected as delegates to the 1953 International Farm Youth Exchange program this summer.

They are Martha Prather, Urbana, Champaign county; Donald Huftalin, Malta, DeKalb county; and William Whitfield, Plainview, Macoupin county. Miss Prather will visit France, Huftalin will go to England and Wales and Whitfield tentatively has been assigned to Greece.

These three Illinois delegates will be among about 200 young farm people from the United States who will live and work on farms in foreign countries under the exchange plan this year. It is expected that they will leave the United States about mid-June and return in early November.

In the second half of the exchange, rural young people from foreign countries will come to this country to live with farm folks and learn our farming methods and ways of life.

At the present time, two Illinois young people are living on farms in Chile and Bolivia in South America in the winter phase of the program. Five others from this state have been foreign delegates from Illinois during the past three years.

Basic idea behind the project is the belief that understanding is the foundation of world peace. By giving farm young people a chance to learn another way of life by living it, the project helps them understand problems and attitudes of rural people in other parts of the world.

The program is conducted by the National 4-H Club Foundation and the Extension Service of the USDA and the land-grant colleges. Contributions from the counties make up the $600 needed to send each delegate abroad.

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2/11/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 1953

Set Swine Growers' Meeting for April 2

The 1953 Swine Growers' Day at the University of Illinois will be on Thursday, April 2.

Main emphasis of the program this year will be on helping to make the swine business more efficient and profitable through better feeding and breeding practices, says S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

A full afternoon program of timely subjects presented by guest speakers will feature a discussion of the future of the quality hog by Wayne C. Jackson, Wilson and Co., Chicago. L. N. Hazel, animal husbandry department of Iowa State College, will tell how swine breeding research helps the hog producer.

How improved feeding practices will come out of current research will be discussed by L. E. Hanson, animal husbandry department of the University of Minnesota, also in the afternoon. P. D. Beamer of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine will give a brief review of rabbit modified hog cholera serum and problems of rhinitis and transmissible gastroenteritis.

Staff members of the University's swine division will give some of the results of the latest research at the swine farm on the morning program, Terrill points out. Some topics will include the value of implanting baby pigs with antibiotic pellets, the value of creep feeding a pig starter ration, and ladino clover pasture and grass legume silage for bred gilts and sows.

Other topics on the program will include combinations of antibiotics in growing-fattening pig rations, results of protein level studies with pigs and a progress report of swine breeding research at Illinois.

You'll have a chance to inspect the swine farm and experimental work, and there'll be an opportunity for questions and answers from the speakers.

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2/11/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 1953

Plan Membership Drive During 4-H Club Week

A goal of 60,000 members in 1953 has been set by the more than 57,000 Illinois 4-H Club members in their membership drive set for National 4-H Club Week, March 7-15.

E. I. Pilchard and Miss Anna Searl, state leaders of agriculture and home economics 4-H Clubs respectively, report that two goals have been set up this year.

The first goal is to hold more first-year club members in active club membership. The state average is about 30 percent of the total membership in first-year members. Pilchard and Miss Searl say that about one-third of these members drop out each year.

State 4-H staff members are helping to lead the February series of district 4-H leaders' meetings in devoting the entire program to meeting the needs of the first-year members.

Second goal this year will be to reach and enroll more new members from among the many eligible rural young people who are not now members of 4-H Clubs.

Special invitations will be issued during National 4-H Club Week to young people between the ages of 10 and 21 years in each county who want to "learn by doing" some farming, homemaking or community activities. Interested boys and girls can ask their local county farm or home adviser for enrollment cards.

If you would like to join a 4-H Club and there is none in your area, all you need is five or more enthusiastic youngsters and an adult to be the club leader.

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4-H Clubs are guided in each county by the local extension workers and local volunteer club leaders. However, club members elect their own officers, help plan their own programs, select their own projects and demonstration subjects and make decisions on the affairs of their clubs.

Good citizens as well as better farmers and homemakers are the result of 4-H Club work, Pilchard and Miss Searl point out. Most clubs carry on community improvement activities in which all members have responsibilities in addition to their individual project work.

Agricultural club projects include beef or dairy cattle, swine, sheep, poultry, crops, tractor maintenance, farm concrete or metal roofing, farm electricity, forestry, gardening and soil conservation.

Projects for girls in the home economics clubs include clothing, baking, canning, frozen foods, dairy products, food preparation and home improvement.

Health, achievement, citizenship, leadership, records, farm safety, recreation and rural arts are some of the activities in which 4-H boys and girls may work together.

During National 4-H Club Week more than two million boys and girls in 87,000 4-H Clubs all over the country will pledge head, heart, hands and health for greater service to home, club, community and country.

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RAJ:mi
2/11/53

for weeklies

Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Protect Dry Dairy Cows Against Mastitis

Mastitis attacks dry cows as well as those in production, according to Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. So don't forget them when you start a mastitis control program.

Some dairymen have licked mastitis in dry cows by having their veterinarians inject an antibiotic into the udder soon after the cow ceases production, Dr. Bryan states. This destroys both the infectious bacteria that are present in the udder and those that may enter later in the dry period.

Poor housing and sanitation are probably the main causes of mastitis in dry cows. Unless cows are properly bedded and sheltered, especially during winter weather, the teat openings become chapped and eroded, allowing the mastitis germs to enter.

Another reason for mastitis in dry cows is that the teat openings may not become sealed quickly enough. As a result, mastitis germs may multiply in the small amount of milk at the teat opening and in the teat and spread upward into the udder.

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2/17/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Black Stem Top Oat Disease in 1952

Black stem caused more damage than any other oat disease in 1952.

This disease threatens to become a serious hazard to Illinois oat producers, according to W. M. Bever, University of Illinois College of Agriculture crop pathologist.

Black stem was first reported in the United States in 1922, Bever says. But it was not considered important until 1947, when isolated fields showed a high percentage of infection. Since then the infection has been steadily increasing in the midwest.

First sign of the disease is the appearance of small, purplish-black spots on the leaves. These spots may unite in a severe epidemic and cause premature death of the leaves. The result is reduced seed quality.

However, most disastrous stage in the development of the disease is the black stem stage. You'll first be able to see the stem infection on the leaf sheath and around the point of its attachment to the stem.

It then goes into the stem and destroys or rots the tissue. This rotting action causes the stem to weaken and break over easily in the diseased area.

Brown discoloration on one-fourth to one-half of the oat kernel may occur in some years. Apparently this discoloration has little effect on seed germination, as shown by germination tests made by the Illinois Crop Improvement Association laboratory.

Although there appear to be no clear-cut cases of immunity, Bever says varieties seem to differ in their reaction to the disease.

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2/17/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

4-H'ers Seek New Members During National Club Week

Illinois 4-H Club members will work harder than ever during National 4-H Club Week, March 7-15, to enroll new club members and help them get started in projects for 1953.

During this special week, the 57,000 club members in this state will join the more than two million members all over the country in helping turn attention to the values in the 4-H Club program. 4-H Clubs are active in every rural county of the 48 states, as well as in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Volunteer local club leaders, extension service workers and many other friends of 4-H will join the young people in observing National 4-H Club Week, which is geared to the 1953 theme: "Working Together for World Understanding."

Through the International Farm Youth Exchange program, correspondence with foreign young people, sending packages abroad and in many other ways, American 4-H'ers are helping to build the international friendships so essential to world peace.

4-H Club members also use this week to organize their clubs and plan their programs for the rest of the year. Through open house events, exhibits and window displays and in other ways, they will be telling their impressive story of achievement.

Each year the 4-H Club members, through their projects and activities, add to the total farm wealth by growing and conserving food, putting into practice on their home farms more efficient ways of farming and homemaking, making their homes and grounds more attractive, improving community health and safety and promoting better citizenship and world understanding.

Any rural youngster between the ages of 10 and 21 years can belong to a 4-H Club. Get further information from your county farm or home adviser.

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2/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Five 4-H Programs Offer 42 College Scholarships

Five national 4-H award programs being offered to 57,000 Illinois 4-H'ers in 1953 will help add to their interest by offering a total of 42 college scholarships.

These programs and their donors include: canning, Kerr Glass company; clothing, Spool Cotton corporation; food preparation, Kelvinator corporation; garden, Allis-Chalmers; and home improvement, Sears, Roebuck and company.

Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Clubs in Illinois respectively, estimate that more than 1½ million 4-H boys and girls throughout the country will take part in these five programs this year.

These 4-H'ers will make or remodel 2 1/3 million garments, plan and serve 13 million meals, can and freeze 8½ million quarts and 2 million pounds of food and make 430,000 articles to improve 115,000 rooms in their homes.

Recognition for the best records in these project award programs will be given in the form of medals and ribbons for county winners, trips to annual 4-H Club Congress in Chicago for state winners and $300 college scholarships to the national winners.

For more information about any of these projects, see your county farm or home adviser. All 4-H project work is under the supervision of the Illinois Extension Service.

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2/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Falls Cause Most Accidents on Farms

You're heading for a fall if you don't keep ladders and other climbing equipment in good repair around your farmstead.

Falls are the main cause of injuries that occur on farms and around farm homes, says J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Matthews suggests that you keep your ladders under cover and in a handy location when you are not using them. It is always a good idea to use a substantial ladder and not to substitute some makeshift chair, box or table to do your climbing.

Check your ladders for rusted or loose bolts and nails, cracks, or rotted or loose rungs and supports. It's cheaper to make repairs right away or get a new ladder than to have an accident. Serious injuries and sometimes death can result from falls from even low levels.

Here are some rules recommended by the Illinois Rural Safety Council for using ladders safely:

1. Set the base of the ladder firmly one-fourth of the ladder's height from the wall.
2. Always face the ladder going up or down, and hold on with both hands. Don't hurry.
3. Don't lean too far out on the ladder. It is safer to move it.
4. Clean mud or grease from your hands and shoes before climbing.
5. If tools or materials cannot be carried safely in pockets, hoist them with a hand line.
6. Don't climb or work on a ladder in a high wind.

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2/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Elect Swine Herd Improvement Officers

LaVerne Johnson, Clare, was named 1953 president of the Illinois Swine Herd Improvement Association at the annual meeting held recently in Pontiac.

Albert Gehlbach, Lincoln, president two years ago, was elected vice president. Other officers named at the same time were Harold Parrett, Mahomet, treasurer; and Fred Hoppin, Logan county farm adviser, Lincoln, executiive secretary, a new position.

Newly elected directors were Merle Corbin, Saunemin; C. W. Anthony, Marengo; and C. Linden Piatt, Monticello.

Holdover directors include Johnson, Gehlback and Parrett; F. L. Bossingham, Stanford; Elmer Henderson, Hinckley; Stuart Miller, Forrest; and W. N. Stevenson, Streator.

E. G. Mossbacher, McLean county farm adviser, Bloomington, was elected to the advisory committee of the association to succeed Kenneth Knell, Mahomet, who resigned. Holdover advisory committee members are Robert Howey, Newark; H. G. Russell and J. N. Weiss, Urbana; and D. J. Witt, Belvidere.

The Illinois Swine Herd Improvement association is made up of 18 community swine herd improvement associations and 16 Future Farmer of America chapter associations. The new board of directors will meet Saturday, March 7, at Forrest.

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2/18/53

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

Grass Silage Puts on Cheap Beef Gains

Seven yearling steers averaged 2.72 pounds of gain a day on an alfalfa-brome silage ration that was specially designed for fattening heavy-weight steers at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

During ensiling, ground corn was added to the alfalfa-brome mixture at the rate of 20 pounds for each 80 pounds of silage, according to A. L. Neumann, beef cattle specialist at the college. This corn helped to preserve the silage, absorb extra moisture and act as a source of energy in the ration. The grass silage had been put into the silo with a moisture content of 80 percent.

Neumann points out that this silage mixture looks good for feeders who want to use the self-feed type of stack silo.

Cost of the gains was 17.4 cents a pound. Labor costs were very low, since the silage was a complete ration and was fed only once a day in bunks.

The steers in the experiment weighed 919 pounds when they were put on the test and 1,055 pounds when they were slaughtered 51 days later. Carcasses graded high good to choice.

These animals were pastured on bluegrass last summer and then were turned onto cornstalks for a month before they started eating the silage.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

Care Will Help Cut Baby Pig Losses

Most baby pig losses happen during the first three days after farrowing and are caused by chilling, overlaying by the sow, other injuries and not enough milk from the sow.

These common causes of baby pig loss also have common but often neglected remedies, says H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Bred sows need about a pound of good protein supplement a day before farrowing and enough protein, minerals and vitamins after the pigs arrive to provide a plentiful milk supply for the brood.

Keep the pigs healthy and disease away by thoroughly cleaning the farrowing quarters before the sow goes in, using a steam cleaner if possible. Wash the sow's udder, sides, feet and legs with warm water and soap before you put her in the farrowing quarters.

Use guard rails, pig incubators, heat lamps or combinations of them to help save the most pigs that you can. If you've had serious losses from crushing at farrowing time, construct a few farrowing stalls. You can get plans at your county farm adviser's office.

If your pigs must stay in pens or on concrete for more than 10 days to two weeks, be sure to use some iron compound to prevent pig anemia, Russell suggests. A saturated solution of ferrous chloride in water painted on each sow's udder once a day will guard against this difficulty. Or you can put a piece of fresh sod, taken from the roadside where no hogs have been, in the pen where the pigs can root into it.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

Baby Chicks Need Heat First Few Weeks

Be ready for your baby chicks when they arrive by having your brooder hooked up and operating for at least two or three days before they come.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that your brooder should be operating at a temperature of 90 degrees or a little more when you put the chicks under it.

That's what they'll need for the first week. Then you can reduce the temperature 5 degrees each week until the brooder is finally operating at about 70 degrees.

Use a thermometer, Ridlen suggests, but also keep an eye on the chicks. When chicks crowd up to the source of heat, they are too cold. When they sleep outside the hover, they are too warm. When they form a ring around the stove and just under the edge of the hover, the temperature is right.

Have feed and water waiting for the chicks when you put them under the hover. Ridlen says the chicks will locate the feed more easily if you will put it on paper plates, new egg flats or chick box tops for the first few days. Jar-top waterers are good for the first two or three weeks, and after that you'll have to get larger ones.

Although you have to keep chicks warm and comfortable, it is bad to overheat them. Too much heat may cause uneven growth, poor vitality, brittle feathers and cannibalism. To help prevent these troubles, keep the brooding room at about 70 degrees as long as heat is needed while the chicks grow.

Chicks also need plenty of room to develop properly. Each chick needs at least one-half foot of floor space to start. Then they will each need one square foot after they are six weeks old. As soon as weather permits, get them outside. A range shelter alongside the house makes a good sun porch to get the chicks hardened off, besides providing extra room.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

More Heavy-Coated Roofing Sheets Available

Increased supplies of zinc and sheet steel should result in larger supplies of heavy-coated galvanized sheet roofing at your local supplier's in the next few months.

Two-ounce "Seal of Quality" sheets have been in limited supply or unavailable because of a shortage of zinc, according to K. H. Hinchcliff, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Zinc is now available in quantity, Hinchcliff says, so you should be able to buy heavy-coated sheet as readily as lighter coatings provided your dealer has ordered them.

Your dealer will base his orders on what he estimates demand from the farms will be. Therefore, it is a good idea to look forward a few months to your needs for galvanized sheeting and order what you will need right away. Your order then will be passed on through the dealers and jobbers to the steel mills so that what you need and want will be produced.

Hinchcliff points out that farmers frequently fail to apply a coating of good metallic zinc paint when their metal roofs need it. He believes that it is a sound investment to pay the small extra cost for 2-ounce heavy-coated zinc sheets to give your metal roofs better protection for a longer time.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

Trustees Name Hudelson Agriculture Dean

Robert R. Hudelson, acting dean and director of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture since the retirement of former Dean H. P. Rusk on September 1, 1952, has been named dean of the college of the University's Board of Trustees.

Dean Hudelson's appointment also makes him director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and director of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics. It is effective on March 1 and will end on September 1, 1954, when he reaches retirement age.

Born on a farm near Chambersburg, Pike county, Illinois, Dean Hudelson attended Perry high school and Illinois State Normal University. He was graduated in 1912 from the University of Illinois with a B.S. degree in agriculture. He received his M.A. degree from the University of Missouri in 1915 and his Ph.D. degree at Illinois in 1939. He also spent a year studying at Harvard University.

From 1912 to 1922, Dean Hudelson was on the staff at the University of Missouri, teaching agronomy and soils. From September 1917 until February 1919 he served in the field artillery of the U. S. Army. He spent three months in France during the summer of 1918 and held the rank of captain at time of discharge. After working as a farm manager for the Doane Agricultural Service, St. Louis, from 1922 until 1925, he joined the staff of the University of Illinois as assistant professor of farm management extension. His steady rise in the College of Agriculture found him appointed associate dean of the college and professor of agricultural economics in 1943.

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In 1949 he assisted the Office of Military Government with their agricultural and food program in the American and British sectors of Germany. In 1951 he served as acting dean of the College of Commerce and Business Administration.

Dean Hudelson is an accredited member of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, a member of the American Farm Economic association and a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He has served on and chairmanned numerous committees in the College of Agriculture and in the University. He was a member of the organization and policy committee, resident instruction section, division of agriculture, Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, and of the National Joint Committee on Rural Credit. He is the author of a textbook on farm management, several bulletins and circulars and numerous articles and mimeographed publications.

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2/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 2, 1953

TGE Is Deadly Baby Pig Disease

If your baby pigs start to scour and die this spring, call your veterinarian promptly for a diagnosis. If TGE (transmissible gastroenteritis) is causing the trouble, you may lose up to 80 percent of the pigs.

Dr. C. C. Morrill of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says losses from TGE depend on the age of the pigs. Most infected pigs under two weeks of age die, while pigs over four weeks usually survive, though they may lose weight rapidly and become unthrifty. There is no cure for the disease.

Symptoms in young pigs are vomiting, scouring, loss of appetite, loss of weight and thirst for water. Sows that are nursing pigs often dry up soon after getting the disease.

Sows that get TGE apparently develop a temporary immunity to it, Dr. Morrill says. Sows that become infected at least a month before farrowing and recover may pass enough immunity on to their pigs later through the colostrum to ward off the disease.

TGE is believed to be introduced into a swine herd by bringing in feeder pigs or breeding stock that once had the disease and still carry the virus. However, the disease is very contagious, and the virus may be carried in many ways.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

What Does Legume-Grass Silage Cost?

Efficient weight gains from feeding legume-grass silage have interested many Illinois farmers in its use. But they'd also like to know whether it is worth the cost of putting it up.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that a DeWitt county farmer put up a stack of clover-timothy silage last summer at a cost of $5.60 a ton.

His costs include purchasing a field of standing hay, hiring it chopped and hiring most of the labor used in putting it into the stack, Carlisle says.

Thirty acres of hay at $15 an acre cost him $450. Machine hire for cutting at $5 a load cost $375, and his labor cost another $106.50. In addition, gasoline, electricity for pumping water, fencing and limestone for the base of the stack cost $112.02. Total cost was $1,043.52.

The stack was round, 33 feet in diameter and 10 feet high when it was filled. On the basis of weights usually figured for corn silage, the stack contained about 185 tons of silage. Dividing the total cost of $1,043.52 by 185 tons results in a cost of $5.60 a ton.

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3/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

4-H'ers Enroll in Public Speaking in 1953

Learning how to speak convincingly in public will be part of the Illinois 4-H Club program this year.

Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Clubs in Illinois respectively, announce approval of the national 4-H public speaking program for Illinois 4-H members in 1953.

More than 12,000 4-H Club members all over the county took part in the 1952 program. Medals for proficiency in public speaking were awarded to 1,271 of them.

"How to Make a Convincing Speech," a booklet covering the educational features of the program, may be obtained by 4-H Club leaders and members from the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Inc., 59 East Van Buren Street, Chicago 5. The booklet contains valuable tips on platform presence, how to interest an audience, good delivery, and opening and closing a speech.

Two college scholarships of $300 each and two all-expense trips to the 32nd National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November will be awarded to a 4-H boy and girl selected from among the state winners for outstanding achievement in the 1953 public speaking program.

In addition, the Pure Oil company, sponsors of the program in cooperation with the Extension Service of the USDA and the land-grant colleges, will provide gold-filled medals of honor or blue ribbons for county winners, a set of silverware for the top-ranking 4-H girl and a 17-jewel wrist watch for the outstanding boy in each of the 26 participating states.

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3/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

Hog Cholera May Increase Hog Production Costs

It's important these days to cut hog production costs, but don't try to do it by not having your swine herd vaccinated for hog cholera.

Dr. G. T. Woods of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says swine raisers of the nation stand to lose 50 million dollars to hog cholera again this year. Many of these losses will occur on Illinois farms.

Several types of hog cholera vaccines are now available to protect swine herds. They include serum and live virus, several lapinized vaccines (modified live-virus vaccines) and crystal violet and BTV, both of which are killed vaccines.

Dr. Woods says owners should check with their veterinarians as to when pigs should be vaccinated and which method of vaccination will work best in their herds.

Four other important factors concerning hog cholera which swine herd owners should remember with the approach of farrowing time are:

1. Hog cholera is still America's No. 1 swine killer.

2. Vaccination is the most important step in preventing hog cholera. There is no cure for the disease once it strikes.

3. The disease is extremely contagious, and the virus is easily spread from farm to farm.

4. A diagnosis from a veterinarian should be obtained promptly if disease is suspected. It's easy to confuse hog cholera with swine erysipelas, pig edema and other diseases.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

Be Safer by Keeping Equipment in Good Condition

Having your farm equipment in good condition when the planting season starts will reduce the number of costly accidents, as well as time-consuming field breakdowns.

The time is growing short in which to get your field equipment into good shape before field work starts, says J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council. Poorly conditioned equipment is irritating, fatiguing and inefficient.

Start your farm machinery repairs with a thorough inspection to locate sources of trouble. The Rural Safety Council's reminder list of things to check includes hitches, seats, clutches, brakes and other controls, as well as such unguarded revolving parts as gears, chains and shafts.

Check your tractor fuel line and wiring system for defects. Leaking fuel lines or worn insulation wiring causes many bad tractor fires every year. It is also important to remove dirt, trash and grease from platforms, pedals, foot rests and steps to make sure that you have safe footing when you operate your equipment.

If you are a careful operator, you'll also take the time to put a fire extinguisher on your tractor and make secure holders for grease guns or other servicing tools carried on the tractor, Matthews says. Loose tools can lead to falls and other casualties. A secure step or grab bar may also help you to avoid a fall when you get on or off your tractor.

Take special care when you check homemade equipment for accident hazards. Many times home handymen overlook safety features when they build their own equipment.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

Antibiotic Pellets Did Not Increase Pig Gains

Implanting antibiotic pellets in pigs at the University of Illinois in the past year did not cause them to gain any faster than similar pigs not getting an antibiotic.

Experiments at the University last year included 579 suckling pigs treated with bacitracin and other antibiotics, according to D. I. Gard, animal science assistant in charge of the tests.

The antibiotics used in the treatments were compressed into small pills that were implanted under the skin behind the pigs' ears when they were from one to three days old. This method gives pigs an antibiotic earlier in life and helps to protect suckling pigs against such diseases as scours and also to stimulate their appetites.

Researchers at the University of Arkansas have reported an 11 percent increase in weaning weight in pigs treated with bacitracin pellets when they did not get any other source of antibiotics.

However, the Illinois tests did not show this difference. Treated and untreated pigs were all healthy, thrifty animals that averaged more than 35 pounds each at weaning time.

In one series of tests at the Illinois Experiment Station, there was no difference in survival between the implanted pigs and pigs that were not implanted. In another series slightly more (5.4%) of the implanted pigs survived than those not implanted.

If you've had trouble with unthriftiness in small pigs in the past, implanting an antibiotic may help to control some of the problem, Gard says. Remember, though, that no antibiotic can take the place of sanitation and clean ground in producing healthy, thrifty pigs.

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3/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

Urge Farmers to Buy Baling Wire Early

If you want to be sure of having enough baling wire when the haying season rolls around, you'd be wise to buy your supply early.

Baling wire manufacturers say that there will be enough for everyone if farmers who intend to bale their hay this summer spread their purchases out over several weeks, according to Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Most of the short supply of baling wire comes in the middle of the haying season, when hay-makers need it the worst, because they all have a tendency to wait until they need it to buy it,Bowers points out.

Manufacturers run out of wire to sell because there is not enough warehouse space to permit them to make and store a whole year's supply in advance. When the warehouses are full, the mills stop making baling wire and the year's supply is limited.

Buy your baling wire early and get it out on your farm for storage, and the mills will be able to increase the total supply so that there will be no shortage this summer.

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3/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 1953

It's False Economy Not to Vaccinate for Hog Cholera

A University of Illinois veterinarian says it's false economy to try to cut hog production costs by not having the swine herd vaccinated for hog cholera.

Dr. G. T. Woods of the College of Veterinary Medicine says swine raisers of the nation stand to lose 50 million dollars to hog cholera again this year. And many of the dollars will be lost right here in Illinois.

Swine raisers should remember four important factors concerning hog cholera as farrowing time on farms gets into full swing:

1. Hog cholera is still America's No. 1 swine killer.

2. Vaccination is the most important step in its prevention. Owners should check with their veterinarians as to when pigs should be vaccinated and which method of vaccination best fits the herd. There is no cure for hog cholera once it strikes.

3. The disease is extremely contagious. It can be spread easily from farm to farm by visitors, vehicles and even dogs and cats.

4. A diagnosis should be obtained from a veterinarian if disease is suspected. Unless you're an expert, it's easy to confuse hog cholera with several other swine diseases.

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for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 16, 1953

When to Plow Catch Crop Legumes

Plowing under a catch crop legume at the right time in the spring may have a lot to do with the kind of corn stand that follows.

In general, try to plow the catch crop when the growth is about 6 to 10 inches tall, says D. M. Mulvaney, Illinois College of Agriculture agronomist.

If you wait until spring growth is 18 to 20 inches tall, there is a good chance that the legume will pull too much moisture out of the soil, causing a shortage of water for good early growth and germination of corn.

Mulvaney points out that there is little difference in spring and fall plowing of catch crop legumes as far as adding nitrogen to the soil is concerned. Most of the spring growth of the crop merely means a transfer of nutrients from the roots to the tops.

Turning the catch crop under in the spring is recommended as an erosion control measure on most of our silt loam soils and sloping land.

Late fall plowing, in late October or November, is generally recommended for catch crop legumes on heavy, dark and level or nearly level soil types. When a legume is plowed in the fall, there is some chance that it may come up as a weed in the corn the next spring, Mulvaney says. However, if it does come up, it can be controlled with 2,4-D.

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3/11/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 16, 1953

4-H'ers Enroll in Three Food Programs

Illinois 4-H Club members who have the best records of achievement in three national awards programs relating to food production, utilization and conservation will receive gold-filled, 17-jewel watches as 1953 state winners.

The programs and award donors include Dairy Foods Demonstration, Carnation Milk; Frozen Foods, International Harvester; and Meat Animal, Thos. E. Wilson, according to the state 4-H Club office.

Eight sectional winners will be given all-expense trips to the 1953 National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November in the 4-H Frozen Foods and Meat Animal programs.

In the Dairy Foods Demonstration program, which has no sectional awards, eight national winners will receive trips to the Chicago Club Congress. County winners in each of the programs will be awarded blue ribbons.

You can get some idea of members' achievements last year in these three programs by looking at their records. In the 4-H meat animal program, members raised more than 800,000 beef cattle, sheep and swine. More than 6,500 individual and team members demonstrated how to prepare dairy products for nutritious dishes before 35,000 people, and 115,000 4-H boys and girls froze 1½ million quarts and 2 million pounds of food.

If you are a farm boy or girl between the ages of 10 and 21 years and not already a member of a 4-H Club, you can get full information regarding these award programs from your county farm or home adviser. All three programs are supervised by the Illinois Agricultural Extension Service.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 16, 1953

Correct Adjustment Will Cure Plow Troubles

When spring plowing starts, you'll want to know how to adjust your plow to save as much time as possible after you get into the fields.

If your plow is not correctly adjusted, you will probably be wasting power and at the same time doing a poor job of plowing, according to Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

One of the troubles that indicates improper plow adjustment shows up if you can't keep the plow in the ground. Here are some other troubles: mouldboards do not scour, furrows ridge, plow pulls too hard, furrow walls are ragged instead of smooth, and tractor steers too hard.

Most important place for proper adjustment is in the hitch. Adjust the hitch back and forth until the first bottom cuts the right amount. That means that a 14-inch bottom should cut between 14 and 14½ inches from the previous furrow wall to the rolling coulter. The furrow slice on a 16-inch bottom plow should measure between 16 and 16½ inches.

Bowers points out that the rear wheel spacing on your tractor may be wrong if you have trouble making this horizontal adjustment without getting too much side draft. Check your owner's manual to get the correct wheel spacing for your tractor.

Raise the vertical hitch on the plow if you have trouble getting the plow in the ground. Lower the hitch if the plow rides

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on its nose. Adjust the drawbar so that it is 15 inches above the ground when the tractor is sitting level.

Bowers says that most plows have two adjustments on the rear wheel. When these adjustments are correct, you should be able to put one finger in the space between the furrow wall and the landside of the rear plow bottom and between the landside and the bottom of the furrow.

Set the rolling coulter 1/2 to 3/4 inch away from the landside of the plowshare, with the hub directly over the point of the share. The bottom edge of the coulter should be two inches above the point of the share. When you plow in hard ground, raise the coulter one inch and move it one inch closer to the landside of the share.

For full information on plow adjustment, write the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of AEng. 679, "Cure Plow Troubles by Proper Adjustment."

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3/11/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 1953

Keep Early Lambs Gaining for June Market

June is almost always the best month to market spring lambs.

It is normal for market lamb prices to take a sharp drop after the summer peak in June or early July, says G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Therefore, it is wise practice to get your lambs ready for market as early as you can.

Here are some practices that Carlisle suggests to help get January, February and early March lambs on a good summer market:

1. Feed each ewe with a lamb two pounds of grain a day along with all the good legume hay she will eat until she goes onto good pasture.

2. Creep-feed the lambs a mixture of 20 pounds of cracked corn, 20 pounds of oats, 10 pounds of bran and 10 pounds of soybean meal in a creep away from the ewes.

3. Get the ewes and lambs on good legume pasture as soon as it is ready.

4. Watch out for parasites. If the ewes have ticks at shearing time, the lambs will have most of them a week later. Dip or spray the whole flock shortly after shearing if you find ticks.

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/16/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 1953

Veterinarian Gives Four Ways to Fight Swine Erysipelas

Swine raisers can do one of four things if erysipelas strikes their swine herds, according to Dr. L. R. Bain of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

No one plan will work best on all farms, Dr. Bain cautions swine raisers. For best results the herd owner should consult his local veterinarian to see which plan is best fitted for his farm. The plans are:

1. Go out of the hog business for two or three years and cultivate hog lots and pastures and disinfect hog houses to destroy the hardy erysipelas germs. The main drawback to this plan is that erysipelas germs may live in certain kinds of soil for many years.

2. Start a new, healthy swine herd on some part of the farm not previously used by hogs while disposing of the infected herd. Cultivate the old hogs lots and pastures and disinfect the hog houses. Extreme sanitation is necessary to prevent erysipelas germs from being spread from the infected premises to the new herd.

3. Work out a vaccination program with the local veterinarian. This is often the most practical approach. Vaccination isn't 100 percent effective, but it usually protects hogs to market age.

4. Put up with the erysipelas infection in the hope that the swine herd may develop resistance to the disease. This is probably the least effective plan because erysipelas may strike each new swine crop, causing heavy losses.

Regardless of the plan that is used, the swine herd owner should have a good herd sanitation program, Dr. Bain adds. A strict program, such as the McLean county system, often helps to reduce losses from diseases as well as from parasites.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 1953

Cull Non-Layers to Offset Price Drop

Lower spring egg prices mean less profit to the producer.

But you can help offset lower prices by culling the non-producing hens from your flock.

Eat them, sell them, freeze them or can them, but don't feed them, advises Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

A laying hen uses most of the feed she eats for body maintenance, activity and heat, not for egg production, Ridlen says. But, she'll need about one pound of dry feed in addition for each seven eggs she lays. When a hen goes out of production, she still eats lots of feed and returns nothing for it.

It's true that one 6-pound hen will eat only about 25 cents worth of feed a month if your feed costs about 4 cents a pound. But 100 of them will cost you $25, and that's money you can easily save, Ridlen says.

If your flock is only laying at the rate of 25 eggs a day for each 100 hens and they eat 25 pounds of feed on the average, each egg costs you one pound of feed. At 4 cents a pound for feed, each dozen eggs costs 48 cents. If you sell your eggs for 37 cents a dozen, you lose 11 cents.

By raising production to 35 eggs for each 100 hens through culling non-producers and by better feeding and management, you can cut your feed costs to 35 cents a dozen. A production rate of 70 eggs a day from each 100 hens will cut feed cost to 17 cents a dozen. The more eggs you can get out of each 100 hens in your flock, the higher will be your profits.

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3/16/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 1953

Hear About Ladino for Hogs on April 2

Ladino clover pasture has proved its ability to save supplement and grain as hog feed.

Reports of tests on managing bred sows and gilts on Ladino clover pasture will be one of the featured topics on the program at Swine Growers' Day, April 2, at the University of Illinois.

S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the University, says that one of the objectives of the pasture test was to find out how thrifty the pigs would be from sows and gilts on minerals and clover pasture with no supplement or grain.

Other bred gilts also were tested for their performance on Ladino clover pasture and mineral supplement with different levels of grain and supplemental feeding.

Terrill says that another of the tests under way last year at the University was designed to find out the value of various combinations of antibiotics when they were added to a corn—soybean oil meal ration for pigs. Many antibiotics have been tested individually to determine their effect on the gains of growing-fattening pigs, but the Illinois researchers wanted to measure the effect of combinations.

Other research topics to be reported at the April 2 meeting include the value of implanting antibiotic pellets in baby pigs, creep feeding a starter ration, results of protein level studies with pigs and the progress of the swine breeding program.

Future of the quality hog will be discussed by Wayne C. Jackson, Wilson and Company, Chicago. As part of the afternoon

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program, L. N. Hazel, department of animal husbandry, Iowa State College, will talk about how swine breeding research helps the hog producer.

How research now going on at the experiment stations is discovering new and improved feeding practices for hog producers will be discussed by L. E. Hanson, department of animal husbandry at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. P. D. Beamer, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, will give a brief review of latest information on rabbit modified hog cholera vaccines, rhinitis and transmissible gastroenteritis. There will be opportunity for questions and answers from the floor following his talk.

All Swine Day visitors are invited to attend an open house at the beef cattle barns immediately after the last session, Terrill says. In addition, there will be informal inspection of the Swine Farm and experimental work in progress there from 8 until 9:30 in the morning of Swine Day. Visitors are invited to inspect these farms at any time during the day.

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3/18/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1953

Wet Barnyards Help Cause Foot Rot in Cattle

Keep your barnyard as well drained as possible now that the spring rains have begun--you'll help to prevent foot rot in your cattle if you do.

The University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says the germ that causes foot rot is usually present in the soil. Barnyard mud, especially mud that contains sharp stones or cinders, may cause breaks in the skin between the animal's toes, allowing the germs to get into the foot.

If lameness appears, wash the hoof and keep the animal in a clean, well-bedded stall. If the foot fails to improve quickly, call your veterinarian. Unless the infection is stopped, it may spread until one of the toes will have to be amputated.

Other ways to help prevent foot rot in cattle are to provide plenty of bedding in the shed and to fence off mud holes in the barnyard. Having cattle walk through a vat filled with a copper sulphate solution may also help, if the vat is placed where the cattle can't escape using it.

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3/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1953

Watch Awards for Two State 4-H Winners

State winners in two national 4-H award programs relating to conservation and beautification in rural areas will receive 17-jewel wrist watches this year.

Both of these programs are among those approved for Illinois 4-H Club members in 1953, according to Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Club respectively.

Award donors in the two programs include the Firestone Tire and Rubber company for the 4-H soil and water conservation program, and Mrs. Charles R. Walgreen for the home grounds beautification program.

Blue ribbons will be awarded for the best records in these two projects in each county. Sectional winners chosen from among the state winners will receive all-expense trips to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November in the soil and water conservation program. Eight national winners will receive $300 college scholarships.

There are no sectional awards in the home grounds beautification program, but national winners will get all-expense trips to the 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

Additional awards in soil and water conservation include a $25 savings bond to state winners in the junior division and a pen and pencil set to the state individual winner and the two members of the state winning team in the demonstration phase of the program.

Achievement figures for 1952 show that 140,000 boys and girls all over the country beautified their farmsteads and 192,000 club members received training in soil and water conservation practices.

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AJ:mi
3/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1953

Dehorn and Castrate Calves When They Are Young

Save yourself time and money and avoid trouble by dehorning and castrating your calves when they are young.

That's the advice from H. A. Cate, livestock specialist at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, after he recently helped a farmer dehorn and castrate some yearlings.

It was a lot of hard, nasty work, Cate reports, with blood and kicks flying in all directions. How much simpler and easier the job would have been if it had been done when the animals were young.

You can dehorn young calves quickly and bloodlessly by using caustic compounds on the horn buttons. Liquid caustics have been most satisfactory at Dixon Springs, Cate says.

At the same time you dehorn calves, you can castrate them quickly and easily with pincers or an elastrator. The Experiment Station recommends that you do this job while the calves are young and easily handled.

If you wait until cattle are yearlings or older, you will have to take off the horns with a saw or a dehorner. Either method may cost you some cattle and will set them back in their growing. You will also need extra help to castrate older calves and that, too, will set them back.

When you sell, the cattle may be discounted from three to five cents a pound because they were not dehorned or castrated. On a 500-pound calf, you could easily lose $15 to $20, Cate points out.

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RAJ:mi
3/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1953

Use Care When You Spray Solution 32

You won't need to buy expensive equipment in order to apply liquid nitrogen Solution 32.

Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that you can use your regular row crop sprayer outfit if you will take some precautions.

Solution 32 is easy to apply, Bowers points out. But it corrodes any sprayer parts made of brass, bronze or copper. Brass nozzles will not last long, and pumps will lose their efficiency as soon as they wear slightly.

If you can get corrosion-resistant metal parts for your sprayer--made of nickel, stainless steel, aluminum or monel metal--you can eliminate many corrosion problems. But you'll still have to keep your sprayer clean.

Some spray outfits use copper tubing for the booms or for the connecting lines to the booms. You'll have to replace copper tubing with such noncorrosive material as galvanized pipe before you can safely use Solution 32.

Bowers says it is a good idea to reduce the chances of corrosion by cleaning your sprayer thoroughly with water after each day's use. When you are not using the sprayer, take off the nozzles and pump and soak them in light cylinder oil. Even brass nozzles or bronze pumps will give long service if you keep them clean after use.

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Solution 32 - add 1

Keep the pump bearings well lubricated to reduce corrosion on the shaft. Corrosion damage is heaviest on parts that come in contact with liquid nitrogen and then are exposed to the air for a long time.

Most weed sprayers have from two to five different filter screens in the spray system. Solution 32 will work best if you take out all of these screens but one coarse line screen. Hoses need to be at least 3/8 inch in inside diameter and should be oil-resistant.

When you apply Solution 32, you'll have to change the rate of application from that used for other sprays, because most nozzles are calibrated for water solutions, Bowers says. To find the correct rate of application for Solution 32, find the water equivalent by multiplying the number of pounds of nitrogen you want on your field by .328. The answer gives you the gallons of water per acre for setting your sprayer to put on the desired amount of nitrogen.

There's some chance that you'll burn green crops if you spray concentrated Solution 32 on them. There's no problem of burning if you apply on a field where no crop is growing.

Stay within the recommended rates of application to prevent burning small grain crops, and apply the solution as evenly as you can. Do not apply Solution 32 directly to corn leaves; use boom drops to apply it on the ground between the rows.

Since Solution 32 is limited in supply, custom operators will make most of the applications this year, the specialist believes. However, most spray equipment companies are working on new sprayers that will resist the corroding action of liquid nitrogen. By the time Solution 32 becomes available in large enough quantities for you to do your own spraying, sprayers and storage systems should be on the market that will be better suited to handling it.

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/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1953

Spring Clean-up Makes Farms Safer

Thorough clean-up before spring work starts is good insurance against loss of property and man-hours on your farm this summer.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says the few hours that you spend now cleaning out hazards may save you many days during the busy season.

One rule for farm safety emphasized by the Rural Safety Council is "A place for everything and everything in its place," Matthews says. A recent study of hospitalized home accident cases showed that the largest single cause of injuries, other than poor judgment, was disorder. In fact, disorder was responsible for putting one out of every five accident victims in the hospital.

Remove such trash as papers, rags and rubbish, scattered boxes and boards that may have accumulated from basement to attic. Clearly label medicines, drugs and insecticides, and keep them out of the reach of children.

Check through the farm shop. Keep tools in their right places and hammer and axe handles secure and in good condition. Remove piles of barbed wire, glass, scrap metals, loose boards, weeds, grass, etc.

Barns are the principal work center for daily farm chores. It is important to find suitable locations or storage places for feed, tools and other equipment to keep alleyways and work areas clear.

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Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 6, 1953

Get Calves on Full Feed by May 1

Steer calves and light yearlings wintered on a roughage ration will need 4 to 6 weeks to be brought to a full feed of grain.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says there is about enough time to get cattle on a full feed of grain by grass time.

Six months on a full feed of grain on pasture will get your cattle in a high-choice or prime slaughter condition, Russell says. You'll need a minimum of 45 bushels of corn for each calf.

If you choose the alternative program of grazing without grain for 90 days, followed by a 90- to 100-day feeding period, you'll usually wind up with low-choice cattle ready for market about Thanksgiving time.

How you decide to use your pastures and feed supplies, long with your estimate of the market possibilities next fall, will etermine which feeding program you choose.

Other things being equal, the better finished cattle will robably fare better this coming fall, Russell believes, since marketngs will probably be larger and finish more important than in recent ears.

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/31/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 6, 1953

Crowding Helps Cause Coccidiosis in Lambs

Crowding too many lambs and ewes into the same lot can lead to plenty of trouble with coccidiosis, according to Dr. N. D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Lambs usually become infected with coccidiosis from ewes that are carriers of the parasite, Dr. Levine says. If it's a light infection and the lambs are healthy, the damage will not be great

But if too many lambs and ewes are crowded together, the lambs may become heavily infected. That's what happened when coccidiosis struck a central Illinois flock last week, causing death or illness of many of the 350 lambs.

To prevent a severe coccidiosis infection, rotate lots and pastures, avoid overstocking and use feed and water containers that are elevated and designed to prevent contamination. The parasites are usually spread in contaminated feed and water.

Symptoms of coccidiosis include weakness, diarrhea and loss of weight. Prompt diagnosis and flock treatment by a veterinarian will protect the rest of the lambs and may help those that are already showing symptoms.

The cause of coccidiosis is a tiny parasite similar to the ones that infect chickens and cattle. However, the disease cannot be spread between the various types of livestock.

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JEA:mi
4/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 6, 1953

Ag College Grads Finding Good Jobs

College graduates with training in agriculture or home economics are finding jobs easy to get, with inviting starting salaries.

Assistant Dean C. D. Smith of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture says that high school seniors facing the problem of what to do after graduation should not overlook the opportunities that college training offers.

A recent survey of the College of Agriculture shows a wide range of challenging jobs waiting for young men and women with college training, Smith points out.

Starting salaries and advancement opportunities in agricultural business and education fields are excellent. Most of this year's male graduates are starting at salaries ranging from $3,500 to $4,000 a year.

Thirty percent of the agriculture graduates are engaged in educational work, including high school teaching, college teaching and research and farm advisory work, the dean says. About one-fourth are engaged in management, manufacture and distribution jobs in industry. Another fourth take up farming or farm management.

Others go into such professional fields as agronomy, animal and dairy husbandry, agricultural economics, food processing and inspection and regulatory work with private companies or state and federal agencies.

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College Graduates - add 1

Home economics graduates have a wide choice in the fields of homemaking, teaching, extension and research; in retailing of clothing, textiles and home furnishings; in food service with cafeterias, hotels, hospitals and clubs; and in many other positions in industry and in various government agencies.

Starting salaries for girls in most cases fall between $2,500 and $3,200. Many more graduates could be employed than are now being trained.

Dean Smith encourages all high school seniors who might be interested in the advantages of higher education to get all the information they can about college, and then apply for admission to the college of their choice.

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Exhaust Color Helps Locate Tractor Trouble

Sometimes you can locate trouble in your tractor by the color of the exhaust.

For example, a bluish smoke shows that oil is burning in the combustion chamber, says Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Oil in the combustion chamber means that valves or piston rings are worn or stuck. Bowers suggests that you have your local dealer find and fix the trouble before it gets worse.

If black exhaust comes from your tractor, it is probably eating up more gas than is necessary because the air-fuel mixture is too rich. Some causes of black exhaust include improper float level, too rich a load adjustment on the carburetor or a plugged air cleaner.

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RAJ:mi
4/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 6, 1953

Season Home-Cut Wood For Best Results

You can produce home-cut lumber with a minimum of defects by proper seasoning,says Wayne L. Meek, first assistant in forestry at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Drying your wood enough will go a long way toward reducing cracking, warping and rotting, he believes.

Seasoning wood strengthens it by removing the water that occurs naturally in the cells. You need to get the water out of the cells to prevent the lumber from shrinking, cracking and warping after it is cut and nailed in place in one of your buildings.

Dry wood is also more resistant to stains and decay organisms that cause rot. There is no such thing as dry rot, Meek points out, since the organisms that cause decay in wood need moisture in order to live and grow.

Seasoning also reduces the weight of wood, improves its gluing characteristics and makes it easier to saw and plane.

Warping is caused by irregular drying, the wood expert says. Water leaves the outside cells first. If the outside dries too fast, the difference in moisture content between the inside and outside cells sets up stresses that cause all sorts of peculiar shapes.

Most lumber bought at a lumber yard is kiln dried under controlled conditions that bring the moisture out of the wood slowly and at an even rate. You can season your own lumber satisfactorily if you take proper precautions.

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Season Home-Cut Wood - add 1

Stack all lumber, either purchased or home cut, until it is thoroughly dry. Build the stack on a foundation to get it off the wet ground and to help keep weeds clear.

Be sure there is space between each board in your stack to allow air to circulate. Put small strips of seasoned wood between the layers. Keep the front edges straight. As the stack goes up, bring the front edges forward a little to form a sloping overhang on the front of the stack.

Leave a chimney opening in the middle of the stack to help clear out inside moist air. Then cover the top of the stack with a tarpaulin, old metal sheets or old boards to keep rain and sun away.

Green lumber should season all winter and at least one drying month in the spring. Or it should dry through at least two of the three summer months. Remember that gradual drying with all sides of the boards exposed to the air will decrease defects to the minimum.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 1953

Milk Fever Strikes Best Cows in Herd

It's your best cows that are most likely to have milk fever, according to the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Milk fever strikes when a cow uses too much calcium from her blood to produce milk, the College of Veterinary Medicine states. This usually happens only to the best cows in the herd.

Milk fever is predictable in other ways, too, veterinarians have found. It usually shows up one to three days after calving, it seldom appears in first-calf heifers, cows seldom recover without treatment, and treatment is usually remarkably effective.

Cows with milk fever usually die unless they're treated. Yet they sometimes respond so rapidly to treatment by the veterinarian that they are on their feet before he has finished.

After a cow has been treated, don't milk her out completely for a few days. Milk just enough to reduce the pressure--then she won't be likely to deplete her supply of calcium again and have a relapse.

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/8/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 1953

Freshman Scholarships Available at University

If you are a high school senior, don't let lack of funds discourage you from applying for admission to the University of Illinois this year.

Assistant Dean C. D. Smith of the College of Agriculture says there are many scholarships available to help you finance at least your freshman year, and in some cases more than that.

For instance, boys and girls who want to enroll in the College of Agriculture may apply for Sears Roebuck and Kroger scholarships. Awards are made on the basis of high school scholastic records, leadership ability and financial need.

Each of these scholarships provides $200 for the freshman year. Sears Roebuck scholarships offer outstanding students the possibility of extension through their sophomore and junior years.

You can apply for both of these scholarships on one application form. Write to Assistant Dean C. D. Smith, 104 Mumford Hall, Urbana, for application blanks.

In addition, five tuition scholarships worth up to $380 over a four-year period are available in each county. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of a competitive examination that will be given on Saturday, June 6, by the county superintendent of schools in each county in the state.

The tuition scholarships include one general county scholarship, one in agriculture and one in home economics, and two scholarships for children of veterans of World War I or World War II.

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/8/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 1953

Will Give 4-H Alumni New Recognition Award

For the first time, former 4-H Club members in Illinois who are leaders in their communities will be honored in 1953 through the National 4-H Alumni Recognition Awards program.

In announcing the new program, Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Clubs respectively, say that award certificates will be given to two individuals selected for county recognition.

Four persons will be chosen as Illinois winners and each will receive an alumni plaque of honor. From among the winners in all the states, four men and four women will be selected for national honors consisting of a gold key and an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November.

Candidates for the awards may be recommended to county extension advisers by local leaders, 4-H members or other interested persons. The program is being conducted under the direction of the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture. The Mathieson Chemical Corporation of Baltimore is donor of the awards.

Miss Searl and Mr. Pilchard point out that many of the county's leading citizens have come from the ranks of 4-H Club work. These leaders include agricultural leaders, public officials, businessmen, publishers, clergymen and others. More than 15 million adults in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico are 4-H alumni.

You can get complete information about this new program from your local county extension advisers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 1953

Start New Research to Improve Livestock Marketing

More efficient livestock marketing is the major objective of a long-range research project being launched in Iowa and Illinois this month.

The studies will be supported by grants from the Chicago Stock Yards Company to the University of Illinois and Iowa State College, which will cooperate in the project.

By studying past and current marketing practices, using data on actual sales of livestock, the researchers hope to come up with an answer to the long-standing question in the minds of livestock farmers of how and where to market to increase profits.

W. J. Wills, University of Illinois livestock marketing specialist, and Elliott Clifton and Norman Strand of Iowa will be responsible for the major part of the research project. James Wiley of Purdue University will serve on the advisory committee set up to coordinate the work.

Information for the study will be collected by interviewers by direct on-the-farm visits with farmers in Iowa and northern Illinois.

In addition to improving marketing efficiency, the project aims to (1) determine why and how farmers select the market outlets they do, (2) determine how marketing facilities and services can be more effectively used and improved to provide better markets for the farmers, (3) determine present trends in market patterns and the reasons for these trends, (4) study cooperative prices between markets and determine what net price interrelationships exist between different markets and what effects these have on net returns to farmers by areas and (5) study farmer feeding, breeding and market intentions.

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/8/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 1953

April 19-25 Is Illinois Soil Conservation Week

Next week, April 19-25, is Soil Conservation Week in Illinois.

Soil conservation, in which every one of us has a stake, will be the by-word throughout the state, in the classroom, church, newspaper, radio programs, group meetings, in homes and in our fertile prairie fields that we want to preserve.

Why get all steamed up about soil conservation? Aren't our fields producing more than ever before?

The answer is yes, but we'll never be "out of danger" from the forces and practices that threaten to destroy soil fertility and the soil itself, says E. D. Walker, soil conservationist in the Illinois College of Agriculture.

For example, Walker reports that nearly 18 percent of the land in Illinois, or about 6.3 million acres, are subject to serious and destructive erosion. About 60 percent are subject to "harmful" erosion, and about 23 percent to "little" erosion. In all, more than three-fourths of the state's land is subject to erosion in the harmful to destructive range.

The job is a big one from the fertility angle as well, Walker points out. According to 1951 soil-testing records, nearly half of our cropland and plowable pasture is deficient in limestone. Nearly 70 percent is deficient in phosphate and 40 percent is too low in potash.

Illinois Soil Conservation Week, for which Governor W. G. Stratton will issue a special proclamation, is sponsored by the Division of Soil Conservation, State Department of Agriculture and Association of Illinois Soil Conservation Districts. The University of Illinois Agricultural Extension Service and other agencies are cooperating with local soil conservation districts, which will spearhead the activities during the week throughout the state.

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Farm News

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

Worm Ewes Before Pasture Time

Worming your ewes before you turn them out to pasture this spring can help to prevent a lot of trouble with wormy lambs.

Dr. N. D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says a ewe can appear to be in good health and still have enough stomach and nodular worms to contaminate a pasture with more than one million worm eggs a day.

The lambs pick up the worm eggs while they are grazing, Dr. Levine states. Infested lambs may be unthrifty and anemic, while heavily infected animals may die.

Phenothiazine is the best drug to use in worming the ewes. You can get it from your veterinarian. For best results, use it according to the directions on the container.

Providing a phenothiazine-salt mixture for your flock on pasture after it has been treated will also help to control parasites. Mix one pound of the drug with every 10 pounds of salt, and keep the mixture in a covered trough to protect it from the weather.

Other steps to control worms are to rotate the pastures frequently, prevent overstocking and avoid poorly drained pastures.

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/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

Many Entries in Junior Chicken Contest

The number of entries in this year's Junior Chicken-of-Tomorrow contest indicates that the 1953 competition will be even "hotter" than in last year's outstanding contest.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, who is a member of the contest committee, reports 204 entries received before the March 1 deadline.

Those entries represent 13,650 chicks hatched March 16, 17, 18 or 19, which will be grown for 12 weeks under the best conditions for producing efficient birds. All entries will be delivered to the Armour Creameries, Lincoln, on June 3 and will be judged on June 5.

Entries in this year's contest come from 49 hatcheries in 44 different counties, Ridlen says. The southern section has 12 entries, the central section has 95 and the northern section has 97.

Of the entries, 164 are standard breeds and 40 are crosses. Entries consist of 100 straight-run chicks or 50 cockerels.

Contestants will submit 10 live cockerels to the Lincoln processing plant, of which the best eight will be considered in making the final placings. Entries will be judged on arrival, placed in A, B, C or D classification and dressed on June 4. Final judging will be on the dressed birds.

All entries will first be judged and placed by districts, and the top five from each district will be selected for placement in the state finals.

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RAJ:mi
4/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

Tractors Increase Farm Accident Hazards

Tractor accidents are on the increase as more tractors are used on the nation's farms.

J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, estimates that there are from 600 to 700 fatal injuries and from 20,000 to 30,000 nonfatal injuries resulting from tractor accidents every year.

Tractors seem to be involved in about a third of the nonfatal machinery accidents, Matthews says, and in more than half of all the fatal mishaps involving machinery.

At least one-third of all tractor accidents occur on the highway. Average cost of nonfatal machinery accidents is about $60 for medical expense and 20 days of lost time.

More than half of all the deaths resulting from tractor accidents are caused by overturning, according to the Rural Safety Council. Principal reasons for tipping sideways are excessive speed that causes the operator to lose control of the tractor and carelessness in driving too close to ditch banks. Forcing tractors out of ditches or from other places where the rear wheels become "anchored" accounts for most of the backward tipping casualties.

A large portion of the tractor victims each year also come from traffic collisions, falls, unguarded power take-offs, under-aged operators, extra riders, children playing around tractors, and getting "run over" or "crushed between" tractor and machinery. Some of the other causes of accidents that show up in the records include collision with stationary objects, fires, improper cranking and lightning.

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4/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

Put Surplus Pasture Into Grass Silage

If you're going to have some excess pasture this spring, you might consider storing it in the form of stack or trench silage for future use.

H. A. Cate, assistant in animal science at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, says that many farmers with just such a problem have visited the station recently to get information about making grass and legume silage and to look at the stack and trench silos there.

Making silage out of your excess grass and legume pastures eliminates the big hazard of rain on a first-cutting hay crop, Cate points out. Rain can mean a complete loss of one hay crop if it comes at the wrong time, and it often does.

Even with excellent drying weather during haying, field curing and handling result in a 10 to 30 percent loss of potential feed, mainly through loss of shattered leaves. Ensiling this same crop would save most of the protein-rich leaves.

Trench silos do not need to be elaborate, but it is important that you get yours built before pasture cutting time. Dirt sidewall trenches will preserve silage very well, but they need a gravel floor for good drainage and ease in removing silage.

For good drainage, pick a sloping site. The best dimensions are about eight feet deep, from 12 to 14 feet wide at the top and about eight feet wide at the bottom. Sloping sides on the trench will insure better compaction of forage and help to eliminate air pockets that cause spoilage.

A trench of the above dimensions and 50 feet long will give you enough silage to feed 20 cows for 180 days at the rate of 35 pounds daily for each cow, Cate says.

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/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

Keep Dirt Out of Your Tractor

Dirt is 'way out in front in the list of enemies that your tractor engine faces.

Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says tests have shown that running a tractor for only 10 hours in dusty conditions without an air cleaner may cause complete engine failure.

The dirt-filtering action of the oil-bath air cleaner makes it one of your tractor's most important parts, Bowers says. Keep it clean to prevent dirt from going directly into the engine.

Every gallon of gasoline that goes through the carburetor needs about 9,000 gallons of clean air for the vaporized mixture. Bowers estimates that even if an air cleaner is 99 percent efficient in keeping dirt out, 3/4 of a pound of dirt will still enter the engine during a year's operation.

If you do not take care of the air cleaner, dirt may cause sticky or warped valves, grooved intake valves, rapid cylinder wear, loss of power, carbon deposits and excessive fuel consumption.

Bowers suggests that you use the correct weight of oil in the air cleaner. Then change it every day under normal operating conditions and twice a day when you are operating in extremely dusty conditions.

Keep the precleaner, stack and screen clean by washing them with fuel oil or kerosene when they get dirty. Be sure to keep the correct oil level in the cleaner at all times.

For more information see your county farm adviser or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of Ag. Eng. 685, "Don't Feed Dirt to Your Tractor."

RAJ:mi
4/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 1953

'niversity Releases New Strawberry Variety

A new strawberry variety named Plentiful has been released his spring by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station to coop- rating nurserymen.

Tested since 1945 at the University of Illinois horticul- ural farm at Urbana and at other locations in the state, Plentiful s proving to be a high yielder that is also resistant to red stele oot rot.

A. S. Colby, small fruits specialist at the University, ade the original cross in 1941 that resulted in the development of 'lentiful from parent plants of the Redstar and Pathfinder varieties.

Under Illinois conditions, the plants of Plentiful have een June-bearing, and its large plants put out many runners to make wide row. It has been one of the highest yielders of the many va- ieties on test at Urbana during the past few years.

In addition to being resistant to red stele root rot in llinois, Plentiful foliage is resistant to leaf spot and leaf scorch, olby says. The leaves are large, cupped, thick and glossy.

Harvesting period of Plentiful has been about two weeks in llinois. The fruit is medium large to very large in size and medium n sugar and acid content and flavor. It is particularly adapted for ome use and the local market. The flavor of the frozen product is ery high, although the color is light red.

Plentiful is the second variety to come out of the straw- erry breeding program at the University of Illinois to originate arieties that are resistant to red stele root rot under Illinois onditions. Vermilion is the other. Red stele root rot has been a erious problem in commercial strawberry production.

The University of Illinois has no Plentiful plants for sale, olby emphasizes. But a considerable stock is available this spring rom cooperating nurserymen.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 1953

State Accepts Five More Awards Programs

Illinois 4-H Club members will be eligible to take part in five more awards programs this year, the state club office has announced.

The programs and their donors include Farm and Home Electric, Westinghouse Educational Foundation; Field Crops, International Harvester; Girls' Record, Montgomery Ward; Poultry, Dearborn Motors; and Tractor Maintenance, Standard Oil Foundation, Inc., Chicago.

Awards in these programs offer county medals of honor, blue ribbons, all-expense trips to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November and $300 college scholarships for national winners.

Enrollment in these programs has been steadily increasing during the past five years, state 4-H staff members say. Estimated national enrollments this year are 100,000 members in Farm and Home Electric, 328,000 in Field Crops, 1 million in Girls' Record, 220,000 in Poultry and 68,000 in Tractor Maintenance.

4-H programs are conducted under the direction of the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture. You can get full information about any of these programs from your county farm or home adviser.

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RAJ:mi
4/22/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 1953

Be Careful When Using Insecticides

Dusting or spraying with insecticides may do much to promote the healthy growth of fruits and vegetables. But they often have just opposite effect on humans.

Even though the container may not be labeled poison, many of these substances are harmful to man, says John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

The Safety Council suggests that you take precautions whenever you use fumigants or insecticides to be sure that you never breathe the fumes, vapors or dust. It is a good idea not to dust or spray on windy days. With some dusts and sprays a safety mask is required.

Always be especially careful to label all insecticides so that you won't mistake them for something else, and keep them out of the reach of children.

Here are some common-sense rules from the Safety Council:

1. Follow manufacturer's directions for handling, mixing and applying.

2. Always dust or spray with the wind.

3. Wear respirators where there is danger of inhaling fumes.

4. Wear gloves, a long-sleeved shirt and other clothing to cover as much skin area as you can.

5. Wash your hands and other exposed parts of your body thoroughly with soap and water after using insecticides.

6. Store poisonous materials in a safe place.

7. Thoroughly wash fruits and vegetables that have been sprayed or dusted before you eat them.

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RAJ:mi
4/22/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 1953

Easy Tests Help Detect Mastitis

Two easy, routine tests help to catch mastitis when it first appears in the dairy herd.

The University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says the strip cup and the bromthymol-blue test are easy to apply and reasonably accurate. Daily use of either test helps to catch mastitis when it first gets started.

The strip cup test is probably the most popular test among dairymen, the veterinary college believes. For the test, several streams of milk are drawn from a quarter onto a fine-mesh wire screen before the cow is milked. Suspicious clots or flakes of milk are held back by the screen.

The other test uses pieces of blotting paper treated with bromthymol blue dye. Bromthymol-blue is a yellow dye which turns green or greenish-blue when suspicious milk contacts it.

If the test you use finds a cow giving suspicious milk, have a veterinarian collect milk samples to be sent to a diagnostic laboratory. There the germ causing the infection will be definitely identified, and treatment can be started.

Treatment without a definite diagnosis is often useless, dairymen have found. Mastitis can be caused by many different germs, and the same antibiotic or drug is not effective against all of them.

Nor is treatment the whole answer to mastitis, the College of Veterinary Medicine adds. Equally important are proper milking, good sanitation, adequate space for each cow and protection of the udder against injury.

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LEA:mi
4/21/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 1953

It's Easy to Control Parasites in Sheep

Spring is the time when you need to give particular attention to getting rid of internal and external parasites in your sheep flock.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, recommends the following methods for controlling sheep parasites:

Dip or spray for external parasites after shearing with a solution of one pound of 50% DDT in 30 gallons of water. Wait until shear cuts are healed. If you use a spray, it is important that you cover the sheep well.

Ticks migrate to the lambs after shearing, Carlisle says. If you spray, fill a barrel or tank with the solution and dip the lambs into it to be sure they are thoroughly soaked. If you discover scab in your flock, call your veterinarian.

Phenothiazine will control most of the internal parasites in Illinois sheep. Use both of the following methods of treating with phenothiazine:

First, treat the flock in both spring and fall. Lambs do not need to be treated in the spring before they go on pasture. Dosage should be one ounce of the dry powder for mature animals and one-half ounce for lambs. You can use a drench or a capsule or mix the dosage in finely ground feed at the rate of one ounce for each pound of ground feed.

Second, keep a salt mixture of one pound of phenothiazine in each 10 pounds of salt available to the sheep all the time they are on pasture. Protect the salt from rain or it will dissolve and the mixture will contain too much phenothiazine.

RAJ:mi
4/22/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 1953

Range Helps Produce Strong, Healthy Pullets

A good range can be a real money-saver in your pullet flock. It will help to save feed and to produce sturdy, thrifty birds for your laying flock.

Several different crops can be used for a good range. But ladino clover is becoming more popular with poultrymen in Illinois, says Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Ladino clover will make a succulent forage for your pullets and will provide a supply of B vitamins as well as vitamin A. It also supplies protein and minerals, although not enough to meet the birds' requirements.

Ridlen points out that ladino grows well in all sections of Illinois. But it grows best on fertile, moist soils. It needs a sweet soil with a good supply of available phosphorus and potash.

Second-summer ladino will be better range than first-year and will provide much forage. Avoid overstocking your range early in the season. An acre of ladino will usually provide enough range for about 500 pullets.

Use range shelters and move them regularly. Move feeders and water fountains farther away from the brooder house and range shelters each day to keep the chicks from scratching bare spots in the pasture. Keep the old chickens separate from the young, and follow a rotation plan that will put your flock on clean ground each year.

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RAJ:mi
4/22/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 4, 1953

Be Sure New Sows Are Free From Brucellosis

Looks and blood lines aren't everything when you're buying new gilts or sows to add to your swine herd. Freedom from brucellosis is important, too.

The University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says it's important to insist on brucellosis-free stock. Infected swine can spread the disease to healthy sows, causing them to abort, become sterile or have weak or dead pigs. Also, many cases of undulant fever in humans are caused by brucellosis-infected swine.

Before buying new breeding stock, insist on seeing the herd's blood test record, veterinarians suggest. Check to be sure the herd has been proved healthy by at least one recent test.

If the herd has not been tested, try to get it done before you buy. Even if the animals are negative, it will still pay to quarantine them for 30 to 60 days and then retest before you add them to your herd.

Spread of brucellosis by infected boars should no longer be a serious problem in Illinois. A state law requires that boars be tested and found free of the disease before they or their services can be sold.

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EA:mi
/29/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 4, 1953

Protect Chicks on Range From Wild Animals

Take your chicks off the menu of Mr. Fox.

Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that foxes are the chief chicken "thieves" in Illinois during the range season.

Protect your chicks from wild animals with a good fence around your range, Ridlen suggests. Then give them further protection, especially at night when the prowlers do most of their damage, by providing a good screened range shelter or brooder house.

One good way to keep foxes off the range if you've having trouble is to tether a dog or two on the range. The more active and noisy the dogs are, the more effective they'll be, the specialist points out.

It's a good idea to fasten each dog to a clothesline wire stretched tight and fastened well to the ground. Either lay the wire on the ground or fasten it up in the air. If you use a wire up to 200 yards long, your dog can patrol a large area.

Or you can control foxes with a single-strand electric fence around the range about 10 inches above the ground and a foot outside the range fence. Spray a strip two or three feet wide around the range fence with a mixture of oil and turpentine.

Set traps to control rats and weasels, and be sure your range shelter or brooder house is rat proof. You can also use chemical poisons for rats. Traps on trees and posts help to control pesky owls and hawks. If hawks get to be too much of a problem, a shotgun may be your best protection.

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RAJ:mi
4/29/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 4, 1953

1953 Potash Supply Equal to Demand

There's plenty of 50 and 60 percent potash fertilizer this year, and Illinois farmers have many places to use it.

C. M. Linsley, University of Illinois soils specialist, says this is the first time in years that the potash supply has been equal to the demand. He warns, however, that farmers can't always expect immediate delivery. Many dealers won't carry large stocks on hand.

Linsley lists four places you can put potash to good use any time during May and June:

1. Stubble clover, if you didn't get as much on earlier in the rotation as you want.

2. Pastures that test low in potash.

3. Alfalfa fields after the first cutting comes off.

4. Old pastures you plan to improve this fall. You can also put on the phosphates and lime they need.

If your soil needs more than 200 pounds of muriate of potash, according to the tests, put it on in two applications. Linsley explains that some crops will actually use more than their share of potash if too much is there.

Also, he says, soil tends in a few months to "lock up" some potash so that crops can't use it. He recommends putting the potash fertilizers on ahead of corn and again ahead of legumes, the two crops that need it most.

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JKM:mi
4/29/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 4, 1953

Heavy Cattle Marketings Caused Price Decline

A University of Illinois agricultural economist points to the age-old law of supply and demand in explaining the record drop in beef cattle prices in the past six months.

E. J. Working says more cattle going to market--25 percent more in January, February and March of this year than during the same period last year--was the big factor in the price drop.

But he adds the optimistic note that there is no prospect for a demoralized cattle market and no indication of reduced retail demand for beef.

Working traces beef price trends through these steps in recent years: (1) Wartime meat shortages and high postwar family income built up a high level of demand for meat. (2) With fewer cattle on hand than were necessary to meet the demand for beef, farmers and ranchers started building up their breeding herds.

(3) Building up herds meant keeping more cattle on farms--fewer going to market, even with high demand and good prices. It takes one to two years from the time a calf is born until it's ready to be marketed as finished beef.

(4) In a build-up period, the point is eventually reached when larger numbers of cattle must go to market. This point was reached last fall when drought forced increased marketings. The full effect was not felt in higher grades of cattle, however, until the end of the year. (5) Greatly increased supplies of beef brought prices down on both live cattle and retail cuts.

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Heavy Cattle Marketings Caused Price Decline - add 1

Working expects to see marketings this year average somewhat above 1951-52 levels. With a larger number of cows on farms and ranches, the calf crop will be larger than it was in either of the two past years. And the lower price level for cattle will not encourage farmers to increase the size of their herds. But whether it will stop the general increase that has been under way for several years is still uncertain.

The outlook for efficient beef producers is good, Working believes. Over-all demand for meat is good. Reduced supplies of prok are expected to increase the demand for beef. And lower prices at the retail counter will continue to make beef an attractive buy for the homemaker.

Indicating that there is nothing abnormal in the causes of the decline, Working says: "The direct cause has been the increase in cattle slaughter and beef production." He made his report in the April issue of Illinois Business Review, published by the bureau of economic and business research, University of Illinois College of Commerce.

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JM:mi
4/30/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

Sheepmen's Annual Picnic Set for June 21

Date for the annual Family Field Day of the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association has been set for Sunday, June 21.

As in past years, the picnic will be held at the Everett Glasgow farm adjoining Robert Allerton park, about five miles west of Monticello in Piatt county.

U. S. Garrigus, association secretary, reports that a sheep judging contest, open to all visitors, will start the day's proceedings at 11:00 a.m. Ribbons will be awarded to the best judges. Official placings of the animals will be made by a specially appointed committee.

Following a basket lunch, those in attendance will have a chance to take part in a discussion of sheep problems led by prominent Illinois sheep producers. Guests will also have time to visit Allerton Park and the State 4-H Memorial Camp grounds, which are not far from the Glasgow farm.

Garrigus says that anyone who is interested in sheep is invited to attend, especially junior sheepmen and farmers just getting started in the business. More than 300 farmers and members of their families attended last year's picnic.

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RAJ:mi
5/5/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

Pick Off Blossoms on Newly Set Strawberries

You'll get many more blossoms and possibly more strawberries next spring on June-bearing varieties if you'll pick off the blossoms as they come out on your newly set plants.

Removing the blossoms the first season lets the plants grow larger and develop more runners, which will increase the potential fruit crop the following season, says A. S. Colby, small fruits specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Tests at the United States Department of Agriculture have shown that hand picking is more effective than trying to do the job with sprays, Colby points out.

Scientists at the USDA tried 2,4-D 2,4,5-TP and TIB in the form of sprays for taking the blossoms off strawberries. None of the sprays were successful, but hand picking seemed to stimulate the plants to more growth.

In one test with U. S. hybrid 3919 variety about two months after the spraying and hand picking, plants from which the blossoms were hand picked were much larger than the others and had an average of about 20 runners each. Sprayed plants in the same bed had about one runner or none, and check plants that had been neither sprayed nor hand-picked averaged 3.3 runners.

Removing the blossoms is one of the most important things you can do to give your strawberry plants a good start. Other research has shown that strawberry plants set out as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring will put out more runners and that those runners will produce more berries the following spring than will runners from plants set out later.

If you plant ever-bearing varieties, you will need to remove blossoms only until midsummer. You can let later blossoms stay on the plants to produce fruit the first season.

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RAJ:mi
5/5/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

Plant Foods Work Best in Teams

Fertilizers do their best work in teams.

For instance, at the Brownstown soil experiment field of the University of Illinois, a combination of lime, phosphate and potash resulted in an 81-bushel average corn yield between 1949 and 1952. This was a 55-bushel increase over the yield on untreated land.

Those same fertilizers when used alone on different fields raised yields over those on untreated land a total of only 25 bushels.

Here's how University agronomists determined these results: On one plot of untreated land they used potash alone. It did not increase yields at all. On another plot phosphate alone increased yields five bushels to the acre. Lime alone, their best performer, increased yields 20 bushels.

To find out what each plant food was worth in the plant food team, the agronomists gave plots the full treatment minus one plant food. When they left out phosphorus, yields fell from 81 to 73 bushels. Phosphorus was worth eight bushels here on full treated land, only five bushels on untreated land.

Leaving out potash cut yields 29 bushels to the acre. When used alone it did no good.

When limestone was left out of the full treatment, yields fell 48 bushels. Alone it was worth 20 bushels.

Potash and phosphorus together without limestone were worth only nine bushels of corn. When added to limed land, they raised yields 37 bushels.

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KM:mi
/5/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

It's Time to Select Your Brood Sows

Start selecting your gilts now that you will breed this fall for next year's spring pig crop.

You should already have earmarked your pigs at farrowing time so that you can identify your gilts by litters, says Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Select good, growthy gilts from a uniformly thrifty litter, Russell suggests.

If possible, weigh individual pigs at weaning time. Pick the heaviest, fastest growing gilts from large litters for insurance on your 1954 pig crop. The average litter weight of the high herd among 1953 fall litters in the Illinois Swine Herd Improvement association was 320 pounds at 56 days of age for 20 litters.

Choose smooth gilts that are somewhat longer than average and that have at least 12 udder sections. Look for the best ham development, and select for trimness around the jowl, ham and underline.

Follow good management practices with your gilts. Remember that less than 25 percent of growth response in pigs is inherited. More than 75 percent of the response depends on how the operator handles them after they are born, Russell points out.

Separate your chosen gilts from the fattening hogs by August 1, if you can, and you'll be well on your way to healthy, growthy pigs next spring.

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RAJ:mi
5/5/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

Sudan Grass Makes Fine Midsummer Pasture

Sudan grass can supply succulent forage during July and August when other pastures are dry and unproductive.

Leo Fryman, extension dairy specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says one acre of good Sudan grass will carry about two cows through the hot summer months. That's about twice the grazing capacity of most pastures at that time of year.

One good system for summer pastures, Fryman says, is to follow rye with Sudan grass on the same field. Best time to sow Sudan grass is the last of May, just at the time you will usually be plowing up your rye.

Sow Sudan grass at the rate of 25 to 35 pounds an acre. For best yields, fertilize the field well with manure before planting or put on needed commercial fertilizer at seeding time.

Guard against prussic acid poisoning by not pasturing Sudan grass until it is at least 18 inches high. Be sure to move the stock when the grass is eaten down to about 12 inches. Fryman strongly recommends rotation grazing for Sudan grass.

You can seed soybeans with Sudan grass to increase the yield and feed value of the crop and to protect the grass from close grazing. Soybeans are also resistant to chinch bugs, while Sudan grass is not.

Sow 1½ bushels of soybeans alone or as a mixture with the usual amount of Sudan grass seed, using a grain drill. Inoculate the beans before planting.

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DTS:mi
5/5/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 11, 1953

Keep Farm Shop Orderly for Safety

Good lighting, order, safe tools and equipment make your farm shop work much easier and safer, says John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Get your shop ready for the busy work season ahead so that it will take you the least possible time to make repairs in an emergency, Matthews suggests. Root out accident hazards and inconvenient work areas.

Clean up the benches, storage cabinets and work areas so that they will not be cluttered. See that dangerous corners and work areas are well lighted so that you can see to do your work. Then be careful and work safely.

It's a good idea not to store loose materials on the rafters overhead, Matthews believes. Vibrations can sometimes shake such materials down. Keep all your tools in a safe place and in good operating condition. To avoid dangerous accumulation of harmful fumes, ventilate your shop well whenever you work in it.

Don't let greasy or oily rags pile up in a corner. They can easily cause spontaneous combustion and a dangerous fire. It's a good idea to have a fire extinguisher or some other means of putting out small fires if they should get started.

Use and store flammable materials safely. To reduce the chance of fire, look for and correct any defective wiring or electrical appliances.

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RAJ:mi
5/5/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 18, 1953

2,4-D Use Varies With Stage of Corn Crop

If conditions are normal, you can keep weeds out of corn easier by cultivating than by spraying.

Fred Slife, University of Illinois weed specialist, reports that 2,4-D is most useful when rainy weather or other work keeps you out of the cornfield so much that the weeds get ahead of you.

You can use 2,4-D from planting time until the corn begins to shoot. But, Slife warns, use it differently at different stages.

The first stage is after corn is planted and before the weeds come up. Use only the ester type of 2,4-D and use a pound and a half or less of acid 2,4-D to the acre. Do not spray corn on light or sandy soils, and do not spray after the corn leaves unfold.

After the corn is up, use 2,4-D differently. If you use the ester form, use only one-quarter pound to the acre. You can use one-half pound of the amine type of 2,4-D. These rates are relatively safe, Slife says, until the corn starts shooting.

After the corn gets three or four feet high, you can use more to the acre if you use nozzle extensions and keep the spray down around the base of the cornstalks.

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KM:mi
/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 18, 1953

4-H Members Work for Community Betterment

More than 1½ million 4-H boys and girls throughout the country are taking part this year in community betterment programs of health, recreation and safety.

These nation-wide programs will also be conducted by the Illinois Extension Service this year, according to Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Club work respectively.

Through these programs, Illinois 4-H'ers learn how to live healthfully, develop personal and community resources that make for improved leisure time and happiness, and cut down on farm and home accidents by removing hazards to safe working and living, Miss Searl and Pilchard point out.

Last year 763,000 club members in the U. S. enrolled in the 4-H Health Improvement program sponsored by the Kellogg company; 200,000 received training in 4-H Recreation and Rural Arts, with awards provided by the United States Rubber company; and 500,000 took part in the 4-H Safety activities in which special recognition was provided by General Motors.

Awards for outstanding achievement in these programs this year will include county medals or blue ribbons, all-expense trips to the 1953 National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago for state winners, and college scholarships for national winners.

You can get further information about these programs and 4-H Club work from your county farm or home adviser.

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AJ:mi
/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 18, 1953

Posts Peel Easier Now for Treating Later

Posts that are to be home-treated with a wood preservative need to be dry and free from bark in order to get the most protection from the chemicals.

Moisture in the wood and bark both tend to keep preservatives from soaking into posts properly, says Wayne Meek, wood use specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

If you will peel your posts and stack them for drying in the right way, there is practically no danger of attack from insects or fungus, Meek points out.

About two weeks after broad-leaved tree leaves reach full size is the best time to cut and peel next year's supply of fence posts, the specialist says. The sap is flowing then, and the bark peels easier than at any other time.

Bark on such hardwoods as oak, willow and cottonwood "tightens" up rapidly after the peeling season of about a month. Softwoods like white or jack pine will peel easily for two or three months.

After you have peeled the posts, stack them off the ground in a loose, crisscross pile to allow free air circulation. Season them for at least two of the three summer months.

Soak the peeled, seasoned posts from 24 to 48 hours in an oil-based solution of preservative--pentachlorophenol, copper naphthenate or creosote. This treatment should give you posts that will last from 15 to 20 years.

For more information on post treatment, ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 636, "Preserve Your Posts With Penta," or Mimeographed Sheet F114, "Treating Posts on the Farm With Creosote." or write directly for them to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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AJ:mi
/13/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 18, 1953

Use Garden Residues to Make Compost

Compost made of your garden crop residues will help to condition the soil and make food elements more easily available to the plants.

Making compost is also a good way to dispose of crop residues. B. L. Weaver, vegetable specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you can make it even better by mixing fertilizer materials right in with the compost as you put it together.

Weaver suggests a pit six by six feet square and 18 inches deep, framed with rough lumber, for your compost pile. You can put it on top of the ground, but except where drainage is a problem he believes that pits are better. Save the excavated soil for later use in the compost.

Use all vegetable residues, such as tops, stems, stalks, leaves and roots, for compost. Weeds, lawn clippings and leaves from trees and shrubs will help to build the pile. Add manure if you have it available.

Mix a little soil with the other material to help hold moisture and add weight to the compost. Moisture is essential to decay, and you may have to water the pile in very dry weather. Keep the surface level so that water will soak in evenly.

From 12 to 18 months are normally needed for coarse materials to decay in a compost pile until they are in usable form for the plants.

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Compost - add 1

To speed up decay to about six months, use a mixture of about 25 pounds of 10-10-10 mixed fertilizer and 10 pounds of finely ground limestone as you fill the pit. Or you can mix 12 pounds of ammonium sulphate, 6 pounds of superphosphate and 5 pounds of muriate of potash with the 10 pounds of limestone.

Add about one pound of either mixture to each 10 pounds of dry refuse and one-fourth pound to green materials, Weaver suggests. Occasional mixing of the decaying material will speed up the process and give a more uniform compost.

Spread decayed compost on the garden before you plow or spade. You can also use compost for mulch in borders or work it into the surface around shrubs or perennials. It is also useful for mixing with potting soil for starting plants in pots or flats.

RAJ:mi

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Pigs on Pasture Can Use Shade

Pigs on pasture need shade during the hot summer months.

Building portable shades for the swine pasture is a good job for rainy days, says Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Portable shades not only protect the pigs and help them to do better, Russell says. Shades also can be moved over the field to spread the manure and keep out of dust and mud.

A relatively narrow shade from 14 to 16 feet wide will keep pigs coolest. If your pasture is rolling, put the shades on knolls where they will have the best chance of catching cooling breezes.

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RAJ:mi
5/13/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 18, 1953

Cows on Pasture Still Need Grain, Extra Minerals

When your cows go on pasture this spring, keep on feeding grain and extra minerals but stop feeding protein supplements.

Leo Fryman, University of Illinois dairy specialist, says you can avoid weight losses when your cows go on early spring pasture by feeding grain at a reduced rate as long as the cows will eat it. Include 1 to 1½ pounds of salt and 1 pound of steamed bone meal in each 100 pounds of grain mixture.

Since cows on pasture may not eat much grain, they may suffer from mineral shortages if they get only the minerals in the grain mixture. To avoid this, provide free access to salt in block or loose form.

You can supply enough lime and phosphorus by mixing two parts of finely ground limestone, two parts of steamed bone meal and one part of salt (for taste). Feed in a weather-protected feeder or box.

Keep summer feed costs low by feeding protein supplements only when pastures begin to dry up. In the spring, fast-growing grass and legume pastures contain plenty of protein.

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DTS:mi
5/12/53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

Grass Silage Is Good Feed for Livestock

Grass silage is one of the best ways of harvesting first-cutting legumes, and it also makes excellent livestock feed.

For example, in a wintering test at the University of Illinois in 1952-53, steer calves gained more than 1.5 pounds a day on a full feed of grass silage and 3.5 pounds of corn a day.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the College of Agriculture, reports that those gains equaled gains of calves eating a full feed of corn silage and one pound of soybean meal a day.

In another test at the University during the winter of 1952, brood sows ate as much as 12 pounds of legume silage a day. Their feed cost $3.60 less for each hundred pounds of gain than that for sows self-fed ordinary rations, and $6.34 less than for sows hand-fed ordinary rations.

Lambs getting moderate amounts of grass silage in a South Dakota test gained about one-tenth of a pound faster than lambs on a similar ration with no grass silage. Grass silage ration in this case cost about $2.75 less per hundred pounds, Carlisle says.

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RAJ:mi
5/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

Select Right Lumber for Farm Buildings

It's important to know the exact purpose for which you are going to use the wood that you buy for your new farm buildings.

After you know how you are going to use the wood, then check the properties of available lumber and choose the best one for your purpose, says J. T. Clayton, extension farm buildings specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Most of the time you will be most interested in strength, Clayton points out. But different woods have other characteristics that are also important to watch for.

For instance, you'll want strength in the beams, rafters and studs and stiffness in the studs and purlins, the specialist says. Nail-holding power is also important, because in most cases the strength of the joists determines the strength of the building.

Other characteristics to look for include shrinkage, ease of working, weather resistance and paint-holding properties.

Start checking your lumber needs with the frame, Clayton suggests. You'll need plenty of strength and good nail-holding power in the joists, studs, plates and rafters. Douglas fir, yellow pine, red and white oak, ash and maple are some of the woods that will be good to use.

Buy the best grade of lumber for permanent buildings. But No. 2 grade may be good enough and chaper for semipermanent or temporary structures.

Fir, pine, redwood and cypress are good woods for roof boards and sheathing, Clayton says. Sills must be hard and resist decay; redwood, cypress, heartwood of oak and pressure-treated pine and fir are best for this purpose. Siding needs to have good paint-holding qualities and freedom from warping and splitting. Woods to use there include cypress, redwood, heartwood of ponderosa pine and yellow poplar. Fir and pine will also work if a special primer is applied before painting.

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AJ:mi
/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

Future Layers Need Shelter on Range

Pullets on range need shelter, plenty of eating and drinking space and shade in order to develop into good, sturdy layers.

Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says pullets need shelter to protect them from bad weather and wild animals.

A range shelter will keep your chicks more comfortable and healthy than a brooder house, Ridlen points out. Its wire-covered sides give good shade and allow plenty of free air movement both day and night.

For information to help you build your own range shelter, ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 552, or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

If you do use a brooder house for a range shelter, ventilate it on all sides so that your pullets will be comfortable in hot weather, the specialist suggests.

And it's just as important to protect feed on range from the weather to prevent waste and spoilage as it is to give the pullets plenty of eating space. Weatherproof range feeders that you can make yourself are ideal for this purpose.

Easiest way to supply your chicks with plenty of water is to pipe water directly to the range and attach automatic waterers. If you don't have a water system, you can provide a fresh water supply with a barrel mounted on a sled. Regulate the water level in the pan or trough with a float.

If you don't have natural shade, plant some strips of corn or sunflowers near the range, Ridlen suggests. Or you can let the chicks range in a cornfield. But it's not a good idea to let them find shade under the shelter or brooder house. This area is often contaminated with disease germs and parasites.

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RAJ:mi
5/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

State Accepts Three Top 4-H Awards

Achievement, Citizenship and Leadership, the "Big Three" of the National 4-H Awards Programs, will offer 18 college scholarships valued at $5,100 this year.

Illinois 4-H Club members will have a chance again this year to take part in these programs and to compete for top honors, according to Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Clubs respectively.

In each program the highest rating boy and girl will receive all-expense trips to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November and to Washington, D. C., for National 4-H Club Week in March 1954.

Donors of the awards include: Achievement, Ford Motor company; Citizenship, in honor of Thomas E. Wilson; and Leadership, Edward Foss Wilson. The six Washington trips will be provided by the Conrad Hilton hotel, Chicago.

Other incentives for all-around achievement in 4-H activities are 16 trips to Club Congress, miniature statues for two state winners, four ribbons for outstanding agricultural club members and four ribbons for home economics winners. The leadership program provides eight trips to Club Congress, gold watches to two state winners and four agricultural ribbons and four home economics ribbons for county winners.

Ask your county farm or home adviser for full information on these 4-H award programs.

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5/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

Watch Out for Early Garden Insects

Keep a close watch on your early home garden, and be ready to fight insects with chemical dusts and sprays at the first sign of damage.

J. M. Wright, entomologist with the State Natural History Survey, says that cutworms can be a big threat if you planted your gar den in weedy or sod soil.

Cutworms will cut off cabbage and tomato transplants and other garden crops at the soil line. If you have trouble with these worms, wrap the stems of the transplants with paper or protect them with a tin can. An ice cream carton open at both ends, firmly imbedded in the soil around the plant, also will protect plants against cut-worms. Or you can spread DDT or chlordane dust around the base of the plant.

Cabbage maggots feed on the roots of these plants. If they ttack, the plant usually wilts and the leaves turn yellow to purple. se two teaspoons of chlordane in a gallon of water, and spread one upful of the mixture around each plant a few days after you set them ut.

DDT or rotenone dust or spray are both effective in fighting ean leaf bettles. Purified DDT or rotenone should be used for cucum-er beetles. Adults of these beetles chew off leaves as fast as they orm. Keep the leaves covered with the dust or spray as soon as they ome out.

If your squash vines wilt overnight, it's probably caused by quash vine borer. Purified DDT and rotenone sprayed or dusted around he base of the plant are both effective. Apply either material only o the base of the plant through late June and July.

Aphids have been causing trouble on clover this spring. And ou can expect attacks on vegetables if the weather stays cool. Hot, umid weather promotes a fungus disease of aphids that aids in their ontrol. Use either nicotine sulphate or tetraethyl pyrophosphate Vapotone, Fosvex)if the weather stays cool.

Ask your county farm adviser for Circulars 671 and 672, which ive more information on control of garden insects, or write directly o the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 25, 1953

Learn Correct Way to Lift on Farm

Practice the correct way to lift heavy objects until it becomes a habit with you.

Victims of sprains, strains, hernias and other injuries resulting from poor lifting practices are far too numerous, says J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Your body is a mechanical system of levers and hinges operated by cables just like machines, Matthews points out. Overloading or using these cables improperly is inviting trouble.

Many people unconsciously bend at the waist when they reach down to pick up an object. Lifting in this position places a severe strain on the sensitive back and abdominal muscles.

On the other hand, if you will squat and bend your knees and keep your back as straight and upright as you can when you lift a heavy object, the powerful muscles of your legs and thighs can do the lifting without excessive strain.

Here are the most common causes of lifting injuries, according to the Rural Safety Council: (1) lifting and lowering with the back muscles instead of the leg muscles; (2) insecure grip or footing and unsafe placing of hands or feet; (3) using quick, jerking, twisting or awkward body movements; (4) obstructed vision, unstable loads or inadequate control; and (5) insufficient help or failure to use mechanical aids.

Look at all your lifting jobs with a critical eye, Matthews suggests. Try to avoid lifting in your routine chores, and rearrange your work or equipment to cut down as much as you can the amount of lifting you need to do.

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for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 1953

Motor Oil Comes Under New Classes

Old names of motor oil, regular, premium or heavy duty, no longer apply.

A new system has been approved by the American Petroleum Institute, says R. I. Shawl, agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

This new system of classification is based on the type of engine with which the oil is to be used, the kind of service the engine will perform and the kind of fuel to be used. These new classes are flexible and will allow manufacturers to modify the characteristics of their oils to suit new engine changes.

Oil to be used with gasoline, LP-gas or other spark ignition engines will be classified as ML, MM or MS, depending on the service conditions for its use. With diesel engine use, oils will be classified DG or DS, depending on service.

Body of oils will still be classified by the SAE numbers, 5w, 10w, 20, 20w, 30, 40 and 50, Shawl says.

Gasoline engines today develop about three times as much power as they did 30 years ago, the agricultural engineer points out.

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Motor Oil Comes Under New Classes - add 1

High compression, high speeds and high operating temperatures of today's engines have put higher requirements on the performance of oils.

Motor oils today contain chemical compounds that combat cold, corrosion, engine deposits, oxidation, oil plating, foaming and other bad effects. Gasoline and motor oil "dopes" in small quantities don't do very much harm or very much good, Shawl reports.

The U. S. Bureau of Standards recently tested more than 150 fuel dopes, none of which showed any important improvement in engine performance. On the other hand, some were found to be corrosive to hard metal bearings.

High-quality motor oil doesn't insure good oil performance if the operator abuses his engine, Shawl says. Overloading, overspeeding, lack of air cleaner care, clogged radiators, poor ignition and crank case ventilation and too lean fuel mixtures can cause more operating troubles than a good motor oil can overcome.

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5/27/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 1953

Get High-Quality Sweet Corn All Season

Increasing use of hybrid sweet corn varieties increases the problem of getting a harvest for the table over the entire season, says C. Y. Arnold.

The vegetable crops specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture says the reason is that hybrids show more uniform maturity than the old open-pollinated varieties.

Spread the harvest over the entire season by selecting varieties that mature at different times, the specialist suggests.

On the average, Spancross matures in 68 days, Carmelcross in 74 days and Golden Cross Bantam in 82 days. Even if you planted all three of these varieties at the same time, you would get a difference of two weeks in maturity dates.

Cover the rest of the season with spaced plantings of a good midseason variety, Arnold says. Planting when the previous plants are two to three inches high is a better guide than planting so many days apart. Temperatures have too much effect on growth rates to make the latter method reliable.

Instead of drilling your sweet corn in rows across the garden, plant in hills three or four feet apart in each direction. Planting sweet corn in hills in blocks gives better pollination. A block of 9-16 hills makes a nice-sized planting for a family of four.

Best way to plant is to scoop out a hole about 1½ inches deep and fill with starter solution. Put in six seeds to a hill, cover with pulverized soil and firm over the seeds. After the corn has come up, thin each hill to the three strongest plants.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 1953

Control Red Spider Mites in Your Windbreak

Heavy infestations of red spider mites can stunt the growth of newly planted evergreen windbreaks or possibly kill them.

Even in older, larger windbreak trees, the mites can cause needle drop that will destroy the effectiveness of the shelter next winter, says W. F. Bulkley, extension forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Warm, dry weather in late May and early June will bring the first hatch of mites, according to Bulkley. With a life cycle of only two weeks, these insect pests produce several generations during each season.

It's easy to check for red spider mites. Just hold a sheet of white paper under a branch and hit the foliage sharply. You'll see the mites as tiny, red, yellow, brown or black specks moving on the paper.

First sign of spider mite damage will come during July and August, when inside needles on the trees start turning brown. Check then to be sure mites are causing the needles to die.

You can wash mites off single ornamental evergreens in your yard simply by spraying each tree with a full force of water from your garden hose. In a windbreak, you'll probably want to use a chemical spray.

Aramite, Dow Spray 17 and Dimite are a few of the many mite sprays you can get. For more information, ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 509, "Protecting Shade Trees From Insect Damage." Or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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5/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 1953

Watch for Ticks and Worms in Sheep

Don't make your flock feed stomach worms as well as themselves on pasture this summer.

More than a million dollars worth of potential income from sheep and lambs is lost each year in Illinos because of internal parasites, says U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

It's easy and cheap to fight stomach worms, Garrigus points out. You can either drench your sheep with phenothiazine or buy prepared pills.

If you make your own drench, mix one pound of wettable phenothiazine with one quart of water. Then give each adult sheep two ounces of the mixture and each lamb one ounce.

Or you can mix one ounce of phenothiazine with each pound of feed and give one pound of this mixture to each sheep. The sheep will eat the treated feed better if they are kept in overnight for 12 hours without feeding. Sheep and lambs should receive this treatment in groups according to size. In addition, it's a good idea to combat stomach worms all summer by mixing phenothiazine one part to 10 with salt and keeping this mixture in a weather-proof salt box where the sheep can get to it.

Ticks may also cut production and cost you money at market time, the sheep specialist says. Ticks normally leave the adults at shearing time and head for the lambs.

Best treatment for ticks is a dip for complete coverage. Use a mixture of one-half pound of five percent rotenone to each 100 gallons of water, or 6/10 pound of four percent rotenone. You can also use four pounds of 50 percent DDT in 100 gallons of water, or 3/4 pound of 25 percent lindane in 100 gallons of water.

You can also spray your sheep. But if you spray, use a double concentration of the chemicals in the solution, and be sure that you cover all parts of the sheeps' bodies thoroughly.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 1953

Inoculating Soybeans May Double Yield

Don't underestimate the value of inoculating your soybean seed, says O. H. Sears, University of Illinois agronomist.

That's especially true on ground where you are growing soybeans for the first time, Sears points out. Planting inoculated seed there may even double your yields.

Even on ground where soybeans have been grown before, inoculation is good, cheap insurance for top yields. You can inoculate for as little as 10 cents an acre.

Most important thing about inoculating soybeans is to be sure each seed gets some of the inoculant. You can mix some inoculants with water, but that is not necessary with the humus type.

To be sure the seed and inoculant are mixed well enough, mix them until you think you've done a good job. Then mix them that much more, Sears suggests.

It's a good idea to insure a good mix by preparing your seed before you go to the field. Don't try to do the job in the planter box, because your seed will not be thoroughly inoculated.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 1953

Mow in Straight Lines With Electric Mower

For best results with an electric power mower, mow back and forth in straight lines across your lawn.

Always work away from the electrical outlet so that the power cord lies on the cut-over area, suggests Frank Andrew, extension farm electric specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

In that way you won't be in danger of cutting the cord, losing power or getting an electric shock from the frayed wires, Andrew says.

To help keep the cord from kinking and tangling, coil it loosely in a bucket or basket. That makes a handy storage space, and the cord will come out easily for use when you mow.

It is also a good idea to mow with an electric mower only when the grass is dry, the specialist points out. Moisture of any kind is a good conductor of electricity. Rain or dew in the grass may short out the mower and damage the motor or give you a shock.

Use only heavy-duty, rubber-covered cord with a No. 16 or heavier conductor wire for 100 feet of cord on a 1/4 horsepower motor. Be sure the cord does not have any breaks in the insulation.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 1953

Four Illinois 4-H'ers Attend National Camp

Four Illinois 4-H Club members and two state leaders will be in Washington, D. C., next week attending sessions of the 23rd National 4-H Club Camp, which runs from June 17 to 24.

Jean Phillips, 20, Wilmington, Will county; Rita Schertz, 19, Benson, Woodford county; Phillip Hobson, 20, Greenfield, Greene county; and Deane Keller, 18, Streator, LaSalle county, are the 4-H Clubbers selected this year to represent the 57,000 Illinois 4-H Club members at National Camp.

Adult leaders are Miss Erma Cottingham, member of the state home economics 4-H Club staff, and E. I. Pilchard, state leader of agricultural 4-H Clubs.

Selection to attend National 4-H Club Camp is the highest honor that a 4-H Club member can achieve. These four Illinois rural young people are so honored because they have shown high qualities of leadership, have achieved outstanding results in the 4-H Club work and have taken an active part in project and community activities.

Delegates and leaders will follow a busy schedule of meetings, entertainment and historic tours while they are in Washington. Objective of the camp is to show outstanding 4-H'ers from all over the nation how the federal government functions and to give them a background in the nation's history in the spot where many of the events actually happened.

During the week-long program, the young people will hear some top speakers on the nature and operation of democratic government and will meet in discussion groups to summarize what they learn.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 1953

Set July 19-25 as Farm Safety Week

The nation will observe the week of July 19-25 as National Farm Safety Week by proclamation of President Eisenhower.

Because needless accidents continue to kill thousands of farm people every year and more than 1¼ million farm residents were injured last year, the president urgently requests every farm resident to cooperate in an effort to make 1953 as accident-free as possible.

In supporting the president's proclamation, Secretary of Agriculture Benson says that in 1951, the last year for which estimates are available, 14,500 farm people lost their lives as a result of accidents.

The chances of being killed on the job are more than three times as great for an agricultural worker as for an industrial worker. Loss due to accidents affecting farmers, including property and equipment, is estimated at one billion dollars. That's more than the total of all farm real estate and personal property taxes in 1949.

Of the fatal accidents to farm folks in 1951, almost as many occurred in and around the house as on the rest of the farm. Falls are the principal cause of deaths from home accidents among persons over 45 years of age. Burns rank first among those from 1 to 44 years of age.

This is the 10th year in which National Farm Safety Week has been sponsored by the National Safety Council and the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the farm safety activities of states and counties, the Illinois Rural Safety Council, farm organizations, farm press and radio, and many other groups interested in agriculture.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 1953

Grazing Woodland Causes Double Trouble

Graze your woodlands and you'll find yourself with double trouble on your hands, says Gordon Cunningham, extension forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture:

1. Your livestock will not gain as they should.

2. The quality and quantity of your timber will drop.

Make up your mind whether you want to raise livestock or trees on your land, and then drop the other, Cunningham suggests. Otherwise you'll be losing out of both pockets.

Apparently many Illinois farmers have already found that grazing woodlands doesn't pay. In 1925 three-fourths of all Illinois woodlands were grazed. Today that percentage has dropped to two-thirds. That's still two-thirds too many acres, the forester points out.

In a test at Purdue University a steer given six acres of open woodland to pasture lost 15 pounds between May and mid-August. In comparison, steers on Illinois improved grass-legume pastures have gained 250 pounds on one acre.

Sharp hooves of grazing animals damage shallow feeding roots of young trees. Bruised and cut roots are also a point of entrance for many tree diseases that can reduce your wood crop.

About a dozen or so native wild plants are poisonous to livestock, Cunningham says, and you will risk losing some of your animals if you turn them in to your woodland. Oak leaves, for instance, are poisonous to animals. Grazing oak seedlings not only will poison your animals, but will destroy replacement trees that would some day be valuable as lumber.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 1953

Sanitation Best Treatment for Blue Comb

Best way to keep your pullets from falling victim to blue comb disease is to provide strict sanitation.

Preventive treatment for blue comb includes plenty of fresh water, good ventilation, shaded quarters, reduced grain consumption and the least possible contact of the flock with outside sources of contamination, according to Dr. J. O. Alberts.

The poultry disease specialist in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois says that scientists still have not found the exact cause of blue comb. They suspect a virus or virus-like agent, but they have not yet isolated it.

You can expect blue comb among 5- to 7-month-old chickens most often during the summer and early fall months, Dr. Alberts says. Turkeys normally get the disease a little younger, although chicks and turkeys of all ages can get it. It appears that both sexes are equally susceptible.

In a typical outbreak, an apparently healthy flock shows a sudden drop in feed consumption, severe diarrhea, darkening of the head, comb or wattles, shriveling of the skin, loss of body weight and a fever in the last stages. Egg production drops off and may not return to normal for several weeks. Losses vary from none to 50 percent, with an average of about 5 percent.

In acute cases all of your chickens can get blue comb at the same time. The disease usually runs its course in about 7 to 10 days.

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Blue Comb - add 1

In chronic cases only a small number of birds may be affected at any one time, but the disease may last much longer. In this case treatment does not help very much, Dr. Alberts believes.

Reported treatments include using muriate of potash in the drinking water at the rate of one tablespoon for each gallon for a period of 3 to 7 days. Some persons have also reported good results from using terramycin in the drinking water at the rate of five parts in each million parts of water.

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Clip Weed Crop in Your Pasture

What are you going to do about those weeds in your pasture?

You wouldn't let them grow in your corn or soybeans, says Ernest D. Walker, soil conservation specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Yet weeds steal just as much plant food and water from pastures as from grain crops.

Get out the mower and clip those early pasture weeds to reduce competition for the grass and legumes. Clipping will also keep the weed pests from going to seed to cause more trouble next year.

Another clipping in August will get the later weeds.

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for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 15, 1953

Get Dairy Show Calves Ready for Fair

You can't make an unsound or inferior calf into a winner by trimming and fitting her.

But you can greatly improve the appearance of a good calf by proper fitting and training, says E. E. Ormiston of the dairy department at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Even if your calf doesn't come home with any blue ribbons from the show ring, Ormiston says, you'll still be a winner through the experience of learning how to fit and show a calf.

It takes patience to train a calf to lead well, but that's one of the most important details in exhibiting, the dairyman points out. Train your calf to lead well, to walk slowly with an even gait and to stop, standing squarely on all four feet.

Tie the calf with a halter before you try to teach it to lead. Then start right in with a show halter, since that will make it easier to control the calf. Most calves lead better with a leather lead strap than with a chain.

Feed a grain mixture consisting of 150 pounds of ground oats, 100 pounds of wheat bran, 100 pounds of coarsely ground shelled corn,

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Calves - add 1

50 pounds of linseed meal and 3 pounds of salt. Add more corn if your calf is thin. For roughage, leafy mixed hay fed in small amounts is often best.

Before starting the fitting job, give your calf a good scrubbing with soap and a stiff brush. Wash again thoroughly as needed and on the day before the show. Groom with short strokes of a bristle brush, followed by a softer brush to bring out a glossy coat.

When you clip, do not clip the animal all over, Ormiston suggests. Clip the head and neck, over the withers, the tail and tail setting, and in most cases let the rest go. If you are a beginner, get help from someone who already knows how to clip, and then practice on a few animals that will not be shown.

Start getting ready for the fair routine at least a week ahead of time, Ormiston advises. Feed your calf in a feed pan like those used at the fair, and start giving it water from a bucket. Be sure to have your animals vaccinated for shipping fever, and get the registration papers, health certificates and fair entries all made out in plenty of time.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 15, 1953

Girl, 15, Tops Junior Chicken Growers

Molly Yost, 15-year-old Greenview high school girl, has been named the best producer in the 1953 Illinois Junior Chicken-of-Tomorrow contest.

Molly's Cornish—White Rock chickens caught the eyes of the judges as the best in the state finals at the Armour Creameries in Lincoln on Friday, June 5.

Her 10-bird entry had previously been named the best in the central section among 55 entries from that area. Her birds averaged 4.8 pounds each, live weight, at the age of 12 weeks.

Second place went to Lyle Marlowe, Huntley. Other top winners in the state finals included: 3rd, Bruce Overson, Lena; 4th, Kenneth Ulrey, Martinsville; 5th, Jon Winston, Salem; 6th, Samuel McClure, Assumption; 7th, Ted Noble, Pleasant Plains; 8th Robert Moore, Lostant; 9th, Walter Coleman, Findlay; and 10th, Daniel Oberholtzer, Mazon.

Marlowe's entry had been named the best amount 50 entries from the northern section of the state, while Ulrey's chickens took first place among the five entries from southern Illinois.

There were 204 entries in this year's contest, according to Clarence Ems, State Department of Agriculture, chairman of the contest committee. Of these entries, 144 were sent to Lincoln for the final judging. Birds were discounted most for poor fleshing, poor feathering and breast blisters.

Judges were Verne Almquist, dairy and poultry division, Armour and Co., Chicago; and Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

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6/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 15, 1953

Set Rural Youth State Camp for August 9-14

More than 100 members of the Illinois Rural Youth organization are expected to attend the 17th annual State Rural Youth Camp August 9-14.

Theme for the camp will be "The Citizen in a Camping Community," according to Miss Clareta Walker, state Rural Youth leader at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

As usual, the program will include the ever-popular topics of family relationships and personality development, Miss Walker says. In addition, the rural young people will have a chance to learn square dance calling and song leading, to exchange ideas on county Rural Youth programs and to get help on photography problems.

Camp sports will include archery, badminton, box hockey, horseshoes, soft ball and tether ball, with special emphasis on waterfront activities, such as swimming and boating. Craft work will cover nature crafts, puzzle making, enameling on metal and stone polishing.

Each evening program will include evensong and recreational activities. For every young person who attends, state camp provides good fun and fellowship and an opportunity to learn cooperation in living together in a summer camp.

Make reservations by July 16 through your county extension office. Registration starts on Sunday afternoon, August 9, and the last regular meal will be served Friday noon, August 14. August 1 is the deadline for final precamp registration.

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/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 15, 1953

Don't Let Your Children Ride Tractors

When children and tractors are involved in accidents, it's generally the children who are hurt most.

Every farm parent must take the responsibility for preventing such accidents, says John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Parents should not let small children drive, play on or go along as extra riders on moving power equipment.

Handling a tractor under most farm conditions requires mature skill, coordination and judgment that most youngsters 11 years old or even older do not have. Of course, children vary a great deal in these capacities at certain ages. One youngster may be mature enough to operate complex machinery, while another at the same age will not be.

Parents are in the best position to judge their children's abilities. However, because of pride in their children or because of a shortage of help, some parents have failed to exercise good judgment. The result has sometimes been a crippling accident or even death.

Each such accident adds to the pressure for legislative control that is not the best answer to the problem. So don't send a boy out to do a man's job. His life is not the only life you may save.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 15, 1953

Apply Lime Any Time Of The Year

Apply lime whenever you can get on the field with spreading equipment, advises Clyde Linsley, extension agronomist at the University of Illinois.

If you are liming for the first time, put the lime on at least six months before seeding the legume, and put it on top of the seedbed.

If you are reliming, however, you can do it any time. Applications are profitable any time you can get lime on the field, the specialist points out.

Most lime is spread during six months of the year. The result is that you can't always get it when you want it.

If you didn't get lime on corn and bean fields before planting, Linsley suggests that you apply it after the crop is planted and while it's still small enough to make it possible to straddle the rows. You can also spread lime on small grain stubble fields, on clover sod and on permanent pasture.

Linsley recommends a soil test to determine how much lime to put on. Putting on too little doesn't give the most economical returns for the dollars you spend for lime. On the other hand, too much lime can tie up the phosphates and reduce crop yields. Not many farmers have reached that stage, however.

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5/10/53

for weeklies

Farm News

/ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

Get More Feed From Your Pastures

Could you use twice as much feed from your permanent pastures?

Ernest D. Walker says that you can get it by tearing up the sod, treating the soil and reseeding to a good grass-legume mixture.

The soil conservation specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture suggests that the place to start your pasture renovation program is with a soil test of the field. Then you'll know how much limestone, potash and phosphate you'll need to put on.

If your field needs lime, keep it in the surface soil. It's a good idea to plow first and then put on the lime.

On sloping pastures plowing or renovating should be done on the contour. If your field is too steep to plow, spread the lime on the surface and then work it in with a disk or field cultivator.

Apply phosphate and potash as needed at the time of seeding, and work it in as you prepare the seedbed.

For more information, see your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 703, "5 Steps in Pasture Improvement." Or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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/17/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

Renew Two 4-H Home Economics Programs

Bread Demonstration and Dress Revue are two national 4-H programs of special interest to home economics 4-H Club members that have been approved for this year by the Illinois 4-H staff.

Miss Anna Searl, state 4-H home economics club leader, says that the demonstration program is designed to help Illinois 4-H girls develop skill in making yeast and quick breads, cakes and cookies.

Girls who enroll learn to give effective demonstrations that show the relationship of some phase of what they learn to family dietary needs.

Outstanding records are recognized with awards provided by Standard Brands, Inc. County individual and team winners are given medals, while state winners each receive a $50 savings bond. More than 35,800 girls in the nation-wide program gave baked food demonstrations last year before audiences totaling 850,000 persons.

The Dress Revue program is open to all girls who enroll in the 4-H clothing project. Members learn to dress in line with a well-planned family budget and to develop poise, proper posture and good grooming habits. A national total of 669,259 girls enrolled last year.

Simplicity Pattern Co. provides the medal awards to county winners and an all-expense trip to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November to the state winner. Each state winner taking part in the national dress revue at Club Congress will receive a leather-cased scissors set.

See your county home adviser for more information about these projects and awards programs.

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5/17/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

Sheep Sale to Offer 127 Purebreds

Sheep breeders have consigned 127 head of purebred stock to go on sale at Urbana on June 18.

That's the date of the annual show and consignment sale of the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association at the livestock pavilion of the University of Illinois.

Sale order will be determined by placings in the morning show starting at 9:30 CDT, according to U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the College of Agriculture and sale manager. Ed Brown of Plainfield, Indiana, will place the sheep.

Consignors guarantee animals to be breeders if properly handled. If any ram or ewe sold is not a breeder, the consignor will replace it with another of equal value or refund the purchase price, according to the rules of the sale.

If you are unable to attend the sale, you may send mail bids to anyone you select. The association suggests that you submit mail bids to G. R. Carlisle, W. J. Hampton or H. G. Russell, Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association, 110 Stock Pavilion, Urbana. Ten percent discount will be allowed on all purchases by Illinois 4-H and FFA members.

Auctioneer will be H. Earl Wright, Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

Sale order by breeds and number consigned is Southdown, 18; Corriedale, 19; Cheviot, 5; Hampshire, 35; Oxford, 1; Suffolk, 7; Shropshire, 36; Rambouillet, 2; Dorset, 4.

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6/17/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

College Releases New Soybean Variety

Clark, a new soybean variety, has been released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and midwest agricultural experiment stations.

It will be grown on about 3,000 acres this year and should be available for general use by 1955, according to J. L. Cartter of the regional soybean laboratory in Urbana.

Cartter says Clark is adapted to the southern area of the Lincoln belt and to much of the area of the Wabash belt. This includes central to southern Illinois and Indiana.

Clark has averaged about five bushels more to the acre than Wabash or Chief, even though it's slightly earlier than these varieties. It has also outyielded Perry, even though it's a full week earlier. Clark was tested in 120 plots from Nebraska to Delaware.

Clark averaged 41.9 bushels in two years' test in the southern part of the area in which it is adapted, compared with 35 for Chief, 35.3 for Wabash and 38.2 for Perry. In oil content it averaged 21.8 percent compared with 20.3 for Chief, 21.3 for Wabash and 21.7 for Perry.

The averages ran just a little lower in the northern area of the Clark belt.

Clark is resistant to frog-eye leaf spot, one of the major soybean diseases in some Corn Belt localities.

It is the eleventh in a series of new varieties developed during the past 12 years. Work began on it in 1941.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

Save Tractor Fuel Through Proper Use

About 10 percent of all tractor fuel is wasted through improper storage and faulty use, says Wendell Bowers, extension farm machinery specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Since fuel represents about 40 percent of the cost of operating your tractor, you can save money by being sure that your gasoline is stored right and used properly.

Eliminating this waste in tractor fuel would save Illinois farmers about $4,800,000 a year, Bowers points out.

Most of the waste in storage comes through evaporation. To help prevent it, provide some sort of shade over the tank. It's also better to have a small storage tank that you have to fill every two or three weeks than to have a large tank that you fill only every two or three months.

Another way to save stored fuel is to use a pressure-relief valve set for three pounds per square inch in place of the vented cap.

Time you take to have your carburetor properly adjusted and the spark timed right can save up to seven and one-half gallons of gas on the average in a 10-hour day, the agricultural engineer says. You can also save gas by having the valves ground and the air filter cleaned.

Two other tips for saving gas are to be sure that the float level is right in your carburetor bowl and that you operate the engine at the temperature recommended by the manufacturer in the owner's manual.

In 60-hour tests with gasoline tractors, cylinder wear and fuel consumption decreased and power increased as engines were operated at temperatures of 140, 160, and 180 degrees, respectively.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 1953

College Extends Open House Tour Invitation

Open House Tours at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture have been set for three days this summer.

They are June 26, July 24 and September 2.

These dates will allow you to see three different stages in the growth of crops and livestock if you wish, explains Marshall J. Scott, tour supervisor. You can attend any one of the tours or all three if you wish.

Included in each tour will be visits to the Morrow Plots, oldest soil experiment field in the United States; animal sciences laboratory, where feeding experiments are conducted under scientifically controlled conditions; agricultural engineering laboratory, where automatic feed-grinding and crop-drying equipment will be on display; horticulture greenhouses and fields, where vegetable variety trial experiments are conducted; and the new College of Veterinary Medicine building.

You'll also have a chance to inspect the field crops and soil experiments in progress at the agronomy south farm and visit the swine, beef and dairy farms.

The program will start at 9:00 a.m. CST on each of the three days and will end at 3:30 p.m. Scott says everyone is on his own for lunch. Families may want to pack a picnic basket and have lunch at one of the many scenic places on the University campus.

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Set Purebred Sheep Sale at Dixon Springs

July 9 has been set as the date of the annual purebred sheep sale at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois.

R. J. Webb, station superintendent, reports that 47 yearling Hampshire and Suffolk sheep will be sold. The sale will start at 1 p.m. CST.

Most of the sheep offered at the sale will be yearling rams, Webb says. Here is your chance to buy a well-bred flock ram.

Included in the sale will be 10 yearling Hampshire rams and four yearling Hampshire ewes. Breeding lines offered in the Hampshires include University of Illinois, Hogg, Carlson and Moncreiffe.

Suffolks for sale will include 28 yearling rams and five yearling ewes. Among the Suffolk breeding lines are University of Illinois, University of Idaho, Kirton True Man by Brantham Ever True, Zeus, Armitstead, Channon and Leshaven.

You can get a catalog for the sale by writing to the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, Robbs, Illinois. The experiment station is located in Pope county east of Vienna.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Korean Truce Won't Affect Farm Prices Much

Effects of a Korean truce on agriculture and the general economy will depend on how government, corporations and individuals react.

L. H. Simerl, extension agricultural economist at the University of Illinois, doubts that the government will change much from its aims of maintaing national security and economic stability and development.

Even if the government wanted to change its spending policies quickly, it couldn't, the economist says. Appropriations made in former years will still be spent.

Actually government policy has had little to do with the boom since 1950, he believes. This boom has been caused more by corporations increasing their debt to pile up large inventories in anticipation of scarcities and to buy new plants and equipment, and by family spending for new housing.

After a truce, individuals and corporations may act just the opposite to reduce spending and their debt. This would be deflationary. For the last few years, government money policy has been anti-inflationary, Simerl points out, but that could change quickly if deflation becomes a problem.

Fiscal and monetary policies are more effective in offsetting inflation than in offsetting deflation. They are seldom as good to stimulate economic activity as they are to slow it down. Reduction of taxes would help to stimulate economic activity, and a truce in Korea may strengthen the case in Congress for lower taxes.

Drouth or insects this year could cut production enough to offset lower demand and could be more important than government policies in influencing prices.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Make Silage if You Can't Make Hay

If weather keeps you from making hay, you can still preserve the crop by making grass silage.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you can preserve grass silage by putting it into a conventional silo, a trench silo, a shallow trench or a stack.

Figure on a loss of 10 percent by volume if you make a shallow trench or stack silo, Russell says. That figure can be less if you do a good job of stacking and packing. It can be more if the crop is too dry or not well stacked.

You can save about 84 percent of the protein in the forage crops by making well-preserved grass silage. That compares with about 76 percent for barn-curing methods. Average field curing saves about 69 percent of the protein, while hay that has been rained on will contain only about half of its original protein.

However, even the best legume-grass mixture can't put on gains as well after it has been ensiled as it did before. The crop that may produce 1½ pounds of gain daily on each calf as pasture will probably produce about half as much gain if it is ensiled and fed without grain to comparable cattle.

All you have to do, however, to get satisfactory gains with grass silage is to feed some corn along with it. For beef calves, Russell recommends 4 pounds of corn dairy for each animal being wintered on grass silage. This will produce daily gains of 1½ pounds a head or slightly more. No additional protein supplement is needed.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Keep Insects Out of Stored Grain

Get the best price you can for your stored grain by keeping insects from eating up the profits after you have binned it.

H. B. Petty, extension entomologist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you won't get much weevil damage in the field. Most of it occurs during storage.

Pockets of old grain from last year's harvest in your combine are the first source of insect contamination. It's a good idea to save the first few bushels run through the combine for livestock feed and not mix it with grain for storage.

Cracks in the beds of trucks or wagons may also be sources of insect contamination. For effective control, spray the beds with 2 pounds of 50% wettable methoxychlor powder in 5 gallons of water to the point of run-off.

Before you store your grain, clean up around the bin, sweep it out and burn all refuse. Then spray the bin with the same mixture as is recommended for the wagon beds. At present you can use wettable DDT powder bin sprays instead of methoxychlor if you wish.

If you plan to store wheat for a month or more, fumigate with a grain fumigant within three weeks after binning. Use between 4 and 8 gallons of fumigant for each 1,000 bushels of grain. Use higher amounts of fumigant on small amounts of grain in a bin, on the less air-tight bins and when grain temperatures are extremely high.

Or you can avoid rehandling the grain if you treat your stored wheat with one of the activated pyrethrin protectants at the time you put it into the bin. Add pyrethrin protectant to the wheat either as it comes from the combine into the wagon or as it streams into the bin.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Save Grain by Adjusting Combine Right

If your wheat or oat crop is heavier than usual this year, you may leave from five to ten percent of it in the field.

Wendell Bowers, extension farm machinery specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture says you can cut that loss if you're careful in adjusting and operating your combine.

Heavy straw may double your losses if you try to drive too fast or cut too low on the stalks. Drive slow enough not to stall the cylinder on your combine down below its rated speed. Then cut the grain just below the nodding heads.

Keep losses low by adjusting your combine according to the owner's manual. If the cylinder speed is too fast or the concave clearance is too small, the result will be some cracked kernels.

On the other hand, you may lose a lot of grain by failing to separate the grain from the heads if your cylinder speed is too slow or the concave clearance is too great.

Adjust the air blast equally on both sides of the combine. Have it just strong enough to lift the chaff off the front of the screens, and drop it so that it clears the rear of the screen as it falls to the ground.

Dirty grain may result from having the screens opened too much you may have a heavy loss of grain behind the combine if they are closed too much.

In weedy grain fields, pay particular attention to the screen and fan adjustment, and be careful not to go too fast.

For more imformation on how to reduce your grain harvest losses, write to the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a free copy of "Harvesting with Combines."

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 1953

Keep Hens Cool in Hot Weather

Extremely hot, dry weather can cause big losses in your farm flock unless you keep the hens cool.

Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says hens suffer greatly in hot weather because they do not perspire to reduce their body temperature.

Even if they don't die from the heat, Ridlen says, hens may lose body weight. Egg production drops off sharply, and egg quality and weight both go down. The growth rate of pullets will probably slow up considerably.

The heat problem is especially great in flocks confined to the laying house. First requirement for keeping the birds cool is to provide plenty of water and floor space for each one.

It will also help to insulate the laying house and then paint the roof with aluminum or other high reflecting paint. When the weather is very hot and you have plenty of water under pressure, you can sprinkle the roof, walls and floor of the house. It even helps to sprinkle the birds with a fine spray.

Another requirement is cross ventilation in the house to keep fresh air moving in. See that the nests are well ventilated.

Your pullets on range will get plenty of fresh air, but they do need to be protected from the sun. Provide plenty of shade on the range, and then put their feed and water in the shade so that they'll be able to stay there.

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Farm News

RSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

Spray Grassy Areas to Control Grasshoppers

Small grasshoppers are beginning to show up in large numbers in fencerows, along roadsides, in meadows and in second-growth clover. And a University of Illinois insect specialist says that right now--when the hoppers are small--is the time to control them.

Small grasshoppers with comparatively small appetites soon become big grasshoppers with big appetites, points out H. B. Petty. And hungry hoppers can do a lot of damage to corn or soybean fields in just a few days.

First step is to check fencerows and other areas where hoppers hatch. If you find many small insects, in grassy areas near corn or soybeans, it will probably pay to spray. It will also pay to treat clover fields to be harvested for seed if you find three to four or more hoppers per square yard.

Aldrin at two ounces per acre, chlordane at one pound per acre or toxaphene at one and one-half pounds per acre will give good control. Chlordane and toxaphene should not be used within three weeks of harvest on fields to be harvested for hay.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

Bacterial Wilt Causes Sweet Corn Damage

Bacterial wilt has been causing severe damage in sweet corn in southern and central Illinois.

M. B. Linn, University of Illinois plant disease specialist, reports that some sweet corn fields in Tazewell, Woodford, Iroquois and Vermilion counties will be plowed up. In some areas, he says, three-fourths or more of the stalks show wilt damage.

Young plants affected by bacterial wilt, also known as Stewart's disease, wilt and die. The lower part of the stalk may be completely rotted. In older plants the disease shows up in pale-green or yellowish to brown streaks in the leaves, bleached tassels and stunting of plants.

Linn says that some of the older plants may live through the disease if the infection isn't too bad.

Bacteria causing the wilt live over the winter in the corn flea beetles, Linn explains, and last year's mild winter didn't kill many of the beetles. The Illinois Natural History Survey reports that a second brood of these insects is appearing. Plant pathologists of the Survey predicted in April that the disease would cause trouble this year.

Principal way to control bacterial wilt is to plant corn that is resistant to the disease. Golden Cross Bantam, the most resistant variety in Illinois, has suffered more than normally from wilt this year.

Not too much is known about the use of chemicals, Linn says, although the State Natural History Survey is working on it. DDT and other chemicals, they have found, will control the beetle, but when and where to use them to keep beetles out of the fields, they don't know.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

owns, Cities Face Problems With Growth

As Illinois cities and towns grow, new problems are created nd old ones become more acute.

And the cities are growing. In the past ten years the state's opulation has gone up nearly a million. All of this growth, accordng to C. L. Folse, has been in the cities. While the total has gone p, farm population has gone down, and towns and cities have actually rown more than the state as a whole.

As the cities grow, Folse says, areas around the edge fill p with business and buildings of all kinds, both desirable and unesirable. Nearly every town, he says, has these unsightly and unesirable areas to some degree on its outskirts.

Within the city limits, the cities can do something about e growth of undesirable areas by zoning. But they have been slow do anything about zoning in the outlying areas, although state leglation has enabled them to do so.

This problem of haphazard and unrestricted land use is going get worse, Folse believes. He says the trend toward larger towns going to continue.

Zoning alone is not the answer, Folse warns. It actually uld do more harm than good unless people from the cities and towns some careful planning ahead of time.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

Crop Size Determines Grass Silage Cost

Making grass silage is both the cheapest and the most expensive way to harvest forage, depending on volume.

J. E. Wills and R. E. Rogers, University of Illinois farm economists, figure that it costs $1.26 a ton to harvest grass silage if the crop is as large as 1,500 tons. That much silage would make about 500 tons of hay. For a crop of only 75 tons, the equivalent of 25 tons of hay, cost is over six dollars a ton.

Up to 100 tons, the economists say, it's cheapest to put up loose long hay or hire baling and chopping done.

A 100-ton hay crop will justify a baler. Harvest costs will be about the same, $7.75 a ton, whether you own a baler or hire one.

They say you can't afford to own a field chopper or forage harvester for a crop of less than 200 tons. It's cheaper to hire one.

Most Illinois hay is baled, but baling costs varied from $16.00 down to $5.00 a ton, depending on size of crop.

Costs will depend on needed labor and equipment and on operation expense.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

Hot Weather Hurts Early Garden Crops

The early summer this year was bad news for gardeners.

B. L. Weaver, University of Illinois garden specialist, says that many cool-season crops were almost failures. Yield of garden peas was low this year in comparison with normal yields.

Snap beans haven't set so well as normally, and neither have tomatoes. However, Weaver says, rain and cool weather could make quite a difference in these two crops.

Tomatoes, he says, can stand a lot of dry weather if the weather is good while the fruit is forming. Tomatoes can stand and want a long time for rain.

Hot, dry weather during blossoming will kill a lot of the blossoms, causing them to drop off before the fruit sets.

The mild winter, rather than this year's hot weather, has caused widespread outbreaks of Stewart's disease in sweet corn. Even the late planting is in danger, Weaver says.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 6, 1953

Purebred Sheep Sale July 18 at Urbana

The annual show and consignment sale of the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association has been scheduled for the livestock pavilion of the University of Illinois in Urbana on Saturday, July 18.

Breeders have consigned 127 head of purebred sheep for the sale.

Placings in the morning show starting at 9:30 o'clock CDT will determine sale order. Ed Brown, Plainfield, Indiana, will place the sheep.

Consignors guarantee animals to be breeders if properly handled. If any ram or ewe sold is not a breeder, the consignor will replace it with another of equal value or refund the purchase price, according to the rules of the sale.

Ten percent discount will be allowed on all purchases by Illinois 4-H and FFA members. H. Earl Wright, Mt. Gilead, Ohio, will be the auctioneer.

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for weeklies

Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 13, 1953

Creep-Feeding Calves Adds Extra Weight

Have you been out looking over your beef calves and wondering whether you should feed them grain in a creep?

Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that creep feeding will pay if you expect to continue the calves on full feed at weaning time and market them as baby beeves.

Russell points out that each 10 to 12 bushels of grain the calves eat while they are nursing will result in about 100 pounds more weight at weaning.

Equal parts of cracked corn and whole oats will make a good creep ration. You might improve it by adding 10 percent of a high-protein supplement.

On the other hand, if you plan to winter your calves on a growing ration and graze them the following season, there isn't much point in creep feeding them now, the specialist says. Calves that have not put on extra weight by eating a creep ration will catch up with creep-fed calves the following summer on pasture.

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7/7/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 13, 1953

Use Care to Prevent Haying Accidents

Haying season marks the beginning of a rising accident period for farm people.

Records from the Illinois Rural Safety Council show that the peak in farm accidents is reached during July and August.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary for the council, suggests that you can do some things to change this annual pattern, even though haying is a busy season.

Why don't you try to help cut down the accident rate by doing these things to insure safety on your own farm?

1. Check all of your haying equipment before you start to work. Repair defective hitches, ropes, pulleys and other hay-lifting equipment. See that hay racks, ladders or loft floors are in good repair and hay chutes are guarded to avoid falls.

2. Be sure you have the right equipment to do the job safely. For example, the common method of lifting baled hay with hay forks is hazardous. It is much safer to do the job with hay slings.

3. Be alert while you are working, and don't get into hazardous situations. Always stop the equipment when you oil, adjust or unclog. Keep safety guards in place.

4. Handle the sharp, unguarded tines of pitchforks carefully because they are dangerous weapons. Never throw a pitchfork or leave it where someone may jump or fall on it.

5. Remember that damp hay is one of the principal causes of barn fires. Make sure that your hay is well cured before you store it in the hay mow. Then check it regularly for several weeks for any signs of heating.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 13, 1953

Research Develops Better Popcorn

Careful selection of popcorn seed since 1939 has enabled University of Illinois horticulturists to improve the popping quality of corn almost 75 percent.

Popping quality is determined by increase in volume when the corn is popped.

B. L. Weaver, who has been in charge of the work, reports that average popping volume was 22 in 1939. Last year it was 38.

In 1939 only five ears increased in volume as much as 30 times when popped. In last year's tests only three ears had a popping volume of less than 30.

Last year two ears in the test popped at 44 times the unpopped volume. Twenty years ago, according to Weaver, a variety of popcorn was considered good if it increased its volume 20 times when popped.

All corn tested over the 14 years was Illinois Hulless. The difference in popping quality results from saving seed from the best ears each year.

Weaver says they have noticed no other change in the corn caused by saving ears according to popping quality.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 13, 1953

Poultry Day at Urbana on July 20

Have you been troubled with excessive bleeding in some of your broilers this summer?

H. M. Scott, head of the poultry division at the University of Illinois, says that cause and cure of this excessive bleeding will be one of the topics for discussion at the annual All-Industry Poultry Day at Urbana on Monday, July 20.

Experiments have shown some feed factors to be involved in this problem, Scott says. Another feed problem to be discussed involves the use of grass juice concentrates in the ration and whether they improve hatchability and chick growth.

Other topics on the program include use of single cereal grains in laying rations, increased returns for Illinois egg producers, effect of different lighting systems on the growth of broilers and latest information on treating poultry diseases.

Some work has been done experimentally to find out whether flavoring chick rations will increase the amount eaten and stimulate growth of broilers, Scott says. Results of these tests will be reported along with a discussion of the laying hen problem in Illinois and other states.

Ralph Colburn, Decatur, president of the Illinois Poultry Improvement association, will present the 1953 Illinois Junior Chicken-of-Tomorrow top trophy to Molly Yost, 15, Greenview, this year's state winner. It is planned to make the top 10 junior contest awards during this part of the program.

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Poultry Day - add 1

You will have an opportunity to ask questions of all of the program speakers, and there will be general discussion of poultry problems from the floor.

Open house at the poultry farm from 3:30 until 5 p.m. following the program in Gregory Hall will give you time to inspect the experiments in progress. At 5 p.m. the Poultry Improvement association is sponsoring a broiler barbecue at the farm under the direction of Ralph Imhoff, Eureka.

Tuesday and Wednesday, July 21 and 22, will be the dates of the annual Illinois Flock Selectors' school sponsored by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in cooperation with the poultry association and the State Department of Agriculture. The annual Blood Testers' school put on in cooperation with the Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, July 23 and 24. Advance enrollment is not necessary.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 13, 1953

State Renews Santa Fe 4-H Awards

Three Illinois boys or girls with top-ranking 4-H records will receive trips to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November through the award program sponsored by the Santa Fe railroad.

In addition, one 4-H boy and girl will be selected to receive a $250 college scholarship under the same program.

4-H'ers selected by the state committee must have passed their 14th birthday but must have not reached their 21st birthday on January 1 of this year. They must also have completed at least three years of 4-H Club work including this year.

Last year's winners were Patrick R. Scates, Shawneetown; J. D. Mowery, Ullin; Harriet McLaughlin, Fairfield; Patricia Jewell, Ellsworth; and Dorothy Butler, Pittsfield.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 20, 1953

Plan Fall Garden for Late Vegetables

Gardeners are passing up a bet if they don't plan on a fall garden. Gardens often grow and yield better in the fall than in the spring.

B. L. Weaver, University of Illinois horticulturist, explains that many of our best garden crops are cool-weather crops. In the fall the weather is getting cooler instead of hotter, as in the spring.

Also, Weaver says, quality of crops is often better in the all. Length of day, temperature and moisture are all better in most ears.

Another practical reason for growing a fall garden is that t enables you to make fuller use of your soil, and it helps you keep ne weeds under control.

Crops that do well in the fall are beets, cabbage, carrots, auliflower, Chinese cabbage, endive, Italian broccoli, snap beans, ettuce, kohlrabi, turnips, winter radish, mustard and spinach.

The Illinois "Garden Guide" carries a list of the crops which well, together with time and instruction for planting. You can get from the College of Agriculture or from your farm or home adviser.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 20, 1953

Use Care in Applying Nitrates to Pasture

It's a good idea not to turn your livestock onto a pasture that you have fertilized by putting nitrates directly on the plants. Wait until a rain has fallen on it or at least a few days have passed.

Tom Hamilton, professor of animal nutrition at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that the reason for this precaution is that nitrates are somewhat poisonous to animals.

If you fertilize your pasture with ammonium nitrate, for example, enough of it may stay on the leaves of the plants to cause trouble if the animals are turned in to forage too soon.

However, Hamilton points out that ammonium nitrate is soluble in water, and the first rain will wash it off the plants and into the soil, where it will not harm your animals. Even without rain, much of the nitrates will have been absorbed by the plants so that within few days pasturing should be safe.

A nitrate fertilizer, such as ammonium nitrate, applied early in the spring before plant growth starts will cause no trouble either. After the fertilizer has been taken up by the plants, of course, there is no danger to the animals eating on this pasture.

The only danger is from the animals' eating the nitrate fertilizer direct, Hamilton emphasizes.

Keep your stored nitrate fertilizers out of the reach of any your farm animals. Even empty sacks or containers used for nitrate fertilizers should not be left lying around where the animals can get them.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 20, 1953

Rural Areas Suffer Most Lightning Damage

Ninety percent of the damage done by lightning every year occurs in rural areas.

Lightning accounts for nearly 400 deaths and 1,000 injuries each year, says John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

This threat from the skies also accounts for about 5 percent of the nation's fires and an annual property loss of $20,000,000.

Matthews says that in most cases you can prevent lightning damage to your buildings and their contents by a system of air terminals and grounded conductors.

Proper grounding is often neglected, since it is hidden and most easily overlooked. Every fastener or connector is important in the system because the performance of the entire circuit is determined by its weakest link. Be sure that your system is properly installed and maintained.

Seek protection in buildings protected with lightning rods whenever you can during electrical storms, Matthews suggests. Stay away from open windows or doors and fireplaces, stoves, pipes and other metal objects.

If you have to stay outdoors, keep away from small sheds or shelters in exposed locations, isolated trees, wire fences, farm machinery or hilltops in open areas.

Best protection in the open when you have no other alternative is to lie on the ground away from objects that tend to attract lightning. Bolts of lightning always head for the highest point in the area in which it strikes, whether it is a barn, a tree or a man walking in a field.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 20, 1953

America Eats 30 Percent of World's Meat

The United States produced nearly 30 percent of the world's meat supply last year.

Consumers in this country ate just a little bit more than that, even though they make up only about 7 percent of the world's population.

According to Walter J. Wills, University of Illinois farm economist, America exported about 12.5 million pounds of meat in 1952 and imported about 50 million pounds.

Imports amounted to about 3 percent of our total meal supply.

About one-fourth of our lard production is exported, Wills points out. Dollars to pay for this lard come from meat sales to this country. Exports probably strengthen the lard market more than imports weaken the livestock market, the economist says.

European countries last year produced more meat than we did. Production in those countries totaled about 40 percent of the world supply of 77.2 billion pounds.

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Farm News

:RSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 27, 1953

Renovation Helps Old Strawberry Beds

You can improve next year's yield and quality of your strawberry crop by renovating your bed this summer.

As a matter of fact, much of this year's short crop was due to failure to work over old beds last year, says J. C. McDaniel, extension horticulturist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Beds filled with old plants and not cultivated failed to establish strong new plants from runners. When the soil dried out, the old root systems were not able to support vigorous growth.

First step in the renovation process is to clip off the foliage with your lawn mower, the specialist says. Clip high enough to take just the leaves and not injure the crowns.

Then thin out the old plants, leaving enough to renew the bed. Broadcast a mixed fertilizer with some manure if you have it, and then cultivate so that you leave 15-inch strips of the more vigorous plants.

To kill many of the germinating grasses and annual weeds that plague strawberry bed owners, you can apply a spray of Crag

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Renovation Helps - 2

Herbicide No. 1. Use 5 level tablespoons in a gallon of water for a plot 10 by 100 feet (or 20 by 50 feet) in size. That's a rate of 3 to 4 pounds an acre on medium to heavy soils. On light, sandy soils, use only 2 pounds an acre.

Too heavy an application of the weed killer may hold back growth of the strawberry plants. Remember that using the weed killer makes cultivation for weed control easier, but it does not replace it.

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RAJ:sb

Copper Sulphate Helps Control Foot Rot

An Alexander county farmer recently asked the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois how to make a copper sulphate solution to help control foot rot in his dairy herd.

A 10 to 30 percent solution of copper sulphate used as a foot bath was suggested by L. E. Boley, head of the department of veterinary clinical medicine.

It will take four-fifths of a pound of copper sulphate in a gallon of water to make a 10 percent solution, according to Dr. Boley. 30 percent solution would need 2½ pounds of copper sulphate in a gallon of water.

You will find copper sulphate hard to dissolve in water. To make the job easier, use hot water and pour it over the powdered crystals.

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Copper Sulphate - 2

Use copper sulphate with caution. It is poisonous and irritating to the skin and mucous membranes. It is all right to use as a foot bath for cattle, but keep children and farm animals away from it.

For further information on the control of foot rot in dairy cattle, consult your local veterinarian.

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DCL:sb

Kind of Grain Doesn't Affect Egg Quality

Whether you use oats, corn or wheat in all-mash laying rations will have no effect on either egg quality or size.

Which grain you use will probably depend on which you have the largest supply of, reports Paul Griminger, assistant in animal science at the University of Illinois.

In a recent test at the University, corn, wheat and oats were each used as the only grain in an otherwise balanced standard ration. These rations and another involving a mixture of all three grains were fed to four lots of birds. Each lot received each ration for periods of three weeks.

Corn and wheat gave about the same results, Griminger explains. But when oats were the only grain in the ration, the layers lost body weight and their egg production dropped.

Oats supply less energy than equal weights of corn and are

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Kind of Grain - 2

so bulky that the chicks couldn't eat enough to keep their weight and production up. When the birds getting oats as their only grain were put back on a ration containing either corn or wheat, they regained their former production level.

Researchers broke more than 1,000 eggs in the test to measure the standing-up quality of the whites, which is one of the important characteristics of egg-quality in general, and the thickness of the shells. They found no differences brought about by the different grains.

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AJ:sb

wo Lamb Crops a Year Not Practical

Out-of-season breeding to double the lamb crop without increasing the number of ewes holds much interest for Illinois sheep breeders.

However, U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the llinois College of Agriculture, believes it would be more profitable o produce more and better sheep with our present knowledge.

So far none of the efforts to get two lamb crops a year from ach ewe have been very successful.

Garrigus says these methods have been tried:

1. Use of a breed that has an inherent tendency to breed

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out of season. This method may give about three lamb crops in two years. This is true of Rambouillet, Merino and Dorset.

2. "Flushing" yearling ewes in April and May. A wheat or rye pasture, together with a grain feed, has been successfully used to get from one-half to two-thirds of ewes carrying considerable fine-wool breeding bred in the spring. A Dorset ram has frequently been used. This system seems to be more useful in getting fall-born lambs than in getting two lamb crops a year.

3. Use of hormones. This method can be used to a limited extent for producing lambs for research purposes, but it is not practical for producing out-of-season lambs, Garrigus says. The correct dosage for a given ewe is not known, and apparently different ewes require different dosages. Cost is fairly high and the effects, if any, on a ewe's future performance are not well known.

4. Changing the relative number of hours of light to which a ewe is subjected each day. This method is only in the experimental stage and seems unlikely to be adapted to practical farm use at present.

The Illinois Sheep Production Project and Farm Bureau Farm Management Service records show a wide variation in the production efficiency of various flocks, Garrigus says. This means that Illinois producers can still produce many more pounds of lamb and wool from each ewe than they are producing at present by using good planning in their feeding, breeding and management program.

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RAJ:sb
7-22-53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 1953

Good Management Prevents Calfhood Pneumonia

Research and farm experience have shown that good management will save more calves from pneumonia than drugs will save through treatment.

A University of Illinois veterinarian, Dr. L. E. Boley, says it's usually moisture and not cold that spearheads calfhood pneumonia problems.

Many pens and stables are calfkillers because they're poorly ventilated. But if calves are kept dry and the quarters well-ventilated, temperatures can drop to zero or 10 below without causing trouble.

Boley recently advised a McLean county dairyman to move calves out of damp, dark, hard-to-ventilate stalls. He suggested adding more windows or a fan to increase air circulation and reduce moisture.

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7/28/53

Manure Most Valuable Farm By-Product

Although Illinois produces more than its share of grain, its biggest farm by-product comes from livestock.

Illinois livestock each year produce more than 60 million tons of manure worth about 150 million dollars for its plant food value alone.

That's 50 percent more than the oat crop is worth in the state and averages about $750 for each farm.

In addition to the plant food, manure contains a high percentage of organic matter which is also mightly valuable.

W. N. Thompson, University of Illinois farm economist, says that these figures actually understate the potential value of manure. If it were properly handled, at present farm prices it would be worth more than 300 million dollars, or about $1,500 a farm in added crop production.

The average ton of manure contains 10 pounds of nitrogen, pounds of phosphoric acid and 10 pounds of potash--all worth at today's prices about $2.50. One cow will produce about 12 tons of manure a year.

Greatest manure loss occurs in the liquid portion. Much of this loss could be saved by proper use of bedding and handling.

Thompson lists four ways to save more manure: (1) use plenty of bedding; (2) pave your feedlots; (3) haul the manure to the fields often, daily if you can; and (4) use the rotation method of feeding livestock on pasture.

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/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 1953

U. I. Dairy Day September 10

The second annual Dairy Day for Illinois dairymen and their families has been announced by the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois.

The date is September 10, 1953. And G. W. Salisbury, head of the college's department of dairy science, lists these attractions of the special day:

1. A speaker list headed by Allan B. Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

2. Reports on up-to-the-minute dairy research.

3. Tour of the University's dairy farm and research laboratories.

4. Attractive displays and exhibits.

In his talk "Farming and a Look Ahead," the farm bureau leader will size up the current farming picture, with special emphasis on the future of dairying.

Illinois dairy scientists will report their findings in crossbreeding experiments, use of pipeline milking systems and udder investigations.

Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. (DST) Thursday, September 10, at the main dairy barns, South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana. Lunch will be available on the campus. The afternoon program will be held at the University auditorium.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 1953

anitation Top Fly Control Measure

It's discouraging--both to you and to your livestock--to ave swarms of flies around the farmstead.

But don't throw up your hands in despair. You can lick the ly problem. And your animals will produce more milk and meat in re-urn.

Strict sanitation to eliminate fly breeding places is the umber one fly control measure recommended by H. B. Petty, entomologist ith the University of Illinois College of Agriculture and State Nat-ral History Survey.

Combining and other field operations plus rainy weather have aused a pile-up of manure around barns and feedlots. Flies breed in anure piles, old strawstack bottoms, refuse under feed bunks, garbage eaps, rotting leaves and grass and other decaying organic matter.

Hauling manure out to fields and cleaning up trash and other ly-breeding places will go a long way in eliminating the profit-obbers.

The follow-up to sanitation is good spraying with the right hemicals.

One-half pound of actual methoxychlor or one ounce of actual indane will effectively treat 1,000 square feet of surface for two to our weeks.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 1953

Steers Need Supplement on Dry Pastures

As pastures dry up in August, protein content goes down. You'll probably need to add some protein supplement to the grain ration of your steers on full feed on pasture to be sure the ration is balanced.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the steers probably got enough protein from good legume pasture during May and June.

Common protein supplements are relatively cheap this year compared with corn. So it will probably be money in your pocket to be sure your steers balance their diet with enough protein during the rest of this summer.

Carlisle says that a mixture of one part of high-protein concentrate, such as soybean oil meal, to 8 to 10 parts of corn will contain enough protein to give you satisfactory gains on yearling steers.

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7/28/53

for weeklies

Farm News

/ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 1953

ilk Pipelines at U. I. Dairy Day September 10

Illinois dairy farmers and their families attending the econd annual Dairy Day in Urbana September 10 will see a cow-to-ooler milking system featuring pipelines that are never taken down or cleaning.

The University of Illinois dairy scientists aren't neglect-ng their jobs in not taking down the pipeline. But they've found a ay to clean it in position, which eliminates the need to dismantle t. The system lends itself to the production of top quality milk too.

Special exhibits and tours will acquaint visitors with other iiry research projects and with the University's dairy herd.

Headlining the afternoon speaking program will be Allan B. line, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Kline will ize up the farming picture, with emphasis on the future of dairying.

Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. (DST) Thursday, September 10, at ie main dairy barns, South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 1953

Need to Operate Farm Trucks Carefully

At the wheel of a truck your life and the lives of others are in your hands.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says that farmers who operate the 2½ million farm trucks in this country face this responsibility.

Every truck driver should learn the rules of the road and practice them until they become everyday habits, Matthews says. He must also keep his truck in safe mechanical condition. It doesn't pay to gamble with the tragedies and penalties for traffic accidents.

Test your farm truck regularly, even though it may not be compulsory, if there is a safety check-up lane in your community. Lights, brakes, steering gear and other safety devices may be defective without your knowledge. If there is no official testing lane, have a reputable mechanic check over your truck at least twice a year.

The Rural Safety Council asks that you be alert and courteous when you are driving your truck on the highway. Don't drive too fast. Slow down for turns and use proper hand signals. Keep a sharp lookout for pedestrians, and never drive when you are sleepy or under the influence of liquor.

Come to a full stop when you enter a main highway and at all regular stop signs. Then don't drive on until it is safe to do so. Approach railroad crossings with caution. Know the meaning of all the standard highways markings, and always obey them.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 1953

Try Growing Dwarf Apples, Pears at Home

Dwarf apple and pear trees are worth a trial in home plantings, a fruit specialist at the University of Illinois believes, if all conditions are right.

J. C. McDaniel lists these conditions as soil with good drainage and fertility and the proper combination of understocks and varieties.

Tests have not shown that dwarf stone fruits are as promising as apples and pears, McDaniel says.

An apple understock named Malling IX makes the smallest, earliest fruiting trees, but they are suitable only for home plantings.

Malling VIII, Malling VI and Malling II are other understocks being propagated by some nurseries in this country that have shown some promise in commercial plantings. Recent studies indicate that the Clark Dwarf is probably the same as Malling VIII.

Some pear varieties on quince understock make good trees. The most satisfactory pear variety at Urbana is Maxine. Some Maxine trees will be available on dwarf stocks from nurseries this fall. Fire blight disease makes Bartlett and many other high quality pear varieties unsatisfactory for Illinois plantings.

Remember to order dwarf varieties of fruit trees only from reliable nurseries, the specialist suggests.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 1953

New Record Set in Beef Slaughter

In the first six months of 1953, the nation set a new record in the number of beef animals slaughtered. June slaughter of 1,450,000 head, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, was the largest for any June on record. It was the largest for any month since October 1947.

Department economists say there's a good chance the American consumer will equal or even out do the record 73 pounds of beef eaten per person, set in 1909. This all depends upon how many cattle farmers send to market in the rest of the year.

During the first six months of this year, 7,900,000 head were slaughtered, nearly a third more than the 5,900,000 slaughtered in the first six months of 1952. During the first six months of 1951, 5,560,000 head were killed.

L. H. Simerl, University of Illinois farm economist, says that in view of this heavy slaughter beef prices are holding pretty well. The expected adjustment in marketings and prices of beef cattle has taken place, he believes, and prices will probably stay near recent levels through 1954.

Simerl points out that the record slaughter of beef cattle has about stopped the increase in numbers on farms, but probably is not reducing them.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 1953

Some Fertilizer Advertising False

Illinois gardeners are warned to be on guard against false claims for some liquid garden fertilizers.

Norman Oebker, University of Illinois garden specialist, says that commercial fertilizers are very good in improving yield and quality of both vegetables and flowers, but many statements being made about some liquid fertilizers just aren't true.

One claim is that the fertilizers contain radioactive materials. Even if it were true, Oebker says, these materials would do little or nothing to improve the garden.

Another claim is that liquid fertilizers are better than dry fertilizers. In a few cases, Oebker says, plant food in liquids may become available sooner, but under most circumstances it makes little difference.

A third false claim is that liquid fertilizers are cheaper than others. On the contrary, Oebker says, liquid fertilizers are more expensive than any other for gardens.

The last claim he refutes is that liquid fertilizers get instantaneous results. All fertilizers are good, he says, but none work instantaneously.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Swine Producers Meet August 20 at State Fair

All Illinois swine producers are invited to attend a question-and-answer roundup in the show ring of the swine barn at the Illinois State Fair grounds on Thursday evening, August 20, starting at 8 p.m. DST.

No talks are scheduled at the meeting, according to W. J. Major, Eureka, president of the Illinois Swine Producers association. Instead, there will be a roundtable discussion, with leading swine producers making up a panel to answer questions.

Some phases of the swine industry which Major hopes will be discussed include producing the meat-type hog, the lard problem, ironing out the ups and downs of the hog cycle, disease problems and others.

Included in the audience and available for help in answering questions and leading the discussion will be representatives from the swine division at the University of Illinois, the meat-packing industry, American Meat Institute, National Livestock Producers, National Livestock Exchange, Illinois Livestock Marketing association, National Association of Swine Records, Illinois Agricultural association and commercial producers.

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/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Low-Priced Potash Available

There's good news for farmers this week in the price and supply situation for muriate of potash.

The plant food material is now priced below prewar. And there is a plentiful supply.

This doesn't mean that dealers will carry large enough supplies to meet peak demand. So it will be good business, according to a University of Illinois soils specialist, to order potash now and take delivery whenever the dealer can fill the order.

C. M. Linsley says that muriate of potash can be stored in the soil as well as in the barn. Farmers can apply it any time this summer or fall to fields that need it.

The material can be spread on stubble clover or clover sod to be plowed under, or on pastures or hayfields. Where land is not too rolling, it can be applied on soybean stubble where small grain and clover or alfalfa are to follow next year.

A soil test is the only sure way to tell whether or not the land needs potash, the soils man points out. The test will tell you not only whether a field needs the plant food, but exactly how much it needs per acre.

The soil test also tells how much lime and phosphorus are needed, if any.

Before ordering a supply of muriate of potash, Linsley advises a farmer who has not tested his soil to see his county farm adviser for instructions on how to take soil samples for testing.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

No Cause for Alarm if Milk Tests Vary

Dairy farmers noticing ups and down in the value of milk checks should not jump to hasty or wrong conclusions.

There's a natural tendency to want to pin the blame on somebody or something. Actually there are some logical reasons for milk tests to vary, according to a University of Illinois dairy specialist.

L. R. Fryman explains that fat percentage in milk follows a definite yearly cycle, with a higher fat test in winter and lower test during the spring and summer.

Cows usually test higher near the end of a lactation period. So the drying up of one or more cows will probably cause the herd test to drop. Adding new cows to the herd may cause variation, as may also removal of cows.

Fryman says that weather and management can also cause ups and downs in milk tests. Hot, humid weather generally causes a decrease in fat test. Sudden changes in feeding and irregular or incomplete milking may vary or lower the test.

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Dairy Day at Urbana, September 10

A special event for Illinois dairymen will be held on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana September 10.

"Dairy Day" will feature exhibits of grass silage, pipeline milking systems, crossbreeding experiments and other research projects studied by dairy scientists.

Headline speaker is Allan B. Kline, president, American Farm Bureau Federation.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Preserve Orchard Moisture for Better Fruit

Fruit trees suffer from dry weather the same as any other crop.

Illinois usually has enough rain, but it generally comes at the wrong time for fruit trees unless you can save it.

Roy Simons, University of Illinois fruit specialist, says large fruit trees need at least 20 inches of rain during the growing season.

Because fruit trees have large root systems, short drouths don't damage the fruits as much as they do strawberries and raspberries. But, Simons says, when the soil dries out to a depth of 24-26 inches, you can see the effects of the drouth in slower plant growth and decreased size and yield of fruit.

To save moisture for your fruit trees, Simons recommends these steps:

1. Cut down on clean cultivation as much as you can. Use a good cover crop to maintain organic matter and reduce runoff of critical moisture.

2. Keep the cover crop mowed to cut down loss of water. Chopping up the cover crop and putting it back on the ground is better than just mowing.

3. Mulch under the trees with any kind of mulching material you have.

Simons says that supplemental irrigation will be profitable in small fruits and tree fruits during critical drouth periods.

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/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Start Training Pullets on Range

Start training your pullets to be good layers while they are still out on range, and they will respond with cleaner eggs this fall and winter indoors.

Teach pullets what nests are for by providing nests for them on range before they start laying, suggests Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Ridlen says that many floor eggs in the hen house result from pullets' having to lay on the floor of the range shelter or on the ground.

Fasten some nests at the back of the range shelter or brooder house. Or put some under a tree. You can use either orange crates or the same type of nests that you plan to use in the laying house. If you plan to use community nests in the house, use them on range too.

As your pullets come into production, you may find some soft-shelled eggs. These soft shells will usually disappear as the pullets continue to lay. But you can help do away with soft shells by feeding plenty of oyster shells or some source of calcium and by feeding a ration that contains plenty of vitamin D.

Ridlen says that it's a good idea to start your new layers in a clean, comfortable laying house. Until the pullets get used to their new quarters, you can use some of the range feeders and waterers. It's also important to give your layers plenty of water and feeding space.

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8/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Hail Damage Cuts Illinois Peach Crop

Fewer Illinois peaches will appear on the market this month as a result of the severe hail damage suffered on August 7 just as the harvest season was getting under way.

V. W. Kelley, horticulturist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that estimates of damaged peaches run as high as 100,000 bushels. That's about 15 percent of the total Illinois peach crop this year.

Some hail damage is also reported on apples in the two-county area struck by the storm, but the apple crop will have more time to recover and the damage will not be so severe.

About 10 Illinois commercial peach growers were hard hit in the hail strip across Union and Jackson counties, Kelley says. Biggest single loss to a grower was the one 80-acre block of peaches damaged in the Metzler Orchard Company area in Union county.

Growers will take a loss of about $2 a bushel on the damaged peaches, Kelley says. That's a potential loss of about $200,000 for this season's crop. The southern Illinois peach harvest is under way now, and Illinois peaches are on the local markets.

This year's Illinois peach crop is estimated at about 600,000 bushels. This compares with crops ranging from 1½ to 2 million bushels of peaches prior to the severe damage from freezing that occurred in the winter of 1950-51, which completely killed many Illinois orchards.

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8/12/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 1953

Livestock You Like May Not Be Most Profitable

Most farmers decide what kind of livestock to keep on the basis of what they like best. Often it's only an accident when they choose the most profitable kind.

Leonard Kyle, University of Illinois farm economist, lists four things to consider in choosing the livestock that will make you the most money: the amount of money you have to invest, the amount and kind of land you have, the amount of labor you have or can get, and your managerial skill with livestock.

Dairy cattle and poultry, Kyle explains, use more labor in comparison with capital invested than any other livestock. They provide the best market for labor. Beef, sheep and swine rank next. The feeder business--hogs, cattle and sheep--uses the smallest amount of labor in relation to capital. They're the best choice if your labor supply is low.

Farm management men have figured out efficiency levels by which you can judge whether you're making a profit. They're based on the returns for each dollar spent for feed.

In the dairy business you need to get back about $2.05 for every feed dollar in order to make a profit. In the hog business you need to get back about $1.40, and in the feeder cattle business you need to get back about $1.30.

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for weeklies

Farm News

RSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

U. I. Open House Tour September 2

A special agricultural "Open House" will be held on the University of Illinois campus Wednesday, September 2.

College of Agriculture specialists will show visitors results of work they have done on corn breeding and use of different types of nitrogen fertilizers on corn.

Agricultural engineers will describe experiments on mulch planting of corn. Livestock specialists will report on beef cattle feeding experiments and will show guests production facilities at the swine farm.

Also included in the tour will be a visit to the Morrow Plots, oldest soil experiment field in the United States; animal sciences laboratory, where feeding experiments are conducted under scientifically controlled conditions; and the new College of Veterinary Medicine building.

The Open House is the last of a summer series of tours designed to acquaint Illinois farm families with the College of Agriculture, and especially with work being done by its experiment station.

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/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

Tall Crops Are Serious Traffic Hazard

Trees, bushes and tall crops that obstruct vision are a serious traffic hazard at this time of year.

John Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says that too often these obstructions make it impossible for drivers traveling on the highway to see farm vehicles about to enter the road.

Farmers should know how to figure "sight distances" necessary for safety, Matthews says. Here's a procedure recommended by the Rural Safety Council so that you can find out what obstructions to move in order to avoid possible accidents.

1. Park your car in the driveway with the bumper 10 feet from the nearest edge of the pavement or traveled portion of the road.

2. Pace off 700 feet (280 paces) along the highway to the left on the same side as the driveway entrance and place a marker at the edge of the pavement.

3. By the same procedure set another marker down the road in the opposite direction but on the side of the road across from the driveway entrance. (If a heavy, slow-starting truck will be using the driveway, set the markers out 830 feet or 332 paces instead of 700 feet.)

4. Go back to your car and sit in the driver's seat. If you can see the markers the sight distance is minimum for traffic approaching your farm driveway at 60 miles an hour. If you can't see the markers, clear the obstructions away until you can see them to make your driveway safe.

Even though sight distance is OK at your farm entrance, always make a full stop and look both ways before you enter the highway.

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RAJ:mi
8/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

Livestock Is Profitable, If...

The answer is, "Yes, if....," to the question of whether or not livestock farming is profitable.

Farm Economist W. D. Buddemeier of the University of Illinois figures that livestock "break even" over the long run. During a short time, livestock may be quite profitable or just the opposite, but the ups and downs even out.

Break-even, Buddemeier explains, is the point at which the operator is paid for all his costs, including labor, so it's really not so bad.

At the same time, he says the highest and the lowest earning farms are usually livestock farms.

Livestock "pyramid" farm earnings. If you do a good job with crops you make a profit. If you turn around and feed those crops to livestock you make another profit. You "double-up" on profits by using more resources profitably.

If you're an inefficient operator, you double-up, too, but you double-up on losses. You don't quite make costs on the crop, he explains, when you count everything. When you feed that crop to livestock and don't quite pay all costs you lose again.

The answer then is, "livestock farming is profitable IF you do an efficient job." Managerial ability is the most important factor in success with livestock.

If you're good, get in and stay in, Buddemeier says. If you're average, livestock won't hurt but may help put a little more cash in the till. But, if you're not a good livestock operator, then be careful. You can "lose your shirt" if you don't improve your efficiency.

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8/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

Save Farm Pond Cost With Own Labor

There's a chance that you can save much of the cost of building a pond on your farm if you can do some of the preliminary work yourself.

One of the preliminary jobs is staking out the location, says Ralph C. Hay, agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Others include digging the core trench across the valley where the dam is to be built, backfilling it with clay, laying a pipe for stock water supply and placing concrete and pipe or tile for the spillway.

When these jobs are finished, Hay says, the contractor can build the earth dam with little delay and at minimum cost.

When you look for a site for your farm pond, pick a relatively large basin area that can be dammed with the least possible earth moving. Your pond will also need a subsoil that is watertight and a watershed where you are controlling erosion. The watershed should preferably be in pasture.

You'll need a watershed large enough to make it possible for runoff water to fill the pond. But a more frequent error, Hay says, is to have the watershed too large. That requires a costly mechanical spillway and makes it hard to use good land use practices and control erosion.

A good ratio is 3 to 5 acres of watershed for each acre foot of water storage capacity. Occasionally you will be able to find a location where a spring or tile flow can be caught in the pond.

One other essential is to fence the area to keep out livestock, Hay says.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

Will County Rural Chorus Retires Trophy

Will county's rural chorus won the top spot in the Illinois Rural Chorus Festival held on Sunday, August 16 at the State Fair in Springfield.

Since this was the third time that the Will chorus has been named the state's outstanding rural chorus they will have permanent possession of the State Fair trophy. Last year the Douglas county chorus led the competition.

Director of Agriculture Stillman Stanard presented the trophy to Will County Farm Adviser Wayne Churchill immediately after the Sunday performance in the Junior Home Economics buildings at the fairgrounds.

Second place this year was awarded to the Vermilion county chorus, while third place went to Jo Daviess county. Douglas county won fourth place. These four choruses all were judged superior in their final rating by the judges.

Other choruses entered in the festival were Menard, Kendall and LaSalle, all of whom were given excellent ratings. Points scored in the chorus festival count in the totals for the Illinois Farm Sports Festival awards.

Attendance throughout the year at chorus meetings and rehearsals, number of appearances in which 75 percent or more of the chorus members took part, other community service activities by chorus members and repertoire in addition to the singing performance at the State Fair festival all counted points which were figured into the total for the awards.

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RAJ:mi
8/19/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 1953

Keep Your Farm Plan in Adjustment

A well-managed farm plan has to be kept in adjustment. As does any other farm equipment, the plan operates most efficiently when kept up-to-date for current conditions.

Adjusting a farm plan simply means shifting farm operations enough so you can make the most money under present circumstances of costs and prices.

Farm Economist Leonard Kyle of the University of Illinois warns against in and out operations. Stick with your over-all plan, but make minor shifts.

Farmers feed grain to dairy cows on the basis of production. It also pays to consider feed prices. If grain is low-priced in relation to roughage and milk, it may be more profitable to feed heavier on grain.

If grain is cheap, it may pay to feed hogs to heavier than usual weights. If grain is high and hog prices are down, shift your plan so you can profit by the situation.

Good records, the market page, and a pencil are the best tools to adjust a farm plan. Some farmers work so hard they simply don't have time to sit down and figure these things out. That's a losing proposition, Kyle says.

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JKM:mi
8/19/53

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Move Peony Roots Before Labor Day

Peonies don't have to be moved often. But if you want to move yours this fall, it's best to do it before Labor Day. After that they start to grow, and moving will disturb them.

Peonies have peculiar traits. Floriculturist J. R. Kamp of the University of Illinois says they don't need to be moved any oftener than every 25 or 30 years unless you simply want to change location.

You can't move an entire clump of peonies. They won't bloom if you do. They have to be divided.

Moving peonies is not a hard job. Simply dig them up, break up the root system and replant. Try to leave three to five buds on each division. If you can't, then plant several divisions in one place so that you will have three to five together.

Kamp says the buds should be as nearly two inches deep as you can plant them. If you plant any deeper, they may never bloom. Peonies, he says, are fussy about depth of planting.

Don't be disappointed if your peonies don't bloom next year. In fact, if they do bloom, it's a good idea to cut the blossom off.

In moving peonies you can't hope to save the roots. They're too brittle. But don't worry, Kamp says; peonies are hardy and can easily grow a new root system.

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/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Overeating Grain Causes Some Lamb Loss

Overeating grain commonly causes severe losses in feeder lambs.

Veterinarians at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine say such losses may occur shortly after you turn your lambs in to a stalk field with a large amount of shelled corn scattered over the ground.

Or it might happen late in the feeding period when the lambs are on full feed if you give them too much grain.

To stop lambs from overeating shelled corn in a stalk field, restrict the flock to a small area in the field with a temporary fence, the veterinarians suggest. The idea is to keep the lambs from gorging themselves with two much shelled corn.

Lambs that die from overeating late in the feeding period are generally the best feeders in the lot. The margin between a safe and dangerous grain ration is not very great. There is always a potential danger from digestive disorders whenever the grain portion of the ration is more than one pound for each lamb each day.

The practical way to prevent overeating losses before they happen is to keep the grain allowance to less than a pound a head a day. Each lamb should have no more room than is necessary at the feeding trough. About 12 inches for each lamb is enough.

Treatment of affected lambs is only rarely successful. Reduce the grain ration and losses will usually stop abruptly. See you local veterinarian about preventive vaccination.

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/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Stage Set for U. I. "Dairy Day" September 10

Sleek, well-groomed, hard-working dairy cows--like ballerinas, poised and waiting for their opening cue.

That's what campus visitors will see as the curtain goes up on the University of Illinois' second annual "Dairy Day," just a few days from now on September 10.

And to the dairyman who loves and understands cattle, the long rows of contented, high-producing cows will be a prettier picture than any ballet.

While the University's dairy herd will be on public display, the dairy scientists are quick to point out that it is only one of many attractions "Dairy Day" visitors will see.

Actually the event is set up for the dairy farmer who likes to "see and hear for himself."

Exhibits and demonstrations will acquaint dairymen and their families with results of research on new feeding and milking practices. Grass silage experiments using different kinds of preservatives will be reported.

Top speakers scheduled for the program are Allan B. Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and G. W. Salisbury, head of the college's department of dairy science.

Kline will outline the current farming picture as he sees it, with emphasis on problems and opportunities facing the dairy industry. Salisbury will discuss the work of the department of dairy science and its efforts to serve the dairy industry of the state through research, teaching and extension.

The program gets under way at 9:30 a.m. (DST) with an open-house tour of the main dairy barns, South Lincoln avenue, Urbana.

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8/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Picker in Good Repair Prevents Harvest Losses

Help stop harvest losses by keeping your corn picker in good repair.

Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that a picker operating properly will get more corn out of the field. It will also reduce time-wasting clogging, which is the direct cause of many picker accidents.

Bowers suggests that you pay particular attention to the snapping rolls. They need to be sharp to prevent clogging. A few beads of weld will help worn snapping rolls, but eventually you will need to get new rolls.

It's a good idea to replace worn snapping rolls before the corn-picking season rolls around, because it will take some time to do the job. New rolls usually pay for themselves in one season with the corn they save.

When you check the condition of the snapping rolls on your picker, look over the rest of the machine too. Be sure that all the chains and gears are in good condition and do not need to be replaced.

Inspect the husking bed closely to be sure that the rolls are in good shape and the tension springs are not weak or broken. If chains, elevator flights, belts, sprockets, bearings and bushings look as if they might not last out the season, either replace them now or have the parts ready for repair when you start picking.

For further information on how to reduce corn harvest losses, ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 697, "Corn Picker Operation to Save Corn and Hands." Or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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RAJ:mi
8/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Poor Practices Steal Much Farm Income

Seven undesirable characters rate high on the farmer's public-enemy list. They steal many of his earnings.

Without trying to rank them, farm management men at the University of Illinois list them as low volume, bad weather, high costs, low prices, low yields, inefficient livestock and poor cropping systems. Have any of them robbed you?

You can't do much about weather and the general price level, of course. But, according to J. B. Claar, you can combat the others if you study your business and correct its weaknesses.

Value of total production on the average 160-acre grain farm last year was less than $11,000. Figuring all costs, only $110 was left to pay for management ability. If your farm uses less than 24 months of labor, this low-volume thief may be stealing from you.

A good cropping system and fertility program can improve low yields and low volume of business and give you some protection against bad weather. It should include all the high-profit crops you can grow and still keep your farm in good shape.

Claar says you can lick high costs and inefficient livestock only by studying your records carefully to find out just what is wrong. High costs are not bad in themselves if your livestock and crop yields are high and you are making profitable use of labor and equipment.

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JKM:mi
8/25/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 1953

Put Your Extra Dollars in Soil Conservation

In few places can a farmer invest his money better than in soil conservation improvements if his farm happens to need conservation work.

Investments in conservation have returned an average of between 12 and 30 percent in Illinois in the last 10 years. Soil Conservation Service Economist Elmer L. Sauer of the University of Illinois explains the figures this way:

Average net earnings for the last 10 years on "conservation" farms were $6.26 an acre higher than the average net earnings of "non-conservation" farms. The two groups of farms were evenly matched in everything except whether or not they had a conservation plan.

Costs for the higher earnings on the "conservation" farms varied from $20 to $50 an acre.

"The costs sound high, but when figured as investments they give excellent returns," points out Sauer, who is in charge of research on conservation economics.

Soil conservation practices allow heavier cropping with less damage to the soil. Seven-year results of contour farming, as reported by Sauer, show yield increases of 12 percent for corn, 12 percent for soybeans, 16 percent for oats and 17 percent for wheat.

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/25/53

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

May Pay to Sort Market Hogs on Farm

It won't pay to feed hogs to heavy weights when lard is a drug on the market.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says if you produce many hogs you may make more money if you sort them for market.

Russell points out that average-type hogs have a better chance of grading in the top price bracket if you market them at weights from 200 to 225 pounds.

Every large drove of hogs has individuals that do better than others and reach market weight and finish ahead of the average. In the same drove there will probably be slower growing hogs that need more time in the feedlot to reach market weight.

If you will sort for type and weight and market your hogs frequently, you may be able to get top prices for more of any one crop than if you ship them all at the same time.

Waiting until the smallest hogs are ready will almost certainly mean that your best hogs will be carrying too much lard to sell at the most satisfactory prices.

RAJ:sb

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

Make Simple Corn Crib From Native Lumber

Make your own simple, inexpensive temporary corn crib this fall from native lumber.

You can get plans for this homemade crib from your county farm adviser or by writing directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana. Ask for Plan No. 495.

This circular crib is 12 feet high. The plan shows a 900-bushel crib built from 3-foot wall panels which make it about 16 feet across. You can vary the size somewhat by changing the number of panels you use.

J. N. Spaeth, head of the department of forestry at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says this crib is designed to be made of native hardwood lumber in grades and sizes commonly produced in the state's small sawmills. You can do your own work with homemade jigs and tools you probably already have on your farm.

Panels are made from six 1 x 4's 12 feet long spaced 2 inches apart. You can make two jigs of notched 1 x 4's to space the six panel boards. Make a wire spacing guide by cutting notches in the side of a 1 x 2 12 feet long.

Floor on this plan is raised on concrete blocks and includes a chute for sheller drag.

The plan was developed at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station through cooperation of the forestry and agricultural engineering departments.

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RAJ:mi
9/2/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

Good Dairy Herds Paid Well in 1952

Some Illinois dairymen last year earned nearly four times as much money for each dollar's worth of feed as did others. They made nearly three times as much above feed costs on each cow they kept.

What makes the difference? Farm accounts kept in the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service show $131 returned for every $100 spent for feed on the 87 low-efficiency farms compared with $214 on the high-efficiency farms. That's a difference of between $31 and $114 above feed costs.

The 87 high farms made $265 per cow above feed costs compared with $90 per cow on the low farms.

The difference lies in efficiency, according to J. B. Claar, University of Illinois farm economist.

High farms produced 8,700 pounds of milk per cow, and low farms 7,500. Cows on the best farms produced 337 pounds of butterfat compared with 284 on the low.

High farms had an average of 15 percent dry cows compared with 19 percent dry cows on the low farms. High farmers also were ahead on death loss, prices received and number of cows per herd.

The net result was that the best farmers produced 1,000 pounds of milk for just under $17 compared with just over $22 for the least efficient farmers.

Whatever the future holds for the dairy business, the efficient farmer can weather the storm easiest, farm economists point out.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

Bighead May Occur in Fall Feeder Lambs

Bighead or a similar clinical disease may occur during the summer months in native flocks. But most serious outbreaks occur in late summer or early fall in western feeder lambs.

Dr. G. T. Woods, extension veterinarian at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says that in a majority of the cases that have been reported the disease appeared within a few days after the arrival of the lambs in the feedlot.

Mild cases show a slight swelling of the ears, eyelids and lips. The lambs show a desire to rub or scratch the affected parts because of the intense itching.

In more severe cases the skin of the entire head and ears becomes swollen and distended. Eating and drinking may be difficult, and breathing may be labored.

Two factors seem to cause bighead, Dr. Woods says: (1) eating certain plants and weeds and (2) sensitization of the skin to sunlight.

No specific treatment has yet been found for affected animals. But veterinarians have learned that the condition can be largely prevented if you provide sufficient shade and do not allow the lambs to graze in a weedy pasture.

You can also feed hay liberally in the morning before you turn the lambs out to graze, and you can keep them in a shed out of direct sunlight until late afternoon to help prevent bighead.

AJ:sb

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

Hogs Are Main Market for Corn

Corn farmers must face the cold fact that corn has to be priced low enough that it will get fed to hogs.

According to T. A. Hieronymus, University of Illinois farm economist, hogs are fed about 45 percent of the corn raised in this country.

If corn is too high to be fed to hogs, it can be put under government loan. But, Hieronymus explains, the Commodity Credit Corporation doesn't use up that corn. What it buys will eventually be put back on the market to compete with corn owned by farmers.

Since the spring of 1952 we haven't had enough hogs in the country to eat up their share of the corn. And that is a market for corn that farmers lost forever, Hieronymus explains.

The American consumer eats meat as rapidly as it's produced. He neither saves money to buy pork later nor buys up the pork to eat later.

Hogs are the only livestock that adjust to the size of the corn crop. The relation of hog prices and corn prices, Hieronymus explains, guides the production of hogs into balance with changing corn supplies. It is important to keep this balance, and the adjustment must be made every year.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1953

Some Advantage in Buying Calves Early

You may be better off buying steer calves in September than waiting until later if you have some early fall pasture.

The calves may cost more per pound early in the buying season, but if you have pasture you can put on cheap gains with feed that otherwise would not be used.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, points out that a 400-pound calf costing 20 cents a pound will cost you $80. If you feed forage with no cash value, the first 100 pounds you put on the calf will reduce his cost by 4 cents a pound.

Calves bought early arrive on the farm before unfavorable weather later in the fall has a chance to catch them. Early-purchased calves usually have less trouble with shipping fever and pneumonia than those bought later.

Carlisle also suggests that you can usually get high-quality calves when you buy early. If you place your order early while there is still a good selection, you have a better chance of getting the kind of calves you want than later when they have all been picked over.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

1952 Worst Pork Year Since 1932

Hogs are more profitable this year, but in 1952 they paid the lowest returns in 20 years.

Yet, according to 612 records kept in the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service, efficient farmers still made money last year. The 113 least efficient herds actually returned only 92 cents for every dollar spent for feed, while the 110 most efficient returned $1.37. The average herd returned $1.16.

Farm accounts showed these differences between most profitable and least profitable herds: pigs weaned per litter, 6.8 compared with 6.1; litters per farm, 38 and 28; pigs lost after weaning, 9 and 16; and pigs sold per farm, 250 and 156.

Least efficient farmers suffered more than double the death loss of the efficient farmers. They lost 3.3 percent of their pigs compared with 1.4 percent, and they sold an average of one fewer pig per sow.

It cost 17.5 cents for the less efficient farmers to produce a pound of pork. The most efficient ones did it for 12.7 cents a pound.

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JKM:mi
9/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

Norton Sees Economic Storm Warnings

Observers who keep an eye on the economic weather see three distinct warnings of storms ahead, especially as far as the farmer is concerned.

L. J. Norton, University of Illinois farm economist, says the main threats to farm prices are high output of many farm commodities, slow export markets and probability of a drop in what is now very high business activity.

Farmers are producing grains and fats in amounts well above both United States and foreign demand. High production together with the large reserves of wheat, corn, cottonseed oil and butterfat actually sets ceilings on price, not only in these commodities, but also in related commodities.

With the exception of corn and rice, commodity exports have fallen sharply in the last year. And Norton sees little hope for the over-all export demand to increase. "There is too much loose talk," he says, "about the ease of stimulating higher exports."

There is no great need for much more of our surplus production in the world, he explains, and farmers in other countries will resist efforts of the United States to "dump" large supplies of farm products in their countries.

Business activity for the past two years has been too high for us to expect it to continue, Norton says. But, although he expects some recession, he is not too pessimistic. The recession may come industry by industry, and not all at once.

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9/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

State Rural Youth Meet on Saturday

Saturday, September 19, is the date of the State Rural Youth Fall conference at the University YMCA in Urbana.

Miss Clareta Walker, state Rural Youth specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that registration is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

Severina Nelson, director of the University's speech clinic will discuss "Your Voice" with the Rural Youth during the morning program session. Mrs. Naomi Hunter, speech instructor, will give the registrants a drill on vocal productions.

In a divided afternoon program, feminine Rural Youthers will be interested in a discussion of safety in the storage of household tools in Bevier Hall by Catherine M. Sullivan, extension specialist in home management.

Male members of the Rural Youth contingent will be more interested in the safe storage of farm tools to be shown in the Agricultural Engineering building by J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

At 3:45 p.m. there will be a discussion of the visual aids used during the day by Don Schild, assistant extension editor. The evening program will be recreation by and for Rural Youth.

Objectives of the conference, Miss Walker says, are to stimulate interest in Rural Youth programs by (1) using your voice to get results, (2) adding variety in subjects and (3) using more visual aids in county programs.

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RAJ:mi
9/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

Save Soil and Water With Stalks and Straw

Cornstalks and soybean straw left on the field will prevent much late fall, winter and early spring soil loss.

E. D. Walker, extension soil conservationist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that one inch of rain falling on an acre of land expends enough energy to plow 10 acres.

Crop residues left on the surface of the soil help to absorb this energy just as growing crops do. Falling raindrops cannot then tear loose and carry away the soil particles.

One plot with a 4 percent slope was tested at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station in Urbana. Where cornstalks were broken down across the slope after harvest, a rain of nearly 2 inches in an hour carried off only 193 pounds of soil an acre.

An adjoining corn plot left bare lost 4,148 pounds of soil an acre, more than 20 times as much, in this one rain.

Corresponding soil losses on soybean plot were 715 pounds an acre from the plot covered with soybean straw, and 3,362 pounds, nearly 5 times as much, from the plot left bare. Water losses were much lower from the covered plots.

Walker says that soybean straw works better as mulch if it is spread evenly over the ground. So keep your straw spreader in good working condition.

Cornstalks stop more soil loss if you break them down close to the ground. Most pickers break them down fairly well. If you want to do a still better job of soil and water control in your cornfields, run a stalk shredder over the field or knock the stalks down across the slope with a heavy drag.

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RAJ:mi
9/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

Name 1953 Sheep Production Contest Winners

First-place winners in the four divisions of the 1953 Illinois Sheep Production contest are announced by the Extension Service of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Division winners are Ted Shields, Galton, Douglas county, first in the division of flocks of one to 10 head; Glenn Partridge, Dwight, Livingston county, first in flocks of 11-25 head; Burnell Hays, Panola, Woodford county, first in flocks of 26-75 head; and Keith McMillan, Prairie City, McDonough county, first in flocks of more than 75 head.

Cash awards are being given to the top six winners in each division. Donors of the prize money are the St. Louis Livestock Exchange and the Chicago Union Stockyards Company. Records were collected and judging was done by livestock extension specialists at the College of Agriculture.

Flocks in the contest are rated by points based on the pounds of wool and pounds of lamb produced by each ewe in the flock. One point is allowed for each pound of lamb produced and three points for each pound of wool.

Average score in this year's contest was 106, nine points lower than last year's average score. The total score was made up of an average of 80 pounds of lamb produced for each ewe and 8.7 pounds of wool, compared with an average of 88 pounds of lamb and 9 pounds of wool produced by each ewe last year.

Scores of the winners were: Shields, 231 points; Partridge, 159 points; Hays, 185 points; and McMillan, 171 points. McMillan won in the same division last year with 164 points.

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RAJ:mi
9/9/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1953

Store Corn Where Hogs Will Be

If you know where your hog pasture will be next year, why not plan to store some corn in that field in temporary storage?

Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that some Illinois swine producers have built field cribs that do double duty as ear corn self-feeders.

Russell suggests that you're causing yourself a lot of unnecessary time and work if you haul your corn to the farmstead for storage and then haul it back out again to feed. That's especially true if you feed ear corn anyway.

If you do construct some temporary storage, three or four smaller units would probably be better than one large one, Russell says. They will be easier to build, and you can locate them to feed at different spots on the field for better distribution of cobs and manure.

Plans for one good portable feeder that you can build are available at your county farm adviser's office. Ask for Plan No. 77615, "Movable Hog Feeder," or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy.

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RAJ:mi
9/8/53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Feed Supplement When You Hog-Off Corn

Will it pay you to feed protein supplement to hogs going into the cornfields?

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that 13 corn-belt tests say, "Yes, it does pay."

The tests show these results:

1. Hogs getting supplement each gained 1/2 pound more a day.

2. Each bushel of corn produced 4 1/2 pounds more pork when supplement was fed.

3. Each pound of supplement saved 6.4 pounds of corn.

On the basis of these figures, Carlisle says that if corn is worth $1.25 a bushel you can afford to pay as much as 12 cents a pound for supplement and still make more money than if you did not feed supplement.

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RAJ:mi
9/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Keep Cannibalism Out of Your Flock

It will be much easier to keep cannibalism out of your laying flock this fall than to stop it once it starts.

Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that good management is the best way to prevent and control cannibalism.

Ridlen suggests that you give the birds plenty of floor space. Then keep them busy by feeding alfalfa hay or some similar feed. Provide enough feeding and watering space to keep them from having to wait in line.

Ventilate the house so that there's plenty of fresh air. Remove birds with blowouts or other injuries right away. Watch closely for any outbreak.

Provide plenty of nests, and darken them. Adjust perches on nests and feed hoppers high enough to prevent birds on the floor from picking the vents of birds on the perches. Install dropping pits.

Ridlen says that hopper feeding of whole oats has helped to stop some cases. Adding one teaspoon of salt to one gallon of drinking water for three to five days or sprinkling on the mash enough fine salt to be seen may help.

Debeaking can be an effective control. Remove part of the upper half of the beak with a knife or an electric debeaker. In the meantime, try to find the cause of picking and correct it.

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/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Juniors Will Judge Land at Progress Show

Junior farmers in a 4-state area will compete for awards in the first annual Junior Land Judging contest on October 2.

Score cards and rules have been drawn up for this contest to be held with the Farm Progress Show sponsored by Prairie Farmer magazine on that date in cooperation with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture and other farm organizations.

Location of the land judging contest and show is the Earl Bass farm in Vermilion county at the junction of U. S. Route 136 and Illinois Highway 49 north of Armstrong.

The contest is open to land judging teams from any community in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan. Its purpose is to stimulate the interest of farm boys in soil conservation and to further nation-wide interest in land judging among 4-H and FFA members.

Here are the rules: A junior team will consist of three boys and an alternate coached by an adult interested in soil conservation. The adult may be a county farm adviser, a vo-ag teacher, a soil conservation technician or supervisor, a farmer, a schoolteacher or anyone else who feels competent to take on the job and train a team of boys. There will be suitable awards.

To be eligible, the contestants must have been between 14 and 20 years of age on January 1, 1953. The coach and team must be present at the show on October 2, where soil conservation experts have selected four areas on the Bass farm with a wide variety of soil to be studied and scored.

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AAJ:mi
9/16/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Urge Farmers to Use Credit Cautiously

A farm economist today urged farmers to use credit cautiously in these times of uncertain price movements.

L. J. Norton of the University of Illinois says it's not good business now to borrow money except for the essentials in your farm operation, such as seed, fertilizer, labor and feeder cattle. Go slow, he says, in borrowing for the things you can postpone buying.

Norton expects lower prices than last year for corn, cattle, soybeans, milk, wheat and oats, higher prices for hogs and about the same price for eggs.

While there are some signs that farm prices are leveling off after a steady fall since February of 1951, cattle numbers are still high, and that means heavy marketing of beef.

At the same time, we raised more corn and wheat in the last two years than could be sold. And the government has large stocks of cottonseed oil.

Hogs, Norton says, will be scarce this fall, but the good corn-hog ratio is almost sure to cause higher numbers by spring. Egg output is fairly well balanced with demand, and commercial poultry meat production should be profitable as long as hogs are scarce.

In the long run, Norton expects two things: First, the dollar will be permanently cheaper. That means fairly high prices, but also fairly high costs.

Second, he expects farm prices to range from 225 to 280 percent of the 1910 to 1914 level. That compares with a range of 235 to 13 since 1948 and with 259 at present.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Be Careful With Homemade Electric Fence

Homemade electric stock fences can be death traps.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says that you should not energize any fence from any electric source except through a controller that meets the requirements of a recognized testing agency such as the Underwriters Laboratories.

Approved controllers provide for a current that is limited to a few hundredths of an ampere and is permitted on the line for only a fraction of a second, Matthews points out. The "off" period must be long enough for a person to release himself from the fence.

Small children are involved in more than half of the electric fence tragedies. Many people do not realize that even a very small current under high voltages can cause death. The current used by a small 7- or 10-watt light bulb is enough to electrocute a person, Matthews says. Victims "freeze" to the conductor and cannot release themselves unless the current is shut off.

The Rural Safety Council suggests these additional safeguards:

1. Do not place an electric fence near a good grounding device, such as a pipeline, pump, stock tank, pond, irrigation ditch or in other normally wet ground.

2. Always identify your electric fences prominently, especially those near buildings, property lines or roads.

3. Never depend on an electric fence to restrain bulls or other vicious animals.

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RAJ:mi
9/16/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1953

Name Eight Rural Youth Scholarship Winners

Eight new students will enter the University of Illinois College of Agriculture this week as a result of the Illinois Rural Youth Community Service program.

They are G. Eugene Bergschneider, New Berlin, and Lovell S. Glasscock, Springfield, both from Sangamon county; Clyde K. Hogendobler, Villa Ridge, Pulaski-Alexander county; William K. Spicer, Sparland, Marshall-Putnam county; David C. Bossert, Dwight, Livingston county; Harold D. Baker, LeRoy, McLean county; Elroy R. Engeling, Edwardsville, Madison county; and Carol Walker, Mazon, Grundy county.

These eight winners were selected from among 12 applications sent in to the College of Agriculture from the seven counties awarded scholarships as a result of the excellence of their Rural Youth community service activities last year. The winners were chosen by the College Scholarship Committee on the basis of their high school records, evidence of leadership and financial need.

Community service, education and recreation are the three basic parts of the Illinois Rural Youth program. The community service scholarship award program is sponsored in the 29 counties in Illinois served by the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad, in cooperation with the Extension Service of the College of Agriculture.

Fifteen of the 29 counties enrolled in the 1952 community service program. Of these, nine submitted final narrative reports of their activities as required by the rules and were given certificates of participation.

The sum of $2,200 is awarded each year by the railroad to the University to make these scholarships available. Sangamon and Pulaski-Alexander counties were awarded $400 scholarships; Marshall-Putnam, Livingston and McLean counties, $300; and Madison and Grundy counties, $250.

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1953

Ag College Will Sell Colts October 10

Twenty head of colts from the horse farm at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture will be sold on Saturday, October 10.

The sale will start at 1 p.m. in the livestock pavillion at the University in Urbana, says C. W. Crawford, member of the animal science department in charge of the sale.

Most of the colts will be weanlings, yearlings and two-year-olds by the College's quarter horse stallion, Crawford says. Also for sale will be two young Morgan mares and a good team of Percheron mares.

A few quarter horses, Morgans and saddle mares will be kept by the College for use in the course in horse husbandry and for other judging courses.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1953

Big Demand for Agricultural Engineers

Opportunities for students in the field of agricultural engineering are far greater now than at any time during the past 40 years, according to E. W. Lehmann, head of the department of agricultural engineering at the University of Illinois.

Although there is a general shortage of engineers in all branches, the shortage of agricultural engineers in proportion to available positions is probably even greater, as indicated by openings for agricultural engineering graduates.

Many farm machinery manufacturers have indicated a desire to add agricultural engineers to their staffs for design, research, production, advertising and sales work, Lehmann says. In addition, many other manufacturers of agricultural equipment and supplies have openings for agricultural engineers. Government services, contractors and consulting engineers also have positions open.

Agricultural engineering graduates from an accredited institution like the University of Illinois are trained as engineers. As students they take enough agricultural subjects to give them a broad understanding of farm problems. Nearly all the agricultural engineering graduates have also had farm experience.

High school students who have aptitudes for mechanics and athematics and yet wish to work in close connection with agriculture hould investigate the possibility of studying to become agricultural ngineers. Consult your principal and the University of Illinois Undergraduate Study Bulletin to make sure that you are taking the reuired high school courses for admission to the college of engineering t the University of Illinois.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1953

Former Illinois Delegates Attend IFYE Meeting

Two former International Farm Youth Exchange delegates from Illinois were among the 66 IFYE alumni attending the second annual IFYE Conference in Ohio recently. Representatives from 26 states who have lived with farm families in 27 foreign countries attended.

Delegates attending from Illinois were Mrs. Meta Keller Olson, Streator; and Rosemary Archibald, Kankakee. Mrs. Olson visited Sweden, and Miss Archibald lived with farm families in Ireland.

The theme of the conference was "Extending the Influence of IFYE." Discussions centered about how the program is conducted in each state, with an exchange of ideas on how former IFYE delegates could help further the program.

Also attending the conference were several state IFYE project Leaders and Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky, extension service analyst of the USDA; Everett Mitchell, master of ceremonies of NBC's National Farm and Home Hour; James Keim, Pennsylvania state extension specialist on international understanding; W. W. Eure, leader of the experimental YMW project of the National 4-H Club Foundation; Norman Mindrum, executive director of the National 4-H Club Foundation; and L. S. Nichols, outbound leader of the International Farm Youth Exchange program.

The IFYE program, sponsored by the National 4-H Club Foundation and the Extension Service, is a two-way exchange in which selected rural youth of the United States live, work and play with farm families in 41 foreign countries for four to six months. In return, their young people come here.

The program, which began in 1948, is dedicated to the idea of peace through understanding. There are 279 IFYE alumni and 135 delegates participating in the 1953 exchange. At the present time there are young people from Ireland, France, Luxembourg and Norway living on Illinois farms under the IFYE exchange program. Illinois delegates are in France and Greece.

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National Rural Youth Meet at Bloomington

The annual conference of the Rural Youth of the U.S.A. organization will be held at East Bay Camp, Lake Bloomington, October 1 through 4.

Several Illinois Rural Youth members and adult leaders will take part in the program, says Miss Clareta Walker, extension rural youth specialist at the UI College of Agriculture.

Delight Wier, farm homemaker from Lacon, and Bill Frye, vocational agriculture instructor from Cisne community high school, will appear on the first day's program. A general discussion on the conference theme, "Under the Same Sun," will be led by Alice Schorfheide, Nashville, Washington County, Rural Youth member who is also editor of the Rural Youth News, national newsletter.

Mrs. Wier and E. H. Regnier, extension rural recreation specialist at the College of Agriculture, will both lead workshop groups at the Thursday afternoon session. Miss Schorfheide and Frye are both on other parts of the program during the meeting.

Main speaker at the Friday noon session will be Jesse Owen of Chicago, representing the Triad Insurance company, talking about "We the Nation." Paul C. Johnson, editor of Prairie Farmer magazine, Chicago, will be the Thursday noon luncheon keynote speaker.

Workshop groups at the conference will discuss recreation for farm youth, leadership problems and living with others. President of the organization this year is John Montgomery, Lancaster, Ohio.

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Yeast Makes Edible Fat From Corncobs

By managing a microscopic organism in much the same way as cattlemen handle beef, two University of Illinois scientists have developed a method of producing edible fat from waste products.

The microscopic organism is related to common household or baker's yeast, which has long been a good source of protein and vitamins. But until now it has been of no value as a fat producer, although the Germans tried in both world wars to produce fat with it. By the new method, yeast turns into human food all kinds of carbohydrate waste, such as corncobs, papermill and canning plant waste and even straw.

The method was developed by Marvin Steinberg and Z. John Ordal of the food technology department. They say the new process can be very useful in countries where there is a fat shortage. Also, much of the waste now being dumped into streams, where it becomes a public nuisance, can be turned into a valuable product.

Producing fat from yeast uses the same equipment and materials used in producing alcohol, and the process is very much the same. The process starts with a protein yeast similar to baker's yeast, the food technologists say, which is called "lean" yeast. The yeast must be "fattened" under conditions different from those under which it grows.

Yeast grows naturally in an acid solution. To fatten it, scientists take the yeast from that solution and put it into a nonacid solution.

The nonacid fattening solution contains sugar made from waste products. Each waste gets a different treatment, but the end product is the same and the treatment is a simple process.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1953

Costs More to Raise Wormy Pigs

It will cost you from three to four more bushels of corn to raise a wormy pig, says Dr. N. D. Levine, veterinarian on the staff at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

In addition, it may take you an extra month to get wormy pigs to market weight, Dr. Levine says.

The key to raising worm-free pigs is to farrow them under sanitary conditions and then keep them clean. Recommended in Illinois is the McLean county system of swine sanitation, which suggests:

1. Put the sows in farrowing pens that have been thoroughly cleaned.

2. Wash the sows' udders before you put them in the pens. Worm eggs are often found in the dirt clinging to the udder and may be passed on to the pigs when they suckle.

3. Haul the sows and litters to pasture rather than letting them run down the same lane you have used year after year. The young pigs can easily pick up worm eggs from the dirt in the lane.

4. Use rotation pasture on ground that did not have pigs running on it the year before.

Preventing parasite infestations by this sanitation program will do double duty by preventing other swine diseases, Dr. Levine asserts.

Most wormy pigs will not show visible signs of infection other than the slow-up in growth rate. Occasionally the pigs may die, however.

If you are certain that your pigs have worms, you can treat them by mixing one percent of sodium fluoride in the mash ration for one day. However, if you have any doubt, consult your local veterinarian.

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Farm News

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

Arrange Fall Plants for Table Decoration

Illinois homemakers have miles and miles of material from which to choose plants for interesting flower arrangements.

John Culbert, floriculturist at the University of Illinois, says that many roadside plants, and even some of the common weeds, can be made into attractive flower arrangements.

Fall plants lack the bright color you find earlier, Culbert says. But they can bring a touch of nature into your home. And some fall plants have more charm and subtle colors than the more colorful plants.

Take advantage of interesting lines and curves, and use the little bit of color you find to accent the arrangement, he says.

One good arrangement can be made from the tall seed pods of the common evening primrose, pods of wild sunflower, fruits and leaves of the wild rose and a few leaves of rosin weed.

The primrose, with stalks of different lengths, can give the arrangement height. The wild sunflower and rosin leaves give it body and the rose fruits give a little accent of color.

Any plants you like you can use, according to the floriculturist. And looking for plants along the road can be an interesting hobby.

For your arrangement, Culbert says, use a plain container of dull brown, green and gray that doesn't compete with the plants for your attention.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

State 4-H Enrollment Goes Up This Year

Official figures show 58,621 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H Club work this fall in Illinois.

That's 1,339 more than last year, an increase of 2.3 percent over the 57,282 total in 1952, according to state 4-H staff members at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of 4-H home economics and agricultural clubs respectively, say that this increase is due to the hard work and untiring efforts of 4-H members, parents, local club leaders and county extension people to keep old members and to get new ones.

Home economics enrollment, with 728 more members, showed a slightly greater increase than agriculture clubs, which enrolled 611 more members than last year.

McLean county had the largest increase in agricultural club membership, with 117 more members. Its total of 875 agricultural club members also topped all other counties in the state. Fulton county, with 107 more members, ranked second in increase over 1952 agricultural membership.

For the home economics clubs, Champaign county takes top honors this year in increased enrollment with 184 more members than last year. Champaign also has the highest home economics 4-H Club enrollment of any county in the state, with 936 members. Cook and Will counties tied for second in increased enrollment, with 116 additional members each this year.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

Farmers Must Dispose of Dead Animals

State law requires that all dead animals be burned, buried or hauled away by a licensed rendering company.

The College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois says that if you don't have a licensed rendering company in your area you'll have to dispose of the animals yourself.

Here are some suggestions for safe disposal:

1. Bury the animal at least six feet deep. Cover the carcass with a layer of quicklime to speed decomposition. Do not bury animals in swampy land, near streams or on a hillside. When you can, bury the animal where you find it.

2. Or you can cremate the carcass. Dig two trenches two feet wide and 18 inches deep in the form of a cross. Cover with a metal grating or green posts. Heap several layers of dry timber on the grates and lay the carcass on top. Start the fire with straw soaked in kerosene and add fuel as it is needed.

Another successful cremation method is to cover the carcass with oil and straw and finally with a layer of heavy, fairly dry manure,the veterinarians say.

Disposal of animals that die of anthrax disease must be conducted under the supervision of a veterinarian.

Proper disposal of dead animals is a major factor in the control of animal disease in your herds. Keeping your own herds healthy will contribute toward preventing serious animal health problems in your community.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

Cattle Feeders Meet October 23 at Urbana

Steers used in summer management trials at the beef cattle barns will be on display at the 25th annual Cattle Feeders' Day program at the University of Illinois on Friday, October 23.

A. L. Neumann, head of the beef cattle division at the College of Agriculture in Urbana, says that results of last winter's calf-wintering trials and this summer's management studies will be posted. You'll be able to read the results and compare them later with the carcasses that will be on display near the stock pavilion under the supervision of Sleeter Bull, professor of meats at the college.

A. L. Darlow, dean of the College of Agriculture at Oklahoma A. & M. College, will be the featured speaker on the afternoon program. He will discuss the question, "Can We Stay in the Cattle Business in the Corn Belt?"

Reports of cattle-feeding experiments at the college will be given by the beef cattle division staff, Neumann says. Discussions will cover improving rations that contain low-grade roughage and urea, high-protein corn for fattening steers, digestibility of rations containing antibiotics, supplements to be fed with legume-grass and corn silages and calf-wintering gains and steer programs for summer.

R. J. Webb, superintendent of the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, will discuss irrigating beef cattle pastures and give results of test work with irrigation on pastures at the station. L. H. Simerl, extension economist at the College of Agriculture, will give his views on the outlook for the beef cattle situation.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

Sheep Production Day Set for October 30

Illinois sheep producers will meet at the University of Illinois on Friday, October 30, for their third annual Sheep Production Day.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the College of Agriculture, says the day's activities will begin about 9 a.m. with informal inspection of the animals and facilities at the sheep farm.

Members of the staff at the college will discuss sheep research projects on the morning's program starting at 10:30 at the stock pavilion, Garrigus reports. Some of the topics include antibiotic implants in newborn lambs, antibiotics in a creep ration, sulphur requirement of growing-fattening lambs, systems of feeding lambs, and arsenic compounds in a lamb-fattening ration.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the college, will summarize the results of the 1953 Illinois Sheep Production contest. He will discuss the good management practices that paid off in high returns in lamb and wool for the contest winners this year.

Marketing will be featured at the afternoon discussions in the livestock pavilion. Dale Rouse, manager of the Illinois Wool Marketing association, Paris, will discuss wool preparation and its effect on wool marketing. Garland Russell, head of the lamb department at Swift and Co., Chicago, will talk about lamb marketing problems.

Ed Warner, Sunbeam Corporation, Chicago, will give a shearing demonstration and show its effects on wool preparation. Later he will take part in a special shearers' "get-together" following the main program. This is an addition to the Sheep Day program designed for professional shearers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 1953

New Process Dehydrates Sweet Corn

Sweet corn can now be dried and kept indefinitely as acceptable human food by a dehydration process developed after three years of research by food technologists at the University of Illinois.

A. I. Nelson, who headed up the research, says that sweet corn has not yet been dehydrated on any large commercial scale.

The research was done under an army grant, and Nelson thinks the dehydrated sweet corn will have its greatest use in army rations. It will also be useful in case of war, tornado or flood, when thousands of people sometimes have to be fed under disaster conditions.

Dehydrated sweet corn has to be soaked about 90 minutes and cooked for 30 minutes, but the product makes good food. Under normal conditions the dehydrated corn will not spoil. It will keep for six months under temperatures as high as 100 degrees F., a standard set up by the army.

The process consists of bringing the moisture content down from about 75 percent to 5 percent. At the same time weight is reduced about 75 percent and volume about 60 percent.

In the process, corn is cut from the cob in a good, fresh stage and is cleaned and blanched in steam for two minutes. It's then air-cooled to room temperature, dipped into a sulfite solution to prevent browning and put into the drier.

Drying is done in two stages. The first stage, which takes two hours, brings the moisture content down to about 33 percent. It

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starts at about a 200-degree temperature and is lowered steadily until it's down to about 150.

Bringing the moisture content down from 33 to 5 percent is a more critical process. This stage of drying is done with other equipment at about 130 degrees F. and takes about 12 hours.

Drying time can be cut with better equipment, Nelson believes. Biggest problem has been seeing how fast corn could be dried with the least amount of damage to quality.

The process has been tested commercially, although no commercial drying is now being done.

The food technologists are now working on the drying of lima beans under the same grant.

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Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Give Lawns Plenty of Water

There's a secret to watering a parched lawn. Don't water it lightly and feel that all is well just because the grass turns green.

Harleigh Kemmerer, University of Illinois landscaping specialist, says light watering causes the grass roots to grow close to the surface. Next summer, when the weather gets hot and dry, the shallow-rooted grass will suffer.

It's better not to water a lawn at all than to water it lightly. Soak the ground to a depth of about six inches, and it will do some good.

Lawns are not in such bad shape as they look, Kemmerer says. The good grass is not dead, and if we get rain it will green up. The bare spots that show up are the places you need new grass.

If you loosen the dirt in these spots, seed some grass and keep it watered, it will be the same as the rest of the lawn by next summer.

In a normal season, grass should be seeded before now. But this year your chance of getting a good stand of grass is just as good if you get your seeding done before October 15 as it would be if you waited until next spring to seed.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Illinois Boy Places Sixth in Tractor Contest

Melvin L. Carr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard E. Carr of Macon, placed sixth in the first central states 4-H tractor operators' contest recently.

Winner of the contest was William Hankins of Cleveland, Minnesota. Entered were state 4-H skilled tractor drivers' contest winners from Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Minnesota, Indiana and Michigan.

The 4-H operators in the contest first took a written examinationon what they had learned during the year while they were enrolled in the 4-H tractor maintenance program.

After the written test, the junior tractor operators showed their skill in handling the machines through a tight obstacle course. Judges from the Extension Services in the six states taking part watched for such errors as cutting corners and touching markers. Alleyways allowed about three inches between the two- and four-wheel wagons and the course markers.

Sponsored by the Standard Oil company, the contest was held in conjunction with the Prairie Farmer—WLS Farm Progress Day at the Earl Bass farm in Vermilion county. Its purpose was to develop skills, leadership and citizenship of 4-H members and to provide an opportunity to show the public the skills of 4-H members who enroll in the tractor maintenance program.

Extension agricultural engineers who served as judges include O. I. Berge, Wisconsin; Wendell Bowers, Illinois; C. L. Hill, Purdue; Joe Hagan, Missouri; Don Bates, Minnesota; and Robert White, Michigan.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Illinois Station Releases New Purple Raspberry

Purple Autumn, a new purple raspberry variety, has been released by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station in Urbana.

This is the first named purple raspberry to bear in both summer and fall on the same cane, according to A. S. Colby of the horticulture department at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. It is also the first variety to be named as a result of the raspberry breeding program at the University of Illinois.

Under Illinois conditions the plants of Purple Autumn bear a larger crop of fruit in the summer than in the autumn, Colby says. The plants are vigorous and probably will need support. They are hardy and are easily propagated by leaf-bud cuttings. No virus diseases have been found in test plantings to date.

In Illinois, Purple Autumn begins to mature its summer crop in early mid-season and has a long harvesting period. The fruit is the largest of all raspberries tested in recent years at the Urbana Station, has a conic shape and is high in flavor.

Parentage of Purple Autumn is Bristol, a black variety, crossed with Indian Summer, a red variety that bears in both summer and fall and that gives Purple Autumn its "everbearing" characteristics. Colby made the originial cost in 1938, and the present variety was the best selection from several hundred plants growing out of the original cross.

Colby emphasizes that the University of Illinois does not have any plants of Purple Autumn for sale. Only a limited number of plants will be available this fall from cooperating nurserymen, but the supply should increase by next year.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Name McCleary As Extension Safety Specialist

Gordon McCleary, a 1951 graduate of the University of Illinois, has been appointed extension farm and home safety information specialist.

According to W. G. Kammlade, associate director of the extension service at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, the new position fills a long-felt need for more help in the field of farm and home safety.

Illinois farm agencies realize that accidents on today's mechanized farms are becoming an increasingly serious and expensive problem. Time and money lost in the hospital or permanently through loss of limbs or life are expensive, but the loss of agricultural production resulting from farm accidents cannot be replaced, Kammlade says.

It is the hope of the Illinois Rural Safety Council that the new safety specialist will be able to enlist the cooperation of farm and home advisers, rural youth groups, 4-H Clubs and all other agencies interested in farm and home safety in an effort to make farm people more safety-conscious.

Following his graduation from the School of Journalism in February 1951, McCleary was employed as assistant editor of the University's College of Veterinary Medicine. He resigned that position to enter active duty with the 44th Infantry Division in January 1952.

His first Army assignment was to the Armed Forces Information School, Fort Slocum, N. Y., for six weeks. He then rejoined the 44th Division at Camp Cooke, California, and was assigned to the Public Information Office until his release from active duty last month.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Vaccines Studied for Brucellosis Control

Vaccinating cattle will help to control cattle brucellosis, but it is not the answer to the problem. At present there seems to be no substitute for good herd management in controling this disease.

Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine reported the results of five years of testing vaccines for brucellosis in cattle at the recent meeting of the United States Livestock Sanitary Association in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The college has been carrying out research on four vaccines. Of these four the Bureau of Animal Industry Strain 19 vaccine was found to give about 50 percent protection in vaccinated heifers that were exposed to brucellosis during their first pregnancy.

Veterinarians at the college are planning to continue research work on this vaccine. They hope to find out more about the protection it gives during both first and later pregnancies.

Of the three other vaccines tested during the five-year study, two developed experimentally at the University gave no protection against the disease. The other, Huddleson's mucoid vaccine, did not give satisfactory protection in critical tests. As yet no vaccine has been developed that gives complete immunity against brucellosis.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Poor Soil May Cause Poor Flowers

If you're not satisfied with the way your flowers and vegetables grow, it may be because your soil is in bad physical condition.

F. F. Weinard, University of Illinois floriculturist, says the physical condition of the soil may be even more important than the fertility level.

A soil in good physical condition is crumbly and mellow. It allows air and water to move freely through it, and it holds a big reserve of moisture to carry plants through dry spells. A loam is the ideal soil for growing crops, Weinard says.

In contrast to a good loam are the tightly packed clay soils and the very loose sandy soils. Tight clay won't let the water soak in, Weinard says, and it is poorly aerated. Sand, on the other hand, simply doesn't hold enough water or plant food for the crop.

Adding organic matter, such as manure, leaves, peat moss, sewage sludge and straw or corncobs, helps to improve soil texture and structure. Sand, cinders and fine ashes also help to improve the physical condition of soils.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Veterinarians to Gather in Urbana

Latest information about animal disease research will be discussed at the 34th Annual Illinois Conference and Extension Short Course for Veterinarians at the University of Illinois October 15-17.

Veterinarians from all over the state will gather to hear reports of the latest investigations presented by members of the College of Veterinary Medicine staff and noted speakers from Illinois and nearby states.

The yearly short course enables practicing veterinarians to brush up on the latest techniques in caring for farm animals.

Included on the program will be reports of recent legislation on the control of animal diseases in the state. The veterinarians will also see demonstrations of the latest clinical techniques used in caring for sick or injured farm animals.

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 1953

No Time Now to Sell Beef Cow Herd

A question in the minds of many Illinois beef cow herd owners is whether or not to sell their herds after the recent beef price slump.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says the answer to that question lies in another question.

Is your farm plan one that needs a beef cow herd, year after year, to provide a market for roughage that you would not otherwise be able to use?

If your answer to that question is "yes," now is certainly no time for you to get out of the business, because the cows will continue to be a reasonably safe investment and will pay a fair return for the roughage they eat.

On the other hand, if your answer is "no," Carlisle believes that you should never have had a beef herd in the first place, and the sooner you sell off your herd, the better you will be.

A beef cow herd takes several years to build and is a long-time investment, Carlisle says. For that reason it is an especially poor business for the "in-and-outer."

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 1953

Barbecues Demonstrate Poultry Opportunities

The University of Illinois Agricultural Extension Service is cooperating with county agricultural leaders to stir up interest in poultry by way of a satisfied appetite. As a result, many Illinoisians ate barbecued chicken this summer for the first time.

According to Emer Broadbent, poultry marketing specialist, some 7,000 people were fed in five county-wide barbecues held in Champaign, Washington, Kane, McLean and Lake counties this year.

These barbecues were part of county all-industry programs at which exhibits were used to tell the story of quality eggs and broilers.

"There's more to putting good eggs and poultry meat in the consumer's hands than most people realize," Broadbent says. "And everyone who is interested in getting this story across helps out at poultry day."

In addition, the poultry days are calling attention to opportunities for producing and selling more quality eggs. Through a community approach they are designed to teach producers, tradespeople and consumers what it takes to produce and market high-quality products.

There are many areas in Illinois, Broadbent says, in which dealers have to go outside the area and even outside the state to find enough good eggs to supply their demand.

The demand is not for ordinary eggs, he points out, but for eggs of good quality that the homemaker knows she can depend on.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 1953

Beef Feeders to Hear About High-Protein Corn

One major objective of the second year's beef cattle feeding trial with high-protein corn grain and silage was to find out whether their use would save protein supplement in the diets of full-fed cattle.

Results of this test will be one of the reports of recent research being conducted at the University of Illinois which will be given at the 25th annual Cattle Feeders' Day program, according to A. L. Neumann, head of the beef cattle division at the College of Agriculture.

The meeting is scheduled for the beef cattle barns and the University auditorium in Urbana on Friday, October 23, starting at 10 a.m.

Other reports, Neumann says, will include improving rations containing low-grade roughage and urea, supplements to be fed with legume-grass and corn silages, calf-wintering gains and steer programs for summer and digestibility of rations containing antibiotics.

R. J. Webb, superintendent of the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, will discuss irrigating beef cattle pastures; and L. H. Simerl, extension farm economist at the college, will talk about the beef cattle situation.

A. E. Darlow, dean of the college of agriculture at Oklahoma A. & M. College, will discuss whether or not we can stay in the cattle business in the corn belt.

Remember the date, Friday, October 23, and come first to the beef cattle barns south of the campus for the morning's sessions.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 1953

Leptospirosis One of Main Causes Of Abortion

Leptospirosis is believed to be one of the main causes of abortion in cattle, sheep and swine. Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says that this disease has been known for only a few years, but it attacks nearly all farm animals of any age at any time.

You may have leptospirosis in your farm herds without realizing it. Often healthy-appearing animals may be carriers and spread the disease to other farm animals through their urine. It may also be passed on to humans in this way.

If any of your farm animals develop a fever, refuse to eat, show a decided drop in milk production, abort or have bloody milk or urine, call your local veterinarian immediately.

He will examine your animals and send blood samples to a nearby laboratory. There the blood will be tested to determine whether the animals have leptospirosis or are carrying it.

Veterinarians have successfully treated diseased animals with penicillin. A new vaccine that will soon be produced commercially may aid in the future control of this disease.

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HA:mi
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 1953

Award Kroger Ag College Scholarships

Winners of Kroger scholarships to the University of Illinois College of Agriculture this fall have been announced by Assistant Dean C. D. Smith.

Home economics scholarships of $200 each will go to Ima Jean Bassler, Mascoutah; Nancy M. Blish, Downers Grove; and Barbara S. Boyd, Anna.

Agriculture scholarships of $200 each will go to Ted L. Kuhnen, Homer; Roger A. Voss, Freeport; and John F. Weidert, Watseka.

These awards are made on the basis of scholastic achievements in high school as well as leadership qualities demonstrated in school, church and youth organizations. Considerable emphasis is also placed on financial need.

Through a gift from the Kroger Grocery company, six scholarships are awarded each year to freshmen who reside in Illinois. The awards are granted by the committee on special undergraduate scholarships on recommendation of the scholarship committee of the College of Agriculture.

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12/13/53

for weekly

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 1953

Motor Fuel Tax Law Amendment Becomes Effective November 1

Watch November 1, for that's the date the new amendment to the Illinois Motor Fuel Tax Law goes into effect requiring you to file for your refund within four months rather than six. Getting your claims in on time will eliminate the possibility of loss of refund for not filing within the new four-month period.

This information is reported to us by N. G. P. Krausz, assistant professor of agricultural law at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. He says the two-month reduction in the time allowed for filing was passed by the general assembly in its recent session.

The main reason for the change is to get your refunds to you a lot sooner. It is believed that soon after the four-month period becomes effective, payments will be made within 30 days after the claim is received.

You'll get your refund sooner because shortening the period for filing will more evenly distribute the number of claims and tend to eliminate the tremendous volume now being received twice each year.

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DJB:mi
10/20/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 1953

Good Fall Rations Produce Better Spring Pigs

What you feed your brood sows this fall will have a big effect on next spring's pig crop.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that good rations in the fall will pay off in better pigs next spring.

Research work in swine feeding at several midwest agricultural experiment stations show that poor rations for brood sows during gestation and even before breeding can result in poor litters, Carlisle says.

Here are some tips for fall feeding that will help get your spring pig crop off to a good start:

1. Keep the gilts on legume pasture as long as possible this fall.

2. Provide minerals either free choice or in the protein supplement.

3. Feed a balanced ration. One ration might be ground oats free choice plus protein supplement free choice. Another might be 6 pounds of corn plus 1/2 to 2/3 pound of protein supplement per head daily.

4. Use a commercial ready-mixed supplement, or make your own mixture. A suggested protein supplement mixture might include 100 pounds each of meat scraps or tankage, soybean oil meal and alfalfa meal and 5 pounds each of salt and steamed bone meal.

Carlisle says alfalfa meal is included in the supplement because pastures are dry in many areas and alfalfa will provide a good share of the mineral and vitamin needs of the sows.

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RAJ:mi
10/21/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 1953

Drought Forces Dairy Feeding Changes

A critical hay shortage in severe drought areas of Illinois may force dairy farmers in those areas to feed substitute roughages this winter.

High-quality legume hay normally is used to supply cows with large amounts of the protein, vitamins and minerals they need to keep up winter milk production. But good clover and alfalfa hay will probably be in short supply and high in price.

This may force some dairymen to feed lower quality roughages, such as nonlegume hay, corn stover, straw or even ground corncobs.

But a University of Illinois dairy scientist warns that cows receiving these substitutes must also receive larger-than-normal amounts of grain, plus protein, vitamin and mineral supplements where needed.

K. E. Harshbarger recommends grain mixtures containing 14 to 16 percent protein when mixed legume and nonlegume hay is fed; 16 to 18 percent protein when nonlegume hay only is fed; and 18 to 20 percent protein when cows receive only the substitute roughages.

Cows receiving wheat straw, soybean straw or corn stover should also have vitamin A supplement in the form of alfalfa leaf meal. Those receiving only straw or ground corncobs should have vitamin D supplement in the form of one pound of irradiated yeast per ton of grain.

Ground limestone or steamed bone meal and salt will provide the necessary minerals for cows on substitute roughages.

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10/21/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 1953

Announce Dates for Winter Short Course

Dates for the third Winter Short Course in Agriculture at the University of Illinois were announced today by H. W. Bean, short course supervisor. The course will begin on November 30, 1953, and end on January 21, 1954.

Bean says the short course is especially for young farmers, but older ones are also welcome to enroll. The purpose is to give farm people a chance to bring themselves up to date on late developments in modern agriculture. Applicants should have a background of farm experience and be at least 18 years old if they haven't graduated from high school.

You can get complete information and an application form by writing to Bean at 104 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

You'll be able to fit your course of study to what interests you most. Some of the courses to be offered include farm management, marketing, crop production and feeding and management of beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine and sheep.

While you're attending the short course, you'll be treated as a regular university student. You'll be able to attend the athletic contests, dances and other social events. Housing will be arranged by University Housing, so there'll be no trouble finding a place to stay.

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DJB:mi
10/21/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 1953

World Is Not Hungry for Our Farm Products

There is much loose talk and thinking among farmers and some farm leaders to the effect that the world is hungry for our farm products. Events of the past twelve months indicate that this is not so.

That's the word from L. J. Norton, farm economist at the University of Illinois. He says that since 1947 there has been a remarkable rise in world farm production, and there is no real economic scarcity of farm products outside the communist countries.

Norton points out that if this country has a surplus of a commodity, it doesn't necessarily mean that it can be exported. For export it must meet these three conditions: First, it must be needed. Second, it must not be available in adequate quantities elsewhere. And, third, it must be priced to meet competition.

We can see how these conditions operate by looking at wheat. We sold much less wheat in 1952-53 than in 1951-52. The main reasons were larger available supplies--in both importing and exporting countries--and probably attempts to get prices that were too high.

With corn the situation was different. Exports went up instead of down. This commodity was priced low enough for foreign buyers, and supplies in the principal competing foreign countries were low. We also sold more soybeans but less soybean oil.

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10/21/53

for weeklies

Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Garden Soil Needs Plenty of Organic Matter

Whether you plow your garden in the fall or spring, it's a good idea to plow under all the organic matter you can find.

F. F. Weinard, floriculturist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that leaves, peat moss, weeds, vegetable stalks, corncobs, straw and manure are all forms of organic matter that will improve your garden soil.

All of these materials will rot in the soil when warm weather returns next summer. Not only will your garden be easier to work, but you'll find that it holds rain better, too.

However, Weinard points out that corncobs or straw turned under will need extra nitrogen. The reason is that the bacteria that decompose the material also use nitrogen for their growth. Unless you supply extra nitrogen to feed the bacteria, they will use part of the supply your growing plants will need.

Dried manure that you can buy in bags is just as good for the soil as fresh manure, Weinard says. It contains lots of nitrogen that is made quickly available to the plants and bacteria.

The floriculturist also says that many people who use peat moss do not use enough. He recommends turning under at least an inch or two of peat moss if you use it.

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10/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Good Management Is Key to Brucellosis Control

You can prevent brucellosis in your cattle herd without using vaccination by following strict sanitation and good management practices.

Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says that if you maintain "closed herds" you will have little trouble with brucellosis.

The main idea behind the closed herd program is to raise replacements from your own disease-free animals rather than to buy untested animals that may bring the disease into your herd.

You should have your local veterinarian send in blood samples of all your animals to a laboratory at regular intervals. This blood test is the only way of showing whether any of your animals have brucellosis. If you buy new animals, isolate them until they have been proved disease-free by this blood test.

Successful use of these practices with university-owned herds for more than 30 years has kept the animals free from brucellosis without using vaccines. Recent experiments by the college have shown that approved brucellosis vaccine does not give young calves complete protection from brucellosis. Some vaccines that were tested gave little or no protection.

On the basis of these observations, Dr. Bryan recommends that you first give your herd a blood test. If you do not find brucellosis, maintain a closed herd and use good management practices.

If some of your animals have brucellosis, sell them for slaughter as soon as possible, and practice calfhood vaccination. Use the vaccine only as a supplemental measure in ridding your cattle of brucellosis, because good management practices are cheaper and better.

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FHA:mi
10/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Starting Fires With Kerosene Is Dangerous

There's a quick, safe way to start a fire in your stove or furnace, so put down that can of kerosene. Just crumple up some old newspapers, light them and then heap on cobs or dry kindling.

Gordon McCleary, University of Illinois farm and home safety specialist, warns that your first mistake may be your last if you use fuel oil or kerosene to start fires. More than 500 persons in the U. S. started their last fire with such fuels last year--and it could happen to you.

One pint of kerosene has the explosive power of 10 sticks of dynamite when it is vaporized (mixed with air). Add to this threat the danger of keeping fuel in your home, and you'll realize that the "crumpled newspaper" method is best.

Cobs soaked in kerosene aren't always safe, either. Whenever you have kerosene vapors confined in a stove or furnace, they are likely to explode instead of burning quietly as you had planned.

One of the most dangerous things you can do, McCleary says, is to throw kerosene into a stove that may have hot coals under the ashes. The coals help the fuel vaporize faster and then may touch off an explosion.

As for gasoline, it is even more dangerous than kerosene. Your chances of being able to enjoy a furnace fire are better if you steer away from gasoline or kerosene when you start it.

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10/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Artificial Light Helps Bring More Eggs

Extra light at this time of year will stimulate egg production in your farm flock just the same as longer spring days do.

Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says that artificial light actually stimulates the birds to lay more eggs. They then need to eat more feed to form those extra eggs.

To light the hen house you can use either part-time or all-night lights, Ridlen says. Part-time lights that are used to make a 13- or 15-hour working day for the hens will stimulate just as many eggs as all-night lights. But some producers prefer to just turn on the lights and leave them on dimly all night.

One 40-watt bulb for each 200 square feet of floor space is about right for part-time lights, the specialist says. In the all-night system a 15-watt bulb is enough for each 200 square feet.

You can use part-time lights in either morning or evening, or both. But if you use them in the evening, use a dimming device so that the birds will go to the roosts before the lights go off entirely.

Sometimes lights should be used as soon as pullets are housed, but in general lights are turned on when there are fewer than 13 to 14 hours of daylight. Hens of average or below-average production will respond most to artificial lights. It may take from two to four weeks for a hen to respond to the lights with higher egg production.

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RAJ:mi
10/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Mastitis Most Costly Dairy Disease

Last year milk production losses from mastitis cost U. S. farmers $250,000,000, more than any other disease.

Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says that most herds in the state have mastitis. Without realizing it, farmers may be losing 10 to 20 percent of their production from this disease.

Good management, sanitation and prevention of injury to cows are the ways to get complete control of mastitis, since the disease-causing bacteria enter the cows through bruised teats or udders.

Cows are most easily bruised by leaving milkers on after the milk flow has stopped, by confining them in short, crowded stalls with insufficient bedding, by leaving trash piles or equipment around that may injure them or by letting dogs run them.

You can prevent the disease in calves by not letting pail-fed heifers suck eat other. In dry cows, watch for swelling of the udders after the cows have been properly dried up.

In caring for the producing herd, take these sanitary steps and get more milk per day. Wash udders before milking with a warm chlorine disinfectant solution, milk infected cows last and, above all, buy disease-free replacement stock.

If your cows should have udder trouble, you can check them for mastitis yourself. Use a strip-cup in milking, and look for abnormal milk flakes. You can also apply a few drops of milk to a

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blotter treated with bromthymol blue dye. If the blotter turns green, look out for trouble.

If either of these tests shows something wrong, call your local veterinarian. He will send milk samples to a laboratory for testing and then treat the infected cow.

Since mastitis is spread by many different germs, it is necessary to find out what germ is present by means of a laboratory test. The right treatment for one form of mastitis may not give satisfactory results for another.

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10/28/53

Three Illinois Farm Advisers Honored

Three Illinois farm advisers have been named to the 1953 Honor Roll of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. They received distinguished service awards at their recent annual convention in Philadelphia.

The farm advisers are Leslie B. Broom, Mounds, Pulaski-Alexander county, with 20 years' service; Edwin H. Garlich, Jacksonville, Morgan county, with 18 years' service; and Orville O. Mowery, Carlinville, Macoupin county, with 18 years' service.

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10/28/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 1953

Broiler Growers to Hold First Meeting

Members of the Illinois Broiler Growers association will hold their first annual meeting at the community building in Tremont on Wednesday, November 11.

Leon Johnson, broiler grower and hatcheryman from Orleans, Indiana, is scheduled to discuss "The Key to Success in Broiler Profits" on the program. Another feature will be the talk by Alex Gordeux, editor of Broiler Growing and Turkey World magazines, on current trends in the national broiler industry.

Leonard Unsicker, Tremont, president of the broiler association, will greet the guests at the day's session, which will start at 12:30 p.m. Other activities include a panel discussion on broiler problems and a business meeting with election of officers for the coming year.

Other officers this year have been Rudy Bertschi, Tremont, secretary, and Louis Connell, Tremont, national director.

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Farm News

/ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Electrocution Danger When Moving Elevator

It happens every fall--one or more Illinois farmers are usually electrocuted when corn elevators they are moving contact overhead electric wires.

Frank Andrew, rural electrification specialist at the University of Illinois, says such accidents are easy to prevent. He offers these tips:

If the move is in your farmyard, pull the fuses at the main service box while moving the elevator so that overhead wires which may touch the elevator are not charged.

If this is impossible, have one person watch the operation from a short distance and warn you of close overhead wires.

This final precaution, Andrew says, may help to avoid doubling the toll if a man is electrocuted. Only after turning off the current or breaking contact with the charged wires is it safe to touch the victim. If the current cannot be turned off, use a dry rope to pull the body away. Failure to observe this rule can mean death or serious injury to anyone touching the victim.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Vibriosis Causes Cattle Infertility

If your cattle are infertile, they may have vibriosis, says Dr. Theunis Stegenga, chief inspector of artificial insemination and breeding diseases of cattle for the Netherlands.

Dr. Stegenga, speaking recently at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says this disease is transmitted to cows by infected bulls that may appear perfectly healthy. They bulls rarely recover by themselves.

You can suspect the disease if your cows do not become pregnant after mating. They may then return to heat after three to nine weeks. Cows that do become pregnant after mating the first or second time with a diseased bull will usually abort. Infected cows apparently recover after five or six months. They are then immune to vibriosis and will later bear normal calves.

If your cows abort, have your veterinarian send the aborted fetus to a laboratory for study.

Prevention is the best control for the disease. If you use artificial insemination, be sure the semen comes from disease-free animals. In buying new bulls for your herd, trace their complete breeding history. If their records show any irregularities, have the heifers they have served tested for vibriosis.

You can also test for the disease by artificially inseminating 10 or 12 fresh heifers. Keep accurate breeding records of your present herd to see whether its performance shows irregularities.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Award Sears Roebuck Scholarships to 24 Students

Twenty-four University of Illinois students have received Sears-Roebuck Foundation scholarships for the 1953-54 school year, according to an announcement by Assistant Dean C. D. Smith of the College of Agriculture.

Sophomore Roger D. Quinn, Mt. Sterling, was awarded a special scholarship of $250 as the outstanding student among last year's freshman award winners. Quinn completed his freshman year with a 4.44 grade-point average out of a possible 5.0.

Others receiving awards of $200 each are home economics students Leora L. Dixon, Batchtown; Marilyn H. Gamlin, Peoria; Janet E. Kuhlmeier, Dakota; and Vivian P. Peuckert, Glencoe.

Agriculture students receiving $100 or $200 are James B. Allen, Maunie; Leon E. Bonneur, Fulton; Robert W. Carlson, Neponset; Frederick E. Crang, Clinton; Gerald R. Dexter, Ullin; Lowell F. Hillen, Meppen; Vernon R. Johnson, Jr., Streator; Charles W. Larson, Princeton; Donald G. McNeely, Findlay; Donald W. Meyer, Watseka; Joseph J. Milnarow, Maple Park; Clarence I. Munie, Mascoutah; Melvin L. Noe, Jr., Aldin; Thomas V. Oliver, Chicago; Jesse L. Osthus, Ottawa; Gerald L. Page, Franklin Grove; Leon W. Phelps, Kaneville; Russell H. Snider, Dundas; Thomas R. Soderstrom, Oak Park; and Nelson V. Wood, Mt. Carmel.

The awards are made on the basis of high school scholarship, leadership and need for financial assistance to meet college expenses.

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11/3/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Deciding on a Cattle Feeding Program

Farmers who are trying to decide on a definite cattle feeding program for 1953-54 may want to look at the views of some old-time feeders. These men will tell you there are two ways to make money feeding cattle. One is to sell the finished cattle for more than you pay for the feeders. The other is to put on 100 pounds of gain for less than the selling price.

For the past couple of years, the few feeders who have made money are the ones who have put cheap gains on their cattle. That's the observation made by A. G. Mueller, agricultural economist at the University of Illinois, after studying the 14th Annual Feeder Cattle Report on farms in the Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Service.

In most cases the same thing will probably be true this year. That's why Mueller suggests carefully considering your skill in feeding, the outlook, available feed, labor, equipment and your financial situation before deciding on a definite cattle feeding program.

Mueller believes you can expect continued high consumer purchasing power and cattle marketings near 1953 levels during the coming year. Supplies of corn will be high, but supplies of roughage will be extremely variable. Cattle prices will probably range near 1953 levels, with normal seasonal changes.

The Farm Management Service records show that in 1951-52 cattle paid for their initial cost and most of their feed. However, preliminary records on cattle fed in 1952-53 indicate that cattle feeders

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will be able to pay for the cost of the cattle and only about half of the feed cost. This means that for the past two years these farmers have had no margin to pay for interest, labor, equipment costs or profits.

These low returns have offset much of the profit gained in feeding cattle in 1949 and 1950. Mueller says the regular cattle feeder should be able to absorb these losses as part of his long-time feeding business. But the "in-and-outer" and new feeders will probably suffer financial loss.

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National 4-H Achievement Day November 14

National 4-H Achievement Day is November 14. That's the day when Illinois will join with other states in saluting its 4-H members and their local leaders for the past year's accomplishments.

Throughout the state business and professional groups, farm organizations and other groups are helping to plan local events in which 4-H'ers will tell of their clubs' programs and accomplishments.

Members and their leaders will be recognized and honored. The 4-H theme of the year, "Working Together for World Understanding," will be highlighted in window displays, radio programs and other activities.

There are now over 2,016,000 boys and girls from the 48 states, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico who are members of 4-H Clubs in the United States. They are led by 223,918 men and women and 85,245 older youth now serving as local volunteer leaders. Illinois 4-H membership this year totaled 58,621 boys and girls.

During the past year 4-H Club members carried out projects in production and conservation of foods, feeds and fibers. They helped to make their homes more convenient and attractive and farming more efficient and profitable. They also improved their own health and cooperated in community activities to improve health conditions in and around the homes of their families and neighbors.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Dean of Agriculture Praises 4-H Club Work

There has never been a youth program the equal of 4-H Club work. That's the opinion R. R. Hudelson, dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois, gave today in a statement issued in conjunction with National 4-H Achievement Day November 14.

He based his judgment on the wholesome enthusiasms, steady retention of interest and formation of good habits and attitudes by members while in the 4-H program, and the lasting effects on personality and character after members have become adults.

Dean Hudelson also said:

"After almost 20 years of counseling young men and women who come from rural homes to enter the College of Agriculture for study in either agriculture or home economics, I am impressed with the almost universally high caliber of the young people who have been active in 4-H Club work. Rarely have we encountered a case of poor citizenship in the college community on the part of these young folk who have spent several years in the 4-H Club program.

"The reasons for these results seem obvious. The 4-H Club program provides constructive, interesting and wholesome experiences during the most formative period of youth development. It includes not only the social and recreational interests, which are important, but the adoption of projects which must be serviced day by day and which are undertaken because the young person is truly interested and accepts the responsibility freely. This results in good habits of work, with full appreciation of the place of work in personal and community life.

"That the American people have recognized the very high and constructive values in 4-H Club work is revealed in the long list of business, political and other group leaders who have accepted places on the board of directors of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club work. This list is impressive in the number and national standing of its members, and it is well known that leaders in every walk of life have placed their stamp of approval on the 4-H Club program."

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 1953

Corn-Picking Champs Make Good Safety Record

Contestants in both the recent Illinois and national corn-picking contests proved that a careful, efficient operator does a better job than the fellow who hurries and takes chances.

That's the word from the man in charge of judging and scoring the events, University of Illinois agricultural engineer Wendell Bowers. Only deductions for overtime took fewer points from the pickers than did safety violations. This means that the contestants, who could all be classed as "very safe" operators, had plenty of time to pick their corn and do it safely.

Most frequent safety violations were poor hitches, loose or floppy clothing and unsafe mounting or dismounting. Fenders not in place (on pull-type pickers) and lack of a handy first aid kit also took a few points from contestants.

The safety judging, according to Bowers, was very strict. One of the aims of the contest is to further safe picking practices, and every possible safety violation is checked to make sure there are no accidents during the event.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

Makeshift Electric Fence Controllers Dangerous

You may be harboring a dangerous killer on your farm if you're using an unapproved or homemade electric fence controller.

Frank Andrew, rural electrification specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, warns that only controllers that have passed tests by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or the Wisconsin Industrial Commission can be assumed safe.

Chief faults found in most homemade or cheaply manufactured fence controllers, according to Andrew, are too high amperage or current volume and lack of an interrupter. Many people think that it takes high voltage to kill. Actually, too much amperage over a period of time is as much a killer as high voltage.

If the amperage is too high, the muscles of a person or animal contacting the fence tend to contract, making the victim unable to let go. An interrupter stops the current flow long enough to permit anyone touching the wire to break away.

Andrew emphasizes the fact that low first cost is the only advantage of the homemade or unapproved fence controller. One accident involving livestock, or perhaps even a child, may more than offset the few dollars saved. Proper installation of an approved controller is the only safe method.

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11/10/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

University Tests Winter Beef Calf Rations

An excellent ration for wintering beef calves is corn silage made from high-yielding corn, supplemented with soybean oil meal and a free-choice mineral mix.

In a recent test at the University of Illinois, calves fed this ration gained 1.64 pounds daily over a 160-day feeding period at the cheap cost of $12.83 a hundred pounds.

High-protein corn silage, made from a special strain of corn, did not prove to be equal in feeding value to the regular corn silage plus a protein supplement. Adding an energy source to offset the energy in the soybean oil meal fed to the check lot failed to make up the difference.

In another experiment, legume-grass silage supplemented with a good source of energy, either as a preservative or as a supplement, proved to be a good wintering ration. Gains were economical. When corn was used as the energy supplement, home-grown feeds were used as the entire ration except for a simple salt-mineral supplement.

Calves receiving this home-grown gained 1.65 pounds daily over a 160-day feeding period at a cost of $14.05 per hundredweight.

A. L. Neumann, head of the beef division, who supervised these experiments, says the results of the tests showed that it's not necessary to spend money for a complete energy, mineral and vitamin supplement to add to legume-grass silage, whether or not it is made with a preservative.

He also says you can expect calves to eat more silage, with a resulting higher gain, if it is self-fed.

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11/10/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

Order Legume and Grass Seed Early

Even though legume and grass seeding time is still several months away, it isn't too early to order your supply of seed.

W. O. Scott, extension agronomist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says you'll first need to decide how much of each variety you're going to need.

Then you'll need to buy your seed where you can get the best price, because the cost will probably vary with the supply available to your dealer this year.

Illinois normally is a red clover exporter, Scott points out. This year drought conditions cut the supply short. However, there will probably be enough Kenland red clover all over the country for you to get all you need.

Supplies of Ranger and Buffalo alfalfa also appear to be plentiful, and there is a two-year supply of Ladino clover on hand. Ladino will be cheap, so you can plan to use plenty of it. The shortest legume supply will be lespedeza, where production this year is only about half of normal demand.

There will be plenty of alsike clover, but the supply of sweet clover, while adequate, will be of poor quality, Scott says. Better buy early while you can have a choice of quality.

The only bright spots in the grass seed picture are tall fescue and brome. Tall fescue price should drop because of the surplus. Total supplies of redtop will only be about one-third the normal demand this year, so you can plan to use tall fescue as a substitute. There will be enough timothy, sudan and orchard grass.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

Bronchitis Very Costly To Poultrymen

One dollar! That's what each chicken that gets infectious bronchitis is going to cost you in lost egg production, says Dr. J. O. Alberts of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Infected broilers lose weight, and laying hens reduce their egg production. Even after these hens recover, they will never return to high production of good quality eggs.

Dr. Alberts estimates that 50 to 60 percent of the chicken flocks in Illinois have been exposed to this highly contagious virus disease.

Once one of your birds picks up the disease, it may be only a matter of hours before the entire flock shows the symptoms. Although few chickens over four weeks of age die, they refuse to eat and appear run-down. Even after the chickens recover, the virus will hang around for three to four weeks, ready to attack any new birds you may bring in.

Since man is responsible for most of the spread of bronchitis, you must keep as much traffic out of your flock as possible and use sanitary equipment to help prevent the disease. There are as yet no drugs that will fight bronchitis.

For further information on the prevention of infectious bronchitis, you may get a free leaflet by writing to the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois.

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HA:mi
1/10/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

Dry Weather Pasture Tips

Rework and reseed one-fifth of your permanent pasture each year for high yields and insurance against dry-weather pasture headaches.

That's the advice of H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Cate says you cannot expect good production from pastures beyond about five years after they're seeded. You'll get best pasture production only as long as legumes remain in the mixture. As legumes decrease, production falls rapidly.

Reseeding one-fifth of your pasture annually will mean that you'll be going into dry years with relatively new seedings, says Cate. They'll provide better stands than the old permanent pastures, as well as produce more forage with spring rains and make more rapid recovery when the fall rains begin.

The new seedings each fall will also help get you through hard winters when roughage supplies run short by cutting a month or more off the barn feeding period. You can use winter grains seeded as a nurse crop for early spring pasture. If you don't need the grain for pasture, it'll provide a welcome cash crop.

Korean lespedeza has been a late summer and dry weather stand-by in southern Illinois pastures for years, observes Cate. However, it's only dominant in the pasture during the first year--the seedling year--and is practically nonexistent in older pastures. With new seedings going in annually, you'll have lespedeza to provide an excellent emergency crop if the season gets dry.

Finally, Cate has observed that farmers who have been hurt least by drought are the ones who follow a sound fertility program. If you reseed part of your pasture each year, you'll have a better chance to apply the necessary fertilizers for high production.

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DJB:mi
11/10/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 1953

See Enough Grain, But Protein Shortage in 1954

Total feed supplies in the United States for 1953-54 are moderately large, but conditions are poor in some regions due to the severe drought. Supplies of feed grains and other low-protein concentrates will be adequate during the 1953-54 feeding year, but there'll be a shortage of high-protein feeds.

These are conclusions of the Feed Survey Committee of the American Feed Manufacturers association, which met last week in Chicago. Two members of the committee are S. W. Terrill and L. J. Norton of the University of Illinois.

The committee says increased livestock and poultry production in prospect for the 1953-54 feeding year will call for more feed supplies. All classes of livestock are expected to increase except horses and mules.

There'll be more pigs farrowed in 1954; larger laying flocks; more farm chickens, commercial broilers and turkeys; and more cattle, but less drylot feeding.

Terrill and Norton report that some 132 million tons of grains and other concentrates are available for feeding livestock and poultry this year compared with 117 million tons actually fed during 1952-53. The grains, particularly corn, are relatively more plentiful than the high-protein feeds.

The 1953 production of feed grains is somewhat smaller than that of 1952, but the carry-over of corn this fall was unusually large. A large part of the carry-over was under loan or owned by the Commodity

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Credit Corporation. The 1953 corn crop is mostly of good quality, but the quality of the oats and barley is below that of a year ago.

The shortage of high-protein feeds is due to the smaller soybean crop. Supplies of oilseed meals, animal proteins and grain proteins (on a 40 percent protein basis) for feed this year are estimated to be about 13.8 million tons. During 1952-53, 14.0 million tons were fed.

The 1952 drought, which continued into 1953 and spread to other areas, has caused a continuation in the movement of beef cattle and sheep from drought areas to areas with more available feed supplies. It has also caused heavier feeding of concentrates in the drought areas because of the shortage of roughage and pasture. The full impact of the drought on feed use and livestock numbers is impossible to estimate at this time, according to Terrill and Norton.

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DJB:mi
11/10/53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

Bred Ewe Sale December 12

The annual bred ewe sale of the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association is scheduled for December 12 at the Stock Pavilion on the campus of the University of Illinois in Urbana.

U. S. Garrigus, animal science specialist at the University, says 74 ewes consigned by 35 different breeders will be sold at auction beginning at 1 p.m. All of the consignments will be in their pens by 9:30 a.m. for presale inspection.

There'll be nine different breeds represented in the sale. Hampshires lead the list in numbers with 16 scheduled to go on the block. They are followed closely by 15 Shropshires.

Other breeds to be sold include Cheviots, Corriedales, Dorsets, Oxfords, Rambouillets, Southdowns and Suffolks.

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DJB:mi
11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

Cornstalks, Soybean Straw Cut Down Soil Erosion

Leave cornstalks and soybean straw on top of the ground to stop large losses of soil and water from sloping fields.

Experimental work at the University of Illinois has shown that, on a 4 percent slope, plots covered with broken cornstalks lost only 193 pounds of soil in a 2-inch rain in one hour's time compared with a loss of 4,148 pounds of soil on a bare plot.

W. F. Purnell, extension soil conservationist at the University, says cornstalks and straw save soil by protecting it from the hammering and beating action of falling raindrops. They also help to hold back and slow down the runoff water and with it the movement of soil.

There's a lot of energy in falling raindrops. It has been estimated that the energy expended by a 1-inch rain on an acre of ground is equal to that required to plow 10 acres of land.

A soil in good condition has the fine particles clumped together in coarse granules. Such a soil can absorb water quickly because of the large openings between the granules. However, rain breaks unprotected granules into fine particles that clog the openings of the surface and seal it over. This decreases the rate at which water is absorbed, and there is more runoff with a resulting increase in erosion.

Corn pickers leave most of the stalks parallel to the row, with bare ground exposed between the rows. Purnell says rolling or dragging will break the stalks down and give the ground better coverage.

Cornstalk shredders chop the stalks and spread them on the surface of the soil, giving it almost complete protection against the beating action of the raindrops and resulting erosion.

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11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

Heating Systems May Be Fire Hazards

A roaring furnace fire to keep the house warm can put you out in the cold unless your chimney and heating system are in good condition.

Of the eight main preventable causes of farm fires listed by the Illinois Rural Safety Council, four concern heating systems. In the first place, many fires are started and people are injured when they use oil, kerosene or gasoline to start the fire. The safe way is to use crumpled paper and dry kindling or corncobs.

Once the fire is going, says University of Illinois Farm Safety Specialist Gordon McCleary, faulty smokepipes and chimneys can do their share in starting fires. Here are some tips on preventing fires from these causes:

1. Check your chimney, especially in the attic and at the roofline, for loose mortar and bricks. Make sure you have a spark-arresting screen on top of the chimney, especially if your roof isn't fireproof.

2. Make sure the stove or furnace smokepipe leading into the chimney is in good shape and is well supported. If it passes close to wood or other inflammable materials, wrap it with asbestos.

3. Installing an automatic draft control will keep the wind from drawing fire up the smokepipe. This control will also save fuel and lower smokepipe temperatures.

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HLM:mi
11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

New Virus Causes Sheep, Wool Losses

Scrapie has plagued many Illinois sheep flocks since it appeared this year, says Dr. C. C. Morrill of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

This contagious virus disease affects the sheep's nervous system. You may first notice it when the fleece loses its luster and hardens.

Scrapie causes a skin irritation, and sheep will injure their wool and skin by rubbing against posts to relieve the itching. Later they may develop a trotting, stiff-legged gait and a trembling bleat. Eventually they become partially paralyzed and die one to three months later.

At present there is no known treatment for scrapie. Livestock disease officials are anxious to detect any new cases to keep it from spreading to other flocks.

If any symptoms of scrapie appear in your flock, isolate the suspected animals and call your veterinarian. Once sheep get scrapie, or are exposed to it, about all you can do is sell them for slaughter to keep it from spreading.

Symptoms of scrapie may take a year or two to appear after the sheep have been exposed to the disease, but it may show up in your flock at any time of the year, Dr. Morrill warns.

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FHA:mi
11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

Set Farm and Home Week for February 1-4

Farm and Home Week at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture will be held from February 1 through 4, 1954.

This will be the 53rd time the College of Agriculture in Urbana has opened its doors to the people of the state to show off its laboratories, report its research and discuss the major problems that are involved in rural living.

Program Chairman W. D. Murphy of the State Extension Service staff reports that the theme of the 1954 Farm and Home Week program will be "Better Farming, Better Living." The four-day event will be similar to those of previous years except that there will not be an afternoon program on Thursday, February 4.

A nationally known speaker will address Farm and Home Week visitors at a general session meeting each day at 3 o'clock, Murphy says. From 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. each day, most of the departments of the college will hold special-interest meetings in classrooms and auditoriums.

There'll be entertainment as well as a serious side to the program. You'll be able to see the annual folk and square dance jamboree, the rural music and drama festival and the rural choruses in action.

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JKM:mi
11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

Provide Warm Water for Your Dairy Cows This Winter

It's cheaper to use coal or oil to heat water before your dairy cows drink it than to use expensive feeds to do the job after it's in their stomachs.

That's why L. R. Fryman, dairy science specialist at the University of Illinois, suggests checking your tank heater now to be sure it's in good working order before cold weather sets in.

He says you'll cut feed bills and produce more milk this winter by providing plenty of warm water for your cows in a place protected from cold winds.

Forcing dairy cows to drink cold water means that they'll have to use a good part of their feed as "fuel" to warm it. Cold water also slows up the digestive process in the stomach and may stop it altogether for a time when a large volume of cold water first enters the stomach.

Fryman recommends watering cows at least twice a day. They'll drink more water and produce as much as 10 percent more butterfat than if watered only once a day.

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11/18/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 1953

University Entries at International Livestock Exposition

The University of Illinois has entered 37 animals in the competition at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago November 28 through December 5.

Ten head of cattle, 26 sheep and one quarter horse will be exhibited by the University, which has shown several of the top prize winners at this show in past years.

Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn steers will be shown along with Southdown, Shropshire and Hampshire sheep. The horse entry, a quarter horse colt, is the first horse shown by the University in several years.

U. S. Garrigus, animal science specialist, says all of the entries have been bred and raised on the University farms and are used in regular judging and classwork.

Livestock and meats judging teams will also represent the University in the competition, and nine fleeces from sheep in the University flocks have been entered in the wool show.

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DJB:mi
11/18/53

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Make Barn Lighting Safe

A little time spent in relocating and modernizing light fixtures in your farm buildings may prevent thousands of dollars' worth of fire damage in the future.

Frank Andrew, University of Illinois rural electrification specialist, isn't advocating indirect lighting or individual lamps for each cow. But he does offer these tips for safer lighting in farm buildings:

1. Place light fixtures where they're not likely to be broken by livestock, fork handles or other equipment.

2. A dollar spent on a dustproof fixture for the haymow, grain bins or other dusty places can prevent future fires.

3. Don't mount lights straight out from a wall where the bulbs will catch cobwebs or can be used as hangers for clothes, drop cords, etc.

Andrew says there are two main styles of dustproof fixtures. One uses a mason jar to protect the bulb; the other has a heavy glass dome. The latter type is best if the light has to be located where it may be struck.

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GLM:mi
11/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Buy 1954 Fertilizers Now

Buy your 1954 fertilizers this fall. Doing so will mean you'll get full advantage of the benefits obtained by buying and spreading fertilizers during the off-season.

A. L. Lang, agronomist at the University of Illinois, says the returns from succeeding crops will be the same no matter when you apply the fertilizers. Forty years of research at the University have proved this to be true.

The big advantage in buying fertilizers now is the bargaining power it gives you with the dealers and spreaders. Lang points out that many dealers may be willing to sell at a cheaper rate in order to cut down on the heavy demand in the spring and also to give them more storage room.

Spreaders are relatively inactive now during the off-season and will usually be more willing to bargain.

There's a greater range of choice in plant food materials now, and you'll be able to get just what you want. Mixtures and single materials are more likely to be available. Such plant foods as rock phosphate, superphosphate, potash and nitrogen are usually cheaper alone than in mixed goods or blends.

Another advantage you'll get now is the chance to buy bulk materials rather than bagged goods. They are cheaper in bulk because you don't have to pay for the bags and labor.

And you can put the cost of the fertilizer on either your 1953 or 1954 tax bill by paying for it now or waiting and paying for it after the first of the year.

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DJB:mi
11/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Two IFYE Delegates Return to Illinois

Martha Prather, Urbana, and William Whitfield, Plainview, Illinois' two 1953 delegates in the summer phase of the International Farm Youth Exchange program, have returned home after six months in Europe.

Miss Prather visited in farm homes and worked with the farm families in several provinces in France this past summer. Whitfield spent his time abroad living and working on farms in Greece.

Under the IFYE program, farm young people from the United States serve as grass-roots ambassadors of good will and understanding among the free nations all over the earth by living with the farm people and sharing in their work. In exchange, farm youth from those countries come to the United States and live and work on farms here.

Young people from India, England, New Zealand, Luxemburg, France, Norway and Ireland have visited Illinois farms this summer.

Miss Prather and Whitfield met with the state IFYE committee on Friday, November 20, to go over their many colored slides and their experiences. Both of the delegates will be available to any group in the state for the next two months or so to give illustrated talks on their trips. Anyone interested in hearing the stories of these young people may contact E. I. Pilchard, 412 Mumford Hall, Urbana.

So far 11 Illinois young farm people have taken part in the exchange program since it started in 1949.

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RAJ:mi
11/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Fertility Program Helps Insure More Pasture in Dry Years

Pasture farmers hurt least by the drought during the past two summers have been those who followed a sound fertility program.

That's the observation of H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois.

He says high-fertility pastures in southern Illinois have had better stands to start with, have provided more forage in the spring when rains were sufficient, and have recovered more rapidly with fall rains.

Cate says a sound fertility program involves testing the soil and applying lime, phosphate and potash according to need. On pasture lands, including grasses and legumes, topdressing annually with at least 200 pounds of 0-20-20 or its equivalent usually provides adequate fertility that will insure greater animal gains and be a great help in drought years.

Parts of pastures at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station receive different fertility treatments. Last summer parts of a pasture that had been topdressed with phosphate and potash produced over a ton of dry matter per acre more than parts that had not been topdressed. That's enough forage to carry a cow for about two months longer.

Cate points out that this increase in production came when both parts of the pasture had had good initial treatment. The increase would have been even greater if it had been compared with pasture receiving no treatment at all.

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1/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Receive Trips to Chicago for Electrical Projects

Ten Illinois 4-H Club members are being awarded three-day trips to Chicago December 8, 9, and 10 by the Illinois Farm Electrification Council for excellence of their farm electric projects this year. Two winners have been selected from each extension district.

These trips are in addition to 38 cash awards presented by the council on a state-wide basis.

On the first day of the trip, the 4-H'ers will be guests of the Illinois Agricultural Association at a dinner. On the second day, they'll visit a generating plant, tour the city of Chicago and attend a dinner sponsored by Westinghouse. On the last day, they'll visit the Museum of Science and Industry.

Those receiving the trip are John C. Cisna, Gladstone, Henderson county; William R. Fullerton, Steeleville, Randolph county; Alan E. Holz, Varna, Marshall county; Robert A. Kohl, Matteson, Cook county; John C. McMunn, Villa Ridge, Pulaski county; Ray Ramsby, Durand, Winnebago county; Walter M. Ro, St. Elmo, Fayette county; Donald M. Schultz, Bismark, Vermilion county; Richard L. Vogler, Sciota, McDonough county; and Arden Weiss, Belleville, St. Clair county.

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DJB:mi
11/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Illinois National 4-H Award Winners Announced

Winners in the National 4-H Awards Programs have been announced, and five of the awards have come to Illinois.

Clarence Ropp, Normal, McLean county, was named a national winner in Alumni Recognition. This award is given for previous 4-H membership and a continuing interest in 4-H Club activities through the years.

Carole L. Harrison, Viola, Mercer county, received the National Recreation and Rural Arts Award.

Rodney G. Ohm, Grant Park, Kankakee county, was the top contestant for the National 4-H Dairy Achievement Award.

John G. Huftalin, Malta, DeKalb county, was named winner of the 4-H Tractor Maintenance Achievement Award.

Elaine Dederts, Ursa, Adams county, received the National 4-H Frozen Foods Award.

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DJB:mi
11/24/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 1953

Worm Sheep to Prevent Losses

You can save yourself time and money by getting rid of stomach and nodular worms in your sheep flock now, says Dr. N. D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Treat your bred ewes with phenothiazine now before they are well along in pregnancy. If you wait until the last month or so of pregnancy, ewes may abort because of rough handling, Dr. Levine warns.

If you get rid of parasites before you turn your flock out next spring, you won't have to worry about the young lambs picking up these pests while they are grazing.

You will also save money if you worm your feeder lambs. Wormy lambs cost you more by wasting valuable grain, and they may die of anemia.

Once the sheep are wormed, keep down the parasites by mixing one pound of phenothiazine with every ten pounds of salt you feed.

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Farm News

'ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 1953

Choose Tree Carefully for a Safer Christmas

You'll have a safer and more enjoyable Christmas if you choose your Yule tree carefully.

A tree that has been cut too long or stored in a warm place will lose its needles quickly, says University of Illinois extension forester Gordon Cunningham. Even more important, it's a fire hazard that can turn your Christmas into a tragedy

If possible, cut your own tree or buy it directly from the grower. Then keep it in a cool, shaded place out of the wind until you're ready to decorate it.

If you decide to buy a shipped-in tree, you can tell whether it's fresh by examining the needles. Those on a fresh tree are limber, not brittle. If the needles snap or shatter easily, the tree will not only lose its needles quickly, but will be a fire hazard once it's in a warm place.

Cunningham suggests putting the tree in a spot away from the drying heat of radiators, the fireplace or warm air registers. Be sure the tree holder has a good-sized water-container, and keep it filled. Make a new cut on the bottom of the tree, slicing the trunk at an angle. This will allow it to absorb more water.

Cunningham says fire retardants, such as ammonium sulphate or sodium silicate, may help to make a tree more resistant to fire, but they will not make it fireproof.

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GLM:mi
12/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 1953

Prevention Is Key to Leukosis Control

Keep chickens of different age groups separated from each other to hold down losses from leukosis, says Dr. L. E. Hanson of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois.

Leukosis is estimated to cause 40 percent of the deaths in Illinois flocks. It is a cancer-like disease that is believed to be caused by a virus. Three principal forms of leukosis may strike your chickens at different ages. In all cases chickens lose weight, egg production slows down or stops and the birds usually die.

One form, range or fowl paralysis, is usually found in birds from two to five months old. Cancer-like cells injure the wing and leg nerves, the birds become paralyzed.

Gray-eye, the second form, may appear when the birds reach early maturity. The eye appears gray in color and may bulge out. The pupil has an irregular shape.

Mature hens and pullets may be affected by the third form, called big liver disease, in which the liver and other organs become enlarged. Because there may be no visible symptoms of this form, healthy-appearing birds may just die suddenly.

Since there is no known treatment for leukosis, it is up to you to keep it out of your flocks. Get your eggs, young chicks and breeding stock from disease-free flocks. Raise chicks in clean houses and on clean ground, away from older birds. Keep down the lice and mites that help spread the disease.

If any of your chickens develop symptoms of leukosis, remove them from the flock to prevent the disease from spreading to healthy birds. Keep the flock's houses, feed and water clean.

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2/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 1953

Announce Speakers for Farm and Home Week

General session speakers were announced today for the Farm and Home Week, February 1 through 4, at the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois in Urbana.

Governor William G. Stratton will speak at the first general session on Monday afternoon. He is the 32nd governor of Illinois and is the youngest man to hold this post in 70 years.

He was elected to the United States Congress at the age of 26, being the youngest congressman ever elected from Illinois and the youngest member of the 77th Congress.

In 1947 he was chosen by the National Advertising Club of New York City as one of the top ten outstanding young men in the United States, and in 1948 he was chosen the outstanding young Republican in the country.

The Tuesday speaker will be George McLean of Tupelo, Mississippi. His subject will be "Building Leadership for Better Communities."

McLean is publisher and executive editor of the Tupelo Daily Journal. He is a leader in the Tupelo Community Development Council and former professor of sociology at Memphis State College, Memphis, Tennessee.

Wednesday's speaker will be Herrell DeGraff, professor of land economics at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He will speak on "Efficient Production Versus Overproduction."

DeGraff was appointed professor of land economics at Cornell University in 1947. On July 1, 1951, he became the first holder of the

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nnounce Speakers for Farm and Home Week - 2

ewly endowed H. E. Babcock professorship of food economics in the chool of Nutrition at Cornell.

He attended the International Conference of Agricultural conomists in England in 1947 on a travel fellowship from Cornell. In 949, while on leave from the university, DeGraff studied rural eco-omic conditions in Mexico on a special fellowship from the Rockefeller oundation.

JB:mi

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eed Dairy Calves High-Quality Hay

Feed only top-quality legume hay to your small dairy calves. you do, they'll eat more and grow faster.

K. E. Gardner, dairy science specialist at the University Illinois College of Agriculture, says leafy, fine-stemmed hay con-ins more minerals, vitamins and energy than lower grades.

There is little danger of scours from feeding high-quality y as long as calves are started on it. Then danger comes when they e switched from poor-quality, unpalatable hay to such leafy legumes second- or third-cutting alfalfa. Calves will then usually overeat d have digestive upsets.

If you run out of high-quality hay, Gardner recommends buy-g a new supply. There is no real substitute for it. Calves require ly a small amount, and the results are well worth the cost.

Moldy, weedy, stemmy hay has no place in the calf-feeding ogram.

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B:mi
/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 1953

Soil Conservation Program Increases Yields

Adopt a soil conservation program to increase yields and get more profits from your farm.

Seven-year average results on a large number of Illinois farms show that conservation practices increased corn yields 7 bushels per acre, soybean yields 2.7 bushels, oat yields 6.9 bushels, and wheat yields 3.4 bushels.

E. L. Sauer, Soil Conservation Service economist at the University of Illinois, says the practices responsible for the increases were contour cultivation, strip-cropping and terracing. They also reduced soil and water loss and generally reduced or did not increase farm operating costs.

Other conservation practices are also desirable and give favorable results.

Improved drainage makes possible more certain and higher crop yields and reduces operating costs.

Mulch farming, on soils subject to erosion, reduces erosion hazards, permits more intensive crop rotations, helps to maintain and increase soil organic matter and holds water in the soil.

Timely irrigation often pays off in higher yields and longer grazing seasons and makes it possible to grow specialized crops.

Grass waterways, spillways, flumes, dams, ponds, living fences and windbreaks all contribute to a complete conservation program when used with the proper rotations and adequate fertilizers.

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DJB:mi
12/1/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 1953

Dean Hudelson Receives 1953 Doane Award

Robert R. Hudelson, dean of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics, received the Doane Award for outstanding contributions to agriculture last week at the annual convention of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers in Chicago.

Dean Hudelson was presented an engraved bronze plaque inscribed with the following words: "To Robert R. Hudelson, 1953, in recognition of his many years of courageous, unselfish, and effective leadership in the field of agriculture and in appreciation of his many contributions, his integrity, and his fine Christian character."

The dean was named to his present position last March after serving as associate dean of the College of Agriculture since 1943. He first joined the University staff in 1925 as assistant professor of farm management extension.

He was born on a farm near Chambersburg, Pike county, Illinois, and graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. degree in 1912. He received his M.S. degree from the University of Missouri in 1915 and his Ph.D. degree at Illinois in 1939. He also attended Harvard University for one year.

Before joining the University of Illinois staff, Dean Hudelson taught agronomy and soils at the University of Missouri, served in the field artillery of the U. S. Army during World War I and worked as

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a farm manageer for the Doane Agricultural Service, St. Louis, from 1922 until 1925.

In 1949 he assisted in the Office of Military Government with the agricultural and food program in the American and British sectors of Germany. In 1951 he served as acting dean of the College of Commerce and Business Administration.

Dean Hudelson is an accredited member of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, a member of the American Farm Economic Association and a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Previous Doane Award winners are Dean Thomas P. Cooper of the University of Kentucky and D. Howard Doane, president of the Doane Agricultural Service. The award was established in Doane's honor and was presented to him last year by the selection committee, headed by Dr. Earl Butz of Purdue University.

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DJB:mi
12/1/53

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 1953

Winter Watering of Livestock

To get top results, provide an automatic water supply for your livestock. It will cut down on your chores and keep your profits from sinking because the animals are not getting enough water.

Animals need an ample supply of fresh, clean water to produce efficiently, says Frank Andrew, agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois.

Watering once or twice a day is not enough for profitable production. A dairy cow will drink 10 to 20 times a day when water is available. A hog likes to eat and then drink.

The easiest and best way to provide an automatic water supply is to install an automatically heated drinking waterer. You can get one from your local dealer. Andrew says there are several different makes on the market, so you'll have a good selection.

Install it according to the manufacturer's directions, and be sure it is well grounded. Andrews says that practically all cases of fire or other loss with this type of equipment is caused by carelessness--not by failure of the equipment.

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OJB:jr
12-9-53

Watch for Disorders at Calving Time - 2

Massaging the udder backwards and upwards sometimes help relieve this condition. Gardner also recommends light feeding of grain to reduce milk flow until the condition disappears. It will ordinarily take 2 to 3 weeks to correct itself.

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DJB:jr
12-9-53

Farmers Need Good Housekeeping in Barns

A lot of farm accidents could be prevented if farmers were as concerned about good housekeeping in their barns as their wives are about the appearance of their homes.

When it comes to preventing accidents, good housekeeping around the barn is probably more important than keeping the house spic and span. Gordon McCleary, farm safety specialist at the University of Illinois, advises farmers to take a little time right now to clean out the hazards around the barn to make winter chores safer.

If the alleyway or other work areas are cluttered with sacks of feed, stools, carts and other obstacles, find a safe, out-of-the-way place for them. Forks, scrapers and other barn-cleaning tools belong in a safe storage rack, not stuck up over beams.

You'll be using the ladder or stairs to the haymow more often now, so make sure all steps and rungs are sound and fastened well. If the ladder doesn't stick up well above the loft floor, build an extension.

Chances are that you could see a lot better if you cleaned the cobwebs and fly specks from light bulbs. If you're still short of light after cleaning the bulbs, have some extra lights put in. They'll save time and make your work easier and safer.

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GLM:jr
12-9-53

Hyperkeratosis Shows Gain in Illinois

Every year since the disease was first recognized in 1946, hyperkeratosis (X-disease) of cattle has been found on Illinois farms.

Last year 42 farms in this state reported cases of the disease. From 4 percent to 87 percent of the infected cattle on these farms died. Cattle raisers in the United States are expected to lose up to 20 million dollars' worth of cattle which will die or have to be destroyed this year as a result of hyperkeratosis.

Calves are most often affected, but cattle of all ages may get this disease, says Dr. R. P. Link of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. Even if calves recover, their growth may be stunted. Older cattle that recover generally show a loss in production and weight.

As yet there is no treatment for hyperkeratosis. It is caused by an unknown toxic substance that may be picked up in feed or by contact. It may be passed in the milk to young calves.

The disease agent has also been found in a wood preservative made from coal tar. Lubricating greases containing chlorinated naphthalenes also cause X-disease. Many companies are no longer putting these chemicals in their lubricants in an effort to cut down the disease.

Hyperkeratosis symptoms are very similar to those of cattle suffering from a vitamin A deficiency. Cows may have a runny nose, loss of appetite, diarrhea, loss of weight, red swollen areas in the mouth and on the muzzle and thickening and wrinkling of the skin on the neck and withers.

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Hyperkeratosis Shows Gain in Illinois - 2

Several cattlemen have treated their herds with large amounts of vitamin A. Use a nutritious feed and drugs obtained from your veterinarian to fight X-disease. Then find and get rid of the cause before hyperkeratosis strikes more of your animals.

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FHA:jr

University Experimenting With French Grape Varieties

Illinois grape growers may some day be able to grow fruit equal to that grown in California as a result of work being done at the University of Illinois.

H. C. Barrett, horticulturist at the University, says progress is being made with imported French varieties that show promise of being adapted to Illinois conditions.

The main hindrance to growing grapes in this state is the climate, which favors disease. Present varieties are usually affected by black rot or some form of mildew that usually lowers production in bad years. Low winter temperatures also require varieties to be extremely winter-hardy.

Barrett reports that several hundred French varieties are being used in the experiments. Desirable characteristics from each of them are being bred into new varieties that will be high producers, as well as disease resistant and winter-hardy.

These will be thoroughly tested and then released to commercial nurserymen for distribution to the public.

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DJB:jr
12-9-53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 1953

Ground Cobs Will Stretch the Beef Cow Winter Ration

You can use ground corncobs to replace part of the roughage for your beef cows this winter if you're short on hay or silage. Cobs will help keep the cows full, contented and quiet.

H. G. Russell, livestock specialist at the University of Illinois, says good results are obtained by feeding five pounds of good-quality hay per cow per day plus all the ground cobs she will eat. Supplement the cobs with a pound of ground corn and a pound of protein supplement per head daily.

The hay is important in providing necessary minerals and vitamins. Cobs alone are not an adequate ration.

Russell recommends grinding the cobs through a half-inch screen. As soon as you know how many cobs the cows will eat, you can put the corn and protein through the grinder and you won't have to add them later.

Feed a mineral mixture free choice. You may also want to sprinkle molasses over the cob mixture in the feed bunk. This will make the cobs more palatable, but it isn't absolutely necessary.

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DJB:jr
12-9-53

for weekliest

Farm News

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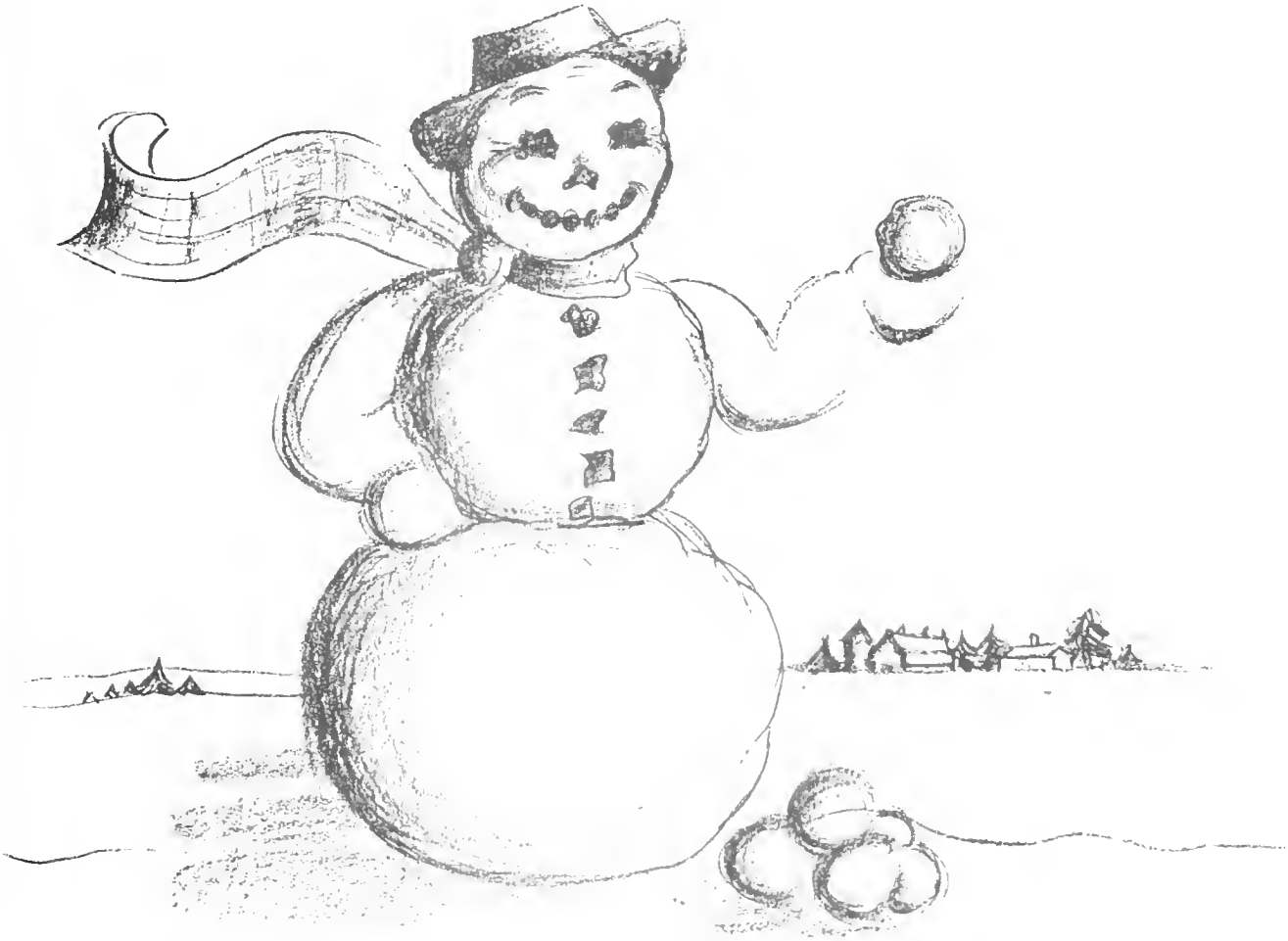

Merry Christmas

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 1953

Choose Christmas Lighting Carefully

Light up--but don't burn up--your home this Christmas. Choose your lights carefully and use them wisely.

Frank Andrew, farm electrification specialist at the University of Illinois, says your first concern when buying new Christmas lights should be whether they are approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories. If the lights have the seal of approval, it means that they have met certain safety standards.

There are other features the wise buyer looks for, too. Good-quality lights will have a fiber washer in the socket at the base of the bulb to prevent tinsel or other material from getting into the socket and causing a short circuit.

A clamp or clip on the sockets is a must for safety and convenience. Another improvement in light strings is individual fusing. A small fuse built into the plug does a better job of protecting the string. At the same time it prevents a short circuit in one string from blowing the branch circuit fuse.

If you're planning outdoor lighting, be sure to get lights that are designed for outdoor use because they are weatherproof. Although outdoor lights may be used inside, indoor lights should never be used outdoors.

Andrew also lists these things to check when using old strings of lights. Make sure all wires are firmly attached to the sockets. Inspect for cracked sockets. If wires are bare of insulation, repair the breaks or replace the string.

And here are a few final dont's to follow for safer Christmas lighting. Don't leave the lights on when there's no one at home. Don't put the tree next to the radiator or warm-air register. And don't use flammable decorations.

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GLM:mi
12/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 1953

Feeding Corncobs to Dairy Cattle

A dairy science specialist at the University of Illinois offers some suggestions on feeding corncobs to dairy cattle.

K. E. Harshbarger says cobs are a fair source of energy but they are almost worthless when it comes to supplying protein, minerals and vitamins.

If you feed cobs, you'll have to add high-priced supplements to make up the deficiencies. These supplements usually cost more than good legume hay.

Probably the best way to feed cobs to dairy cattle is in corn-and-cob meal. This method of feeding ground ear corn is in common use, and it saves the cost of shelling the corn before grinding. However, for high-producing cows Harshbarger suggests feeding ground shelled corn.

Yearling heifers can use some cobs in their rations. For every 3 pounds of cobs, add one extra pound of protein supplement (40 to 44 percent). Also add mineral and vitamin A supplements. Since good-quality legume hay promotes faster growth and may cost no more than cobs plus the necessary supplements, carefully consider the advantages and disadvantages before deciding to feed cobs.

Harshbarger emphasizes the fact that cobs have little or no place in the rations of dairy calves. They'll grow rapidly only on plenty of nutritious feed.

Probably the best use for cobs on dairy farms is as bedding. Ground cobs can be used in place of straw in either loose-housing or stanchion barns. However, if you're producing Grade A milk, it's advisable to check with the local milk inspector before using them.

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DJB:mi
12/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 1953

Take Care in Handling Wild Game

Use care when you handle, skin and dissect those rabbits you just brought in from the hunt, and you will probably not have to worry about getting "rabbit fever" (tularemia), says Dr. R. E. Witter of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Each year an average of 50 Illinois hunters, housewives and butchers get this disease. The germs enter the body through cuts, bruises or even the bare skin. Open sores often form at the place where the germs get in.

If you feel sick after handling rabbits and have a headache, chills, pains and a high fever, call your doctor at once. If you ignore these symptoms, you may be one of the 20 tularemia victims who die each year. Symptoms usually appear the first week after infected rabbits are handled. It may take anywhere from two weeks to a year to recover completely.

Although rabbit fever is most often spread by rabbits, it has been found in many other game animals and birds. It can also be spread by fleas, ticks, lice and deerflies that bite humans after feeding on infected animals.

Take these simple precautions and you will help cut down rabbit fever this year: Don't shoot or handle slow, sluggish rabbits. Wear gloves when you handle, skin and dissect all game. After handling, always wash your hands with plenty of soap and water. Cook all game thoroughly.

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FHA:mi
12/15/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 1953

B. & O. Conservation Contest Winners Announced

Three Illinois farmers have received special recognition for outstanding soil conservation work on their farms.

Winners of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad's soil conservation contest this year are Gilbert Fischer, Freeburg, St. Clair county; Carl McMillen, Rosamond, Christian county; and Kenneth Kesler, Champaign, Champaign county.

Kesler won first place rating among "beginner" entrants who started their conservation work after October 1, 1952. Included in the practices that brought him recognition was a surface drainage project that drained several wet spots and brought the wet land back into production.

Fischer and McMillen topped entries in the "experienced" class, who started conservation programs before October 1, 1952.

Fischer was singled out for his leadership in community activities as well as for a conservation program that included contour farming, establishment of grass waterways, construction of a farm pond, improvement of soil fertility and pastures and use of legumes and grass in crop rotations.

McMillen's conservation program included establishment of grass waterways and terraces, construction of surface drainage ditches and concrete spillways, soil testing and improvement and an improved family home.

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Each winner will be awarded a plaque or trophy by the railroad. Other entrants will received framed certificates recognizing their accomplishments in conservation projects.

Awards are made on the basis of proper land use in line with a well-organized farm plan, establishment of soil and water-saving practices in the plan, maintenance of applied practices, progress based on available resources and activities to spread conservation work in the community.

Contest judges were Leslie W. Heiser, superintendent of the division of soil conservation, state department of agriculture; Bruce B. Clark, state conservationist for Illinois, U. S. Soil Conservation Service; A. J. Proctor, agricultural agent, Baltimore and Ohio railroad; Archie McIntosh, assistant secretary, Illinois association of soil conservation districts; and Walker.

E. D. Walker, extension soil conservationist with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says the contest is aimed at helping to encourage more farmers to conserve natural resources on their farms through a sound soil, water and forest conservation program.

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JAM:mi
12/15/53

for weeklies

Farm News

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 1953

Illinois Foreign Exchange Delegates Nominated

Three Illinois young people have been nominated as delegates to the 1954 International Farm Youth Exchange program this summer. They are Joe Bicknell, Lovington; Carl Lester Birkner, Pinckneyville; and Martha Ruth Large, Owaneco.

Each nominee has a farm background and has participated in the activities of the 4-H Club, Rural Youth or Future Farmers of America organization.

The names and records of these young people have been submitted to the National 4-H Foundation, which makes the final selection of delegates and decides where they are to go after considering the backgrounds of individuals and the countries concerned.

If selected, these Illinois young people will live and work on farms in foreign countries next summer. At the same time the exchange plan will bring rural young people from foreign countries to the United States to live on our farms and learn about our farming methods and way of life.

The International Farm Youth Exchange was set up with the belief that understanding is the foundation of world peace. Through actual experience the project helps rural young people understand the problems and attitudes of people in other parts of the world.

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DJB:mi
12/22/53

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 1953

To Study Insect Problems at U. I. Sprayer School

Insects attacking 1954 farm crops will find the going tougher than it was last year.

The reason is that improved control methods will be brought into play to help stem any large-scale insect invasion during the next growing season.

Specific plans for combating a possibly major insect offensive will be outlined at the 6th Custom Spray Operators' Training School to be held at the University of Illinois January 21-22.

Attending will be custom spray operators, spray materials and equipment manufacturers, dealers and salesmen, farm managers, farmers, teachers and others interested in spray operations. Special meetings of the Illinois Aerial Applicators' Association and the Agricultural Spraying Association will be held on January 20.

H. B. Petty, entomologist with the Illinois College of Agriculture and State Natural History Survey, has released a list of top insect public enemies whose destruction is planned.

The list includes all of the damaging clover insects, spittlebugs, corn borers, chinch bugs, flies, corn earworms, white grubs, grasshoppers and various livestock pests.

Weeds will also share the public enemy spotlight along with insects. The sprayers will study methods of eradicating giant foxtail, Canada thistle, quack grass, brush and other troublesome plant pests.

Petty reports that the latest methods and equipment for applying liquid fertilizers will also be covered in the two-day meeting.

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JAM:mi
12/22/53

Declining Fruit Acreage in Illinois

The fruit grower who stays in business in Illinois will be the one who does an efficient job of growing fruit of the best varieties and who is able to find a good market for his products.

That's the opinion of R. A. Kelly, University of Illinois farm economist.

He says fruit acreage has been declining rapidly in Illinois during the past 30 years. However, it's probably at its lowest level now and should increase moderately in the next few years.

Here are some figures Kelly gives on small fruit production:

Between the peak year and 1950, commercial blackberry and dewberry acreage decreased from 3,500 acres to none; raspberry acreage from 2,300 to 425; strawberries from 7,800 to 2,000; and the number of grapevines dropped from more than two million to a little over 500,000.

Peak years have varied for the different fruits, Kelly points out.

A similar decline has occurred in commercial acreage of the larger fruits. We now have 750,000 apple trees compared with a high of nearly ten million. Peach trees have declined from four million to 750,000.

However, Kelly points out that fruit production hasn't dropped so rapidly as tree numbers. Since 1910 the orchard business has become much more commercialized than it was in earlier years.

Although apple trees have declined 92 percent, apple production is down only 50 percent. Peach tree numbers are down 81 percent, but production is off only 40 percent.

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Declining Fruit Acreage in Illinois - 2

Here are the reasons why Kelly thinks there'll be little or no increaase in fruit acreage in the future:

1. Many orchards are located on unfavorable sites.

2. Other crops are competing stiffly for the land.

3. Many orchards are growing unprofitable varieties of fruit.

4. Some growers do not find good markets.

5. Competition from fruit from outside the state is increasing.

6. Competition from other fruits, especially citrus fruits, is increasing.

7. The costsof fruit-growing are going up.

JKM:mi
12/22/53

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Oats Can Replace Corn in Beef Cattle Wintering Ration

Oats can replace corn and be fed along with a full feed of legume hay or legume silage as a wintering ration for beef cattle. However, you'll have to feed more oats, as they're not equal to corn in feed value.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois, says that, on a pound-for-pound basis, oats are worth about 90 percent as much as corn.

This means that it takes about two bushels of oats to equal a bushel of corn.

Carlisle says it's not necessary to grind oats for calves, but he recommends grinding them coarsely for yearlings or older cattle.

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DJB:mi
12/22/53

Winterize Your Electrical Equipment

Your electrical equipment needs to be winterized just as your automobile or tractor does. Getting equipment ready for the cold winter days ahead will mean smooth operation and prevent loss of time from breakdowns.

Frank Andrew, agricultural engineer at the University of Illinois, says many farmers believe electrical equipment is designed to run throughout the year without any special care. This is not true. Actually, electrical equipment is only mechanical equipment powered by electric motors.

Andrew suggests giving electric motors a thorough cleaning to remove all dirt and grease that has accumulated during the summer. Low temperatures cause this material to harden into a sludge that'll make motors hard to start and prevent smooth operation.

Replace heavy summer oil with a light winter grade, and use a light lubricant for all moving parts.

It's also a good idea to put a time-delay fuse in the circuit. Motors will be harder to start in cold weather even if they are winterized. This type of fuse will give the motor a fair chance to get started.

Andrew also suggests thoroughly cleaning all equipment that the motors run, such as pump jacks or milking machine pumps.

If possible, he says, keep equipment in a warm place or warm it before using it. You can't do it for all equipment, but you can probably do it for some, like the washing machine.

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DJB:mi
12/22/53

Fowl Pox Due to Make Appearance

Fowl pox is likely to hit your laying pullets during the late fall and winter, advises Dr. L. E. Hanson of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois.

This virus disease is spread by contact with diseased birds and through insect bites. There are two forms of fowl pox. Both usually develop more slowly than other virus respiratory diseases.

In the most common form, scabs appear on the wattles, comb and eyelids. The birds go out of production slowly. They may recover in three to four weeks, but some will still carry the disease and may spread it to healthy chickens.

Internal scabs form in the mouths and throats of birds affected by the more serious roup-like form of fowl pox. These scabs may eventually cut off the air supply, and the birds will suffocate. When the sinuses are involved, the chickens' eyes may also puff out.

There are no drugs to fight fowl pox once it hits your flock. Keep it out by cleaning your houses at the end of each laying season. Dispose of the entire old flock each year to get rid of carriers. Get new birds from disease-free flocks. Separate birds by age groups, and keep visitors out of the flock.

You can also protect your flock by vaccinating all healthy birds over 12 weeks of age with fowl pox vaccine. Do it at least one month before they begin to lay. If the disease appears in laying chickens, vaccinating with pigeon pox vaccine may help to clear it up, but be sure they have pox before vaccinating, Dr. Hanson warns.

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12/22/53