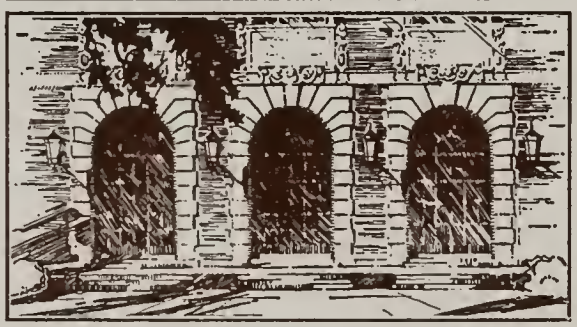

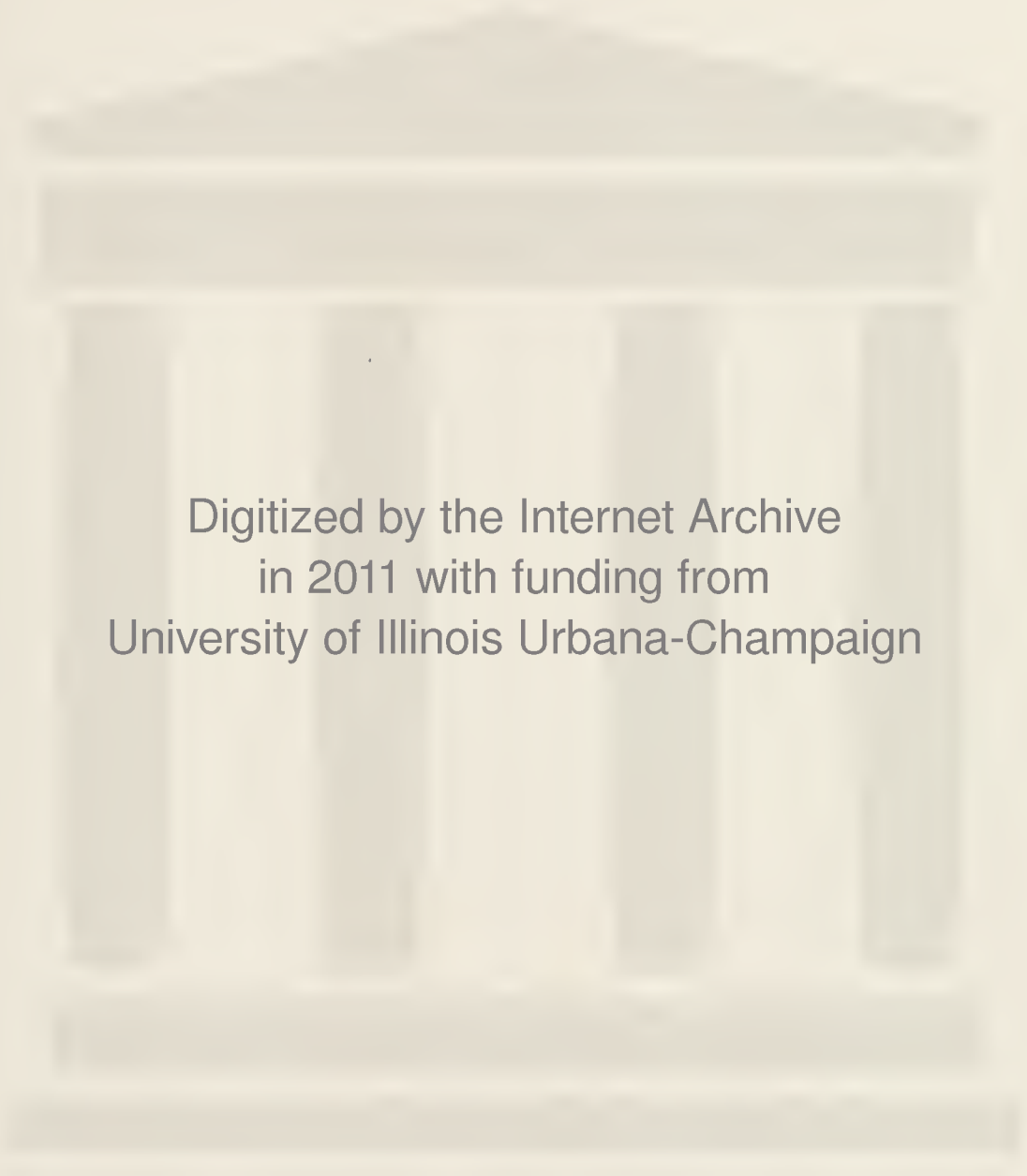

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 1960

Minimum Tillage Gains Followers

In a small way at least, minimum tillage seems to be catching on in Illinois. From 11 counties come reports that 10 to 25 percent of the farmers cut down on tillage this past season.

In 17 other counties, 2 to 6 percent of the farmers were reported to have used some form of minimum tillage in 1959, and returns from 36 counties indicate that less than 2 percent of those farmers tried it last season.

The reports are based on a survey sent to farm advisers by J. V. Baird, University of Illinois agronomist. Sixty-four counties have reported thus far.

The most popular method of minimum tillage, according to the survey, was plowing and then going over the land with a light tillage tool, such as a clod buster, rotary hoe or spike-tooth harrow before planting.

Another way that holds considerable promise is plowing and then planting, making only two trips across the field. Some farmers work four-row equipment into the minimum-tillage picture by going into a fall- or spring-plowed field with a four-row cultivator mounted on a tractor that pulls a four-row planter.

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RFH:mfb
12/28/59

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 1960

Another January Problem

When January comes, it's time to adjust your fair-weather driving habits to bad-weather conditions. Longer hours of darkness, frost-coated windshields, snow and ice, wet highways, temperature changes--these are problems every driver has to face in winter. Adjusting to the added hazards is especially important for all drivers, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois.

The Illinois Rural Safety Council recommends the following basic rules as musts for meeting the problems of winter driving:

Accept your responsibility--don't blame the weatherman. Be prepared to meet the situation.

Get the "feel" of the road--control your speed to meet conditions. You can't stop on an icy dime.

Keep your windshield clear--you have to see danger to avoid it.

Use tire chains and good tires--don't rely on worn-smooth tires. Tire chains definitely help on snow and ice, but extra caution is still a must.

Pump your brakes--a fast pumping action will stop you faster and safer on ice than any other method of braking.

Follow at a safe distance--give yourself plenty of room to stop.

And this added bit of advice to cover the situation generally: Ease up in a freeze-up!

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OLH:mfb
12/28/59
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 1960

Ag Short Course Offers "Taste" of College Life

College sports...top musical entertainment...dances...week-end dates...and of course long hours of studying.

Mix these ingredients together, and the product is a "taste" of college life offered to students attending the University of Illinois Winter Short Course in Agriculture.

Dates are February 8 to March 18, 1960.

This short course annually attracts nearly 100 students, comments Warren K. Wessels, short course director. Most of the students are young farmers interested in increasing their book knowledge of agriculture. But ages have ranged from 18 to 65 years, with a number of women included.

Costs for the six-week short course range from $190 to $230. This cost covers tuition, fees, books and supplies, housing and meals. It does not include travel costs, recreation or clothing.

Many short course students receive $100 scholarships offered by member banks of the Illinois Bankers Association and the Illinois FFA Foundation. For more information about these scholarships, boys should see their banker or vocational agriculture teacher.

Wessels explains that the courses count toward a short course certificate rather than toward a college degree. Students who transfer to the regular four-year program, however, can take proficiency tests. If they pass these tests, they will receive credit acceptable toward a degree in agriculture.

For information concerning the short course, contact your farm adviser. Or write to Short Course Supervisor, 104 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 11, 1960

Junior Dairy Calf Sale in Urbana February 27

The 12th annual 4-H and FFA Dairy Calf Sale will be held in Urbana Saturday, February 27.

Breed committees have already selected consignments of more than 100 purebred dairy calves for the sale, according to J. G. Cash, University of Illinois extension dairy specialist.

Consignment by breeds includes 25 Holstein, 20 Guernsey, 15 Jersey, 15 Brown Swiss and 10 Ayrshire calves.

Cash says breed representatives are anxious to provide the best possible calves for the sale. Many calves bought at these club sales are now high producers and foundation animals for several good Illinois herds.

As soon as catalogs are off the press, one copy will be sent to each vocational agriculture teacher and each county farm adviser in the state.

Only bona fide Illinois 4-H or FFA members are eligible to buy at the sale.

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HDN:mfb
1/6/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 11, 1960

Mastitis Treatment Depends Upon Farmer Judgment

Treatment alone cannot be expected to control mastitis in a dairy herd. However, treatment has a definite value when used along with good management practices in restoring the productive capacity of a mastitis-affected herd, say University of Illinois veterinarians.

Mastitis treatment presents special problems. The cow's udder is a highly complicated structure, including thousands of ducts and glands where bacteria may lodge. Successful treatment requires that every disease-producing agent in the udder be destroyed; otherwise the surviving germs will serve as a new infection source.

Complete sterilization of the complex udder structure is difficult even under the most favorable conditions. It may be impossible in advanced cases where the germs are strongly established. Nevertheless, proper treatment is necessary when bacteria find their way past preventive barriers and practices.

Treatment is usually most effective and least damaging when administered during the dry period. No quarter or udder in good milk flow should be subjected to treatment. Possible temporary or permanent udder damage often results in a loss in milk production.

A quarter in good milk flow is not suffering severely from mastitis regardless of the presence of mastitis bacteria, and treatment may be profitably delayed until the cow goes dry or production has substantially declined. The damaged or poor-producing quarter or quarters of a heavy milker should be treated without delay. Milk from treated quarters should not be sold for consumption for 72 hours.

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WDR:mfb
1/6/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 1960

Swine Day Dates Announced

Illinois hog producers can bring themselves up to date on new developments in swine research by attending the annual University of Illinois Swine Day March 3.

Farmers who cannot drive to Urbana for this meeting can attend one of seven Area Swine Days, points out Harry G. Russell, livestock extension specialist.

Here are the dates and locations of the area meetings: March 8, Mt. Vernon; March 9, Hillsboro; March 10, Pittsfield; March 11, Macomb; March 15, Cambridge; March 16, Milledgeville; March 17, DeKalb.

The Urbana program on March 3 begins at 8 a.m. with tours of the University swine farm, located on South First street in Champaign. Visiting hog producers can see facilities and research programs in progress.

The formal program begins at 10:30 a.m. in the University Auditorium.

Programs at the area meetings will begin at 9:30 or 10 a.m. All sessions will adjourn at 3 p.m.

Morning programs at the area meetings will be basically the same as the Urbana program.

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PAC:mfb
1/13/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 1960

Mineral Deficiencies in Young Sows Common at Farrowing

As winter farrowing gets under way, a potentially serious mineral deficiency in young sows again becomes common.

According to Dr. R. D. Hatch, University of Illinois veterinarian, the sow's additional mineral needs at farrowing are small but critical. Because they are small, these needs are often overlooked. He adds, however, that the additional mineral can easily be added to the normal ration in a general mineral supplement.

Several factors contribute to these increasing deficiency problems.

Selective breeding and new, high-energy feeds and methods of feeding have speeded up growth. Young sows generally have enough mineral content to support this growth. But sows are now bred to farrow for the first time at about ten months. Not too many years ago they did not deliver their first litter until the age of two or three years, after they were fully developed.

Early farrowing places an additional strain on a growing sow's system. Not only must the system provide for rapid growth, but it must also provide for bone development in the foetal pig and for milk production. In addition, a sow is now expected to farrow double the number of pigs ordinarily farrowed twenty years ago.

In addition to providing the critical minerals needed before and after farrowing, Dr. Hatch says a general mineral supplement will help to maintain the sow's mineral balance in farm areas where soils, and feed crops grown on these soils, are low in certain minerals.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 1960

Pathologists Work On Soil-Borne Diseases

The Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Illinois has turned some research attention toward control of soil-borne plant diseases. Right now these diseases cannot be controlled effectively or economically.

Root and stalk rots are the most common, reports pathologist M. B. Linn. Hardly any agronomic or horticultural crop is safe from this soil-borne fungus.

Several fungicides are being screened in the laboratory and greenhouse. The most promising will be tested for their effect on seedling growth and their movement and breakdown in the soil.

Terraclor, or a combination of this material and captan, looks good thus far for controlling white rot and pink root of onion. Work is now underway to develop practical field application methods.

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RFH:mfb
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 1960

Too Much Fertilizer Lowers Pine Survival Rates

Heavy fertilizer applications reduced the survival of pine seedlings planted at the Elizabethtown Soil Experiment Field in southern Illinois.

Survival and growth were excellent on the untreated plots, according to Bob Gilmore, forestry researcher at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Gilmore says poor survival on the fertilized plots may be the result of a rank growth of weeds that competed with the pines for light and moisture.

Lime treatment also slowed down the growth of pines. The lime plots have received a total of ten tons of lime an acre during the past 40 years. Complete results of the study will be published soon.

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1/13/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 1960

Management Determines Profit or Loss in Sheep Business

Few farm enterprises offer so great a chance for high profits or so great a risk of high losses as the sheep business.

The difference between success and failure, according to Don Walker, is management. The University of Illinois livestock extension specialist cited records of the 1959 sheep production project as proof.

The top one-third of the producers in the project realized a return of $32 for each ewe in their flocks. The low one-third grossed only $22.

Here are some characteristics of the top producers:

1. They like sheep.
2. Their ewes lamb early so that the lambs can hit the early market.
3. They control parasites.
4. They produce good pastures for their flocks.
5. They feed grain to ewes shortly before lambing and after lambing until pasturing. Then they creep-feed the lambs.
6. They dock and castrate the lambs.

Walker emphasizes the importance of early lambing and marketing. He points out that an 85-pound lamb in June is worth as much as a 100-pound lamb in September. It is also worth as much as a 105-pound lamb in October and a 120-pound lamb in November and December.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 1960

Anemia Is Winter Farrowing Threat

The relatively light farrowing planned for this winter can mean fewer marketable pigs if farmers do not take steps to prevent baby pig anemia. The quantities of iron and copper needed to prevent this condition are small but vital, according to Dr. R. D. Hatch, University of Illinois veterinarian.

Preventing anemia is both easy and cheap when measured against possible losses. The biggest, most active new-born stock is usually the most quickly affected. Although prompt treatment will save most affected animals, some may become permanently unthrifty. Even if only one baby pig becomes anemic, the entire litter should be treated.

Anemia can claim an entire litter. Once started, it kills suckling pigs so fast that it looks as if an infectious disease has swept through the litter. Therefore, says Dr. Hatch, the benefits from preventive measures far exceed the cost resulting from the small investment.

At one time it was thought that a few shovelfuls of dirt thrown into the pen would provide the necessary iron and copper. However, mineral preparations are often needed because the soils in some areas are low in iron and copper. In addition, suckling pigs may become parasitized when the soil contains large quantities of parasite eggs.

Suckling pigs are born with enough iron and copper to support red blood cell development for about ten days. The iron and copper then

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needs to be replenished. To meet this need and prevent anemia, the pigs should receive iron and copper preparations at five to seven days of age and again at ten to fourteen days.

Dr. Hatch suggests giving these preparations orally to avoid the possible undesirable effects of injection. Farmers who want to inject iron and copper preparations should consult their veterinarian concerning procedures and preparations or have the veterinarian treat the animals.

Two doses should do the job, says Dr. Hatch. Baby pigs begin to creep-feed at two to three weeks. They then get enough iron and copper in the feed to fulfill their iron and copper requirements.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE JANUARY 28, 1960

Weeds Steal One-Fourth of Corn and Soybean Crops

URBANA--Weeds left growing in corn and soybean rows can rob a farmer of one-fourth of his entire crop. That's what visitors here at the Illinois Custom Spray Operators' School were told today (Thursday).

In three years of research completed by E. L. Knake at the University of Illinois, giant foxtail left undisturbed in corn rows cut yields by almost 23 bushels an acre. Clean plots with no weeds produced 93.5 bushels an acre. Plots where weeds were left growing in the row yielded only 70.6 bushels.

Clean soybean plots produced 38.5 bushels. The most heavily weeded plots made only 27.6 bushels--a drop of almost 11 bushels.

A poor cultivation job that leaves part of the weeds in the row also causes serious yield losses. When only one giant foxtail per foot of row remained, corn yields dropped 7 bushels an acre; soybeans dropped 1.7 bushels. Three weeds per foot reduced corn yields 8.5 bushels an acre and soybean 2.3 bushels.

In these studies, cultural practices were similar to those used by farmers except that only the area between the rows was cultivated. The weeds were left growing in the rows and thinned to various stands.

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In 1959, a study of yield losses from pigweed was started. The first year's results showed that just one weed every inch in the row would cut corn yields by 26 bushels and soybean yields by 17 bushels. Further tests are being planned with broadleaf weeds.

Giant foxtail has become a more noticeable pest in Illinois corn fields in recent years, Knake reports. The effective use of 2,4-D to kill broadleaf weeds may have given giant foxtail, a grass weed, more favorable growing conditions.

New pre-emergence herbicides will effectively control giant foxtail. But they are much more expensive than the 2,4-D used for broadleaf weeds. The Illinois research shows, however, that a farmer can afford to spend $5 to $10 or more an acre for pre-emergence herbicides to get rid of giant foxtail.

The research also shows that adding fertilizer and letting the weeds grow is not the answer. Adding 240 pounds of nitrogen an acre on plots with both corn and weeds did step up yields from 80 to 100 bushels in 1958. But the nitrogen plots with no weeds produced 115 to 120 bushels.

But in 1958 rain was plentiful. In 1959, when it was dry, no corn yield increase with nitrogen was obtained as long as weeds were present.

Three years' tests with weeds lead the Illinois agronomists to conclude that the only good weeds are dead ones. Even when the number of weeds seems small, a farmer can invest quite a little time in cultivating and in weed control chemicals and get a good return on his investment.

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1/25/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rural Pastors and Lay Leaders to Meet at U. of I.

URBANA--Representatives of Illinois rural churches will meet for the 30th annual Rural Pastors and Lay Leaders Short Course February 1-3.

The meeting will be held at the University of Illinois, Urbana. Theme for the three-day session will be "Building the Kingdom--By Design--In Rural Life."

The short course will open with a dinner February 1 at the University YMCA. A panel discussion will follow on the subject, "Design for Determining What Direction the Community Is Going."

Members of 15 denominations will attend the short course devotional services, panel discussions and speeches. Participating on the various programs will be the following eight Illinois rural pastors: George H. Wilson, Monmouth; Glen Dunbar, Manhattan; Harold Flessner, Sheffield; Clifford Janssen, Petersburg; Harold J. Schliker, Manito; Russell Tomlinson, Athens; Esra R. Vornholt, Odell; and Arnold H. Kaitschuk, Campbell Hill.

U. of I. speakers will include A. T. Anderson, Irwin A. Cochrun, Scott Keyes, Chairman D. E. Lindstrom and Merle R. Sumption.

E. J. Niederfrank, extension sociologist with the U.S.D.A., will speak on February 3. He will discuss "Cooperation for Community Development."

Other speakers will include F. E. Rector, Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis; Calvin Schnuker, Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa; Reverend O. Weach, The Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri; and Reverend Charles T. Paulson, Norway Lutheran Church, Waterford, Wisconsin.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ag Short Course Enrollment Totals 60 So Far

URBANA--Enrollment for the University of Illinois winter short course in agriculture totals 60 so far, reports Warren Wessells, short course supervisor. The 1960 short course dates are February 8 to March 18.

The short course, sponsored by the College of Agriculture, offers a wide range of subjects. Included are courses in agricultural marketing, crop and livestock production, farm machinery and veterinary medicine.

Any interested person 18 years of age or older may attend. For more information, contact your county farm adviser, vocational agriculture teacher, or Wessells. Wessells' address is 104 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Registration closes February 8.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 1960

4-H and FFA Calf Sale Set For February 27

Illinois 4-H and FFA members in the market for top-quality calves for dairy projects can buy them at the 12th annual 4-H and FFA Club Sale in Urbana on February 27.

The sale starts at 11 a.m. in the University of Illinois stock pavilion.

The sale is sponsored by the Illinois Purebred Dairy Cattle Association to give 4-H'ers and FFA members a chance to get first-rate project stock at a fair price.

About 85 calves will be sold. They include the Holstein, Guernsey, Brown Swiss, Jersey and Ayrshire breeds.

Only bona fide Illinois 4-H and FFA members are eligible to buy calves. However, if the member cannot attend, he may designate another person to buy an animal for him.

All purchasers must certify that the calves will be used only for 4-H or FFA dairy projects. For sale catalogs, write to J. G. Cash, Department of Dairy Science, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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HDN:mfb
1/27/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 1960

Minimum Tillage Saves Time, Soil, Money and Moisture

Minimum tillage saves gas, time and machinery costs. But, perhaps more important, it means less soil and water losses.

These are the benefits found in research at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station in southern Illinois.

Lee Gard reports that last year wheel-track planting saved 3 to 4 inches of rainfall and reduced soil losses by several thousand pounds on each acre.

Corn was planted on both 5 and 9 percent slopes. Both the minimum-tillage wheel-track system and conventional methods were used. Yields were about the same with the two methods.

Since 1959 was a wet growing season, the conventional seedbed on the 9 percent slope lost about one-fifth of the rainfall and nearly 8 tons of soil an acre. With the minimum-tillage system, only one-tenth of the rain ran off and less than 1 1/2 tons of soil washed away.

On the 5 percent slope, less than one inch of water and 300 pounds of soil were lost with minimum tillage. But with the conventional method over four inches of water and two tons of soil were lost.

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HAC:HDG:mfb
1/27/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 1960

Be Careful With Heat Lamps

O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, has some good advice for using heat lamps in brooding pigs.

Get safe, properly designed fixtures, and then install them right. Whether you buy the fixtures or make them yourself, they should have these features:

1. The lamp should be protected by a canopy or shield.

2. The fixture should hang from a separate chain or wire, with no strain on the electric cord.

3. It should have a switchless porcelain receptacle.

4. The cord should be resistant to moisture and high temperature. (Asbestos insulated cord with rubber or neoprene covering is satisfactory.)

In installing the lamps, protect the lamp unit from the sow by a sturdy barrier. The face of the lamp should be at least 18 inches from the bedding. If the fixture hangs in the open pen, it should clear the standing sow by at least six inches.

Place the outlets so that no lamp cord will be longer than six feet. Use at least No. 12 (preferably No. 10 or 8) wire to serve outlets. Then protect the circuits with 20-ampere fuses. No more than seven 250-watt lamps should be connected to any one circuit.

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OLH:mfb
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, 1960

New Paper Mulch Looks Good at U. of I.

A new paper mulch may soon help home gardeners and commercial vegetable growers control their common enemy: weeds.

Tested during the past two summers by University of Illinois researchers, this improved kraft paper mulch did an excellent job of stifling weeds. Yields increased as a result.

These studies are reported by horticulturists Norman F. Oebker and J. Wilson Courter in the current issue of ILLINOIS RESEARCH.

They point out that paper mulches are not new. For the first time, however, the improved kraft paper contains a fungicide that keeps the paper from breaking down before the growing season ends. Previously this was paper mulching's biggest drawback.

Oebker and Courter tested the paper on cucumbers to see how it performed under Illinois conditions. For comparison, plastic-mulched and ordinary cultivated plots were included in the experiment.

Results showed that in both years all mulched plots significantly outyielded the cultivated plots. In 1958 the paper-mulched plots yielded 29 more bushels an acre than the plastic-mulched plots.

The reverse was true in 1959. Yields averaged 15 more bushels an acre from the "plastic" plots than from the "paper" plots.

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PAC:mfb
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 1960

Lower Quality Eggs Invite Outside Competition

Illinois egg producers who cut costs by producing lower quality eggs invite outside competition.

S. F. Ridlen, University of Illinois extension poultry specialist, admits that the margin for high-quality eggs has narrowed. But it's still there. Consumers demand and can get top-quality eggs. So producing anything but the best invites egg producers from other areas to move in.

Ridlen firmly believes that Illinois egg producers can successfully compete in the highly competitive egg industry. But to do so, they should reduce production costs as the first step. Using well-bred chicks, raising them economically, maintaining high production, lowering feed costs, getting good feed conversion and using labor efficiently all help to lower total costs.

Keeping records is another way. Records reveal expensive practices or faults that should be corrected.

Although producers can do little to change egg prices, they can strengthen their marketing position. How? Consumers want uniformly good-quality eggs. They want eggs with identical yolk color in the same carton. To maintain quality, Ridlen advises producing clean eggs, gathering them frequently and cooling immediately.

To help get top prices, producers should market 95 percent or more Grade A or AA eggs.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 1960

12th Annual 4-H and FFA Dairy Calf Sale at U. of I. February 27

Early consignments and intense interest shown by breeders indicate that the 12th annual 4-H and FFA Dairy Calf Sale will be one of the best of the series, says J. G. Cash, University of Illinois dairy specialist.

About 85 top-quality calves from Holstein, Guernsey, Brown Swiss, Jersey and Ayrshire breeds will be sold at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, February 27, at the College of Agriculture's stock pavilion.

This sale is unique in many ways. So far as is known, it was one of the first of its kind in the country. Also, the entire sales force donate their services so consignors won't have to pay a charge for selling.

Cash says breed representatives are eager to provide the best possible calves for the sale. Many calves bought at previous club sales are now high producers and foundation animals in several good Illinois herds.

Purchasers must all be bona fide Illinois 4-H and FFA members. If a member can't attend, he may have another person buy for him. But he must certify that the calf will be used for club projects.

For sale catalogs, write to J. G. Cash, Department of Dairy Science, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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HDN:mfb
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 1960

Labels Make Good Reading

Labels are recommended reading for persons who use chemicals for disease, insect and weed control. The authoritative lowdown on how an agricultural chemical should be used is right there on the can wrapper, says Dwight Powell, University of Illinois plant pathologist.

On strawberries, for example, some fungicides cannot be applied after the fruit has formed, and the labels say so.

Other fungicides can be applied on maturing strawberries, but only up until so many days before harvest, and the labels say so.

What the labels don't say is that it can cost a chemical company up to one million dollars to prepare these materials. Exhaustive research runs up the bill. Powell explains that before chemicals are released the companies must submit documented evidence to the USDA that their claims are justified and that, when used as designated, the chemicals meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration. Such claims and directions are then cleared to be used in a registered label.

One of the major exhibits at the 1960 University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival March 31 and April 1 and 2 will feature "Chemistry in Agriculture." It will show the important contribution chemicals make in modern-day farming.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 29, 1960

Farmer Needs $12,500 Gross Income to Net Good Family Living

The farmer who wants to have $5,000 in net earnings for family living must now plan on a gross income of around $12,500.

D. F. Wilken, University of Illinois farm management specialist, reports that the gross figure has climbed steadily in recent years as costs have taken a greater part of total farm receipts. He figures gross income as total receipts less purchased feed and livestock.

From 1947 to 1949 a farmer could earn $5,000 for family living with about $7,700 gross income. By 1950-53, about $9,100 was required.

As a general guide, farmers should plan on a gross income about two to two-and-one-half times as large as the net income needed for family living, income taxes, interest, debt payment and savings, Wilken points out.

These findings are part of the exhibit to be shown at the 1960 University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival March 31 to April 2. This year's festival features 10 exhibit stories showing opportunities for better farming and better living, a speaking program on timely topics, the Town and Country Art Show and other special features.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 29, 1960

Alfalfa Blends Hard to Evaluate

It's hard to predict the performance of alfalfa blends.

The degree of success depends on the average performance of all varieties used in the mixture. To get some idea, farmers would have to average up such features as yield, winter hardiness and disease resistance.

C. N. Hittle, University of Illinois agronomist, explains that the Department of Agronomy cannot supply performance data because blends often vary in seed origin from one lot to another. Performance would not be consistent.

Hittle feels that varieties, unblended and certified, are superior to combinations that include seed with obscure histories. Recommended varieties, such as Buffalo, Atlantic, DuPuits, Ranger and Vernal, are backed up by performance trials proving them fit for Illinois conditions. Hittle stresses that promising new-comers, such as Intercross 300, Intercross 200, Cody and FD-100, are not blends--they are name varieties.

In Illinois the main things to consider in choosing varieties are yield and winter hardiness. Wilt resistance is also important for alfalfa that will be maintained more than two years.

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RFH:mfb
2/24/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 29, 1960

Wool Pools Offer Chance for Higher Wool Prices

Two May "wool pools" will offer Illinois sheepmen a chance to get higher than average prices for their wool.

Farmers shearing sheep now may profit by storing the wool and selling it through a "pool."

The pools will be held in Peoria and at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, Robbs, reports T. R. Greathouse, University of Illinois extension livestock specialist. Dates for the Peoria pool are May 16-19. Dixon Springs dates are May 9-11.

Wool sold through Peoria's first pool in 1959 brought an average price of 43 cents a pound. Local buyers had offered about 10 cents a pound less. Dixon Springs wool sold for an average of 42 cents a pound.

Greathouse explains that a large volume of wool, completely sorted and graded, attracts higher bids than an individual farmer can get.

Wool pools also have an educational advantage to farmers. By seeing their wool sorted and graded, they can learn why it receives a certain grade.

County agricultural extension personnel organize and conduct the pools. Only three counties supported the Peoria pool last year, but 15 or more may pitch in and help this year. Sheep producers in any county supporting one of the pools may sell their wool through the pool.

Serving as chairman of the Peoria pool is George Perisho, Peoria county farm adviser. Chairman of the Dixon Springs pool is J. M. Lewis, acting superintendent of the experiment station.

-30-

PAC:mfb
2/24/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 1960

Speaking Program to Spotlight "Chemicals in Agriculture"

The University of Illinois' Farm and Home Festival will focus its spotlight Friday, April 1, on one of the most publicized topics in recent months, "Chemicals in Agriculture."

Four top speakers will examine four different phases of this subject: (1) Justification of Chemicals in Food Production, (2) The Safety of Chemicals in Food Production, (3) Legal Control of Chemicals, and (4) Effect of Chemicals on the Consumer's Health."

The speakers are George C. Decker, Illinois Natural History Survey; Thomas Jukes, American Cyanamid Company; Dr. Paul Day, Federal Food and Drug Administration; and Mark H. Lepper, head, Department of Preventive Medicine, U. of I. College of Medicine, Chicago.

Speakers will discuss more than 20 other topics during the three-day Festival speaking program. For example, on Thursday, March 31, a trio of national farm leaders will examine "Ways to Improve Farm Family Income."

These men are Kenneth Hood, assistant secretary, American Farm Bureau Federation; James Patton, president, National Farmers Union; and Dorsey Kirk, worthy overseer, National Grange.

Several other speaking program topics include (1) a portable flower garden, (2) current developments in livestock marketing and livestock health, (3) families and their food habits, (4) corn, swine and cattle performance testing results, (5) home furnishings and (6) atomic energy in the service of agriculture.

Dates for the Festival are March 31 - April 2. It will be held on the U. of I. Urbana campus. All interested persons are invited to attend.

-30-

PAC:mfb
3/2/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 1960

Too Much Fat on Beef Cows Not Recommended

Farmers with commercial beef herds can't afford to maintain a beef cow in high flesh.

Jack Lewis, acting superintendent of the Dixon Springs Experiment Station in southern Illinois, points out that fattening takes two and one-fourth times as much energy as growth does.

Purebred breeders, however, may use the extra flesh on the cows to help sell breeding stock.

-30-

High-Roughage Pelleted Rations Work Well

Dixon Springs Experiment Station tests show that cattle receiving pelleted rations containing 40 percent roughage and 60 percent concentrate performed as well as cattle getting a ration of 20 percent roughage and 80 percent concentrate.

George Cmarik, station research worker, reported these results at the recent Cattle Growers Days. Operated by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, the Dixon Springs station is located near Robbs.

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3/2/60

Lean Fat on Beef Does Not Recommend

Farmers with commercial beef herds can't afford to maintain
[illegible] cow in high flesh.

Beef Cattle, acting superintendent of the Dixon Springs Experi-
[illegible]station in southern Illinois, points out that fattening these cows
[illegible]to-fourth times as much energy as growth does.

Purebred breeders, however, may use the extra flesh on the
[illegible] to help sell breeding stock.

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Springs Testing Fights Mail

Dixon Springs Experiment Station tests show that cattle
[illegible]ing pelleted rations containing 40 percent roughage and 60 per-
[illegible]concentrate performed as well as cattle getting a ration of 30
[illegible]t roughage and 70 percent concentrate.

Georgia Cundy, station research worker, recommend these re-
[illegible]at the recent cattle growers days. Operated by the University
[illegible]inois College of Agriculture, the Dixon Springs station in
[illegible]d near Robbs.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 1960

High Feeder Prices Cut 1959 Cattle Feeding Returns

High feeder cattle prices dropped 1959 feeding returns sharply below 1958 for Illinois farmers.

In the 21st annual feeder cattle report issued this week, University of Illinois agricultural economist A. G. Mueller reports that feeder cattle prices were $6.50 to $9 a hundred pounds higher in the fall of 1958 than a year earlier. But when farmers sold their fat cattle they received only $.50 to $1.50 more.

As a result, the returns above feed costs on long-fed steer calves dropped from $52 to $17 a head. Long-fed yearling steer returns dropped from $43 to $22. Short-fed steers returned $26 a head above feed costs compared with about $50 the year before.

The returns above feed costs are what a farmer has left to pay for his labor, management, interest on his investment and depreciation on buildings and equipment.

Feeding returns on the long-fed systems were the lowest in the past five years, Mueller reports. The short-fed feeding programs were also lower than 1958, but above the five-year average. Short-fed cattle benefited from the higher prices during April and May.

Feeding margins, the difference between cost of gain and selling price, were the most favorable part of the 1959 feeding picture. Farmers sold their cattle for $7 to $9 a hundred pounds above feed costs. But much of this margin was offset by the loss between high prices paid for feeders and the selling cost of fat cattle, Mueller explains.

The 1959 figures also predict slim profits, if any, from cattle marketed in 1960. Feeder prices were not much lower last fall than in 1958. Fat cattle prices are now $1 to $2 a hundred below last year.

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HDG:mfb
3/2/60

Feeder Steers Cut 1953 Cattle Feeding Returns

High feeder cattle prices occupy less feeding returns, mostly
958 for Illinois farmers.

In the 21st annual feeder cattle report issued this week,
ity of Illinois agricultural economist R. E. Wheeler presents
feeder cattle prices were $6.50 to $9 a hundred pounds higher in
l of 1953 than a year earlier. But when farmers sold their fat
they received only $1.50 to $1.50 more.

As a result, the returns above feed costs on long-fed steer
dropped from $19 to $17 a head. Long-fed yearling steer returns
from $12 to $22. Short-fed steers returned $16 a head above
ts compared with about $20 the year before.

The returns above feed costs are what a farmer has left to
his labor, management, interest on his investment and depreciation
buildings and equipment.

Feeding returns on the long-fed systems were the lowest in
t five years, Wheeler reports. The short-fed feeding programs
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penefited from the higher prices during April and May.

Feeding margins, the difference between cost of gain and sell-
ng, were the most favorable part of the long feeding picture.
sold their cattle for $7 to $9 a hundred pounds above feed costs.
n of this margin was offset by the loss between buying prices
ders and the selling cost of fat cattle. Shelter conditions.

The 1955 figures also support this practice, it says. The
marketed in 1950. Feeder prices were not much lower last fall
1950. Fat cattle prices are now $1 to $2 a hundred below last

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 14, 1960

Home Improvement Exhibit Featured at Farm and Home Festival

Home owners looking for practical home improvement ideas will profit from a visit to the 1960 University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival March 31 and April 1-2.

A special contest exhibit will feature some of the best home improvement ideas adopted by Illinois home owners during the past year, according to U. of I. housing specialists Keith Hinchcliff and Catherine Sullivan.

Hinchcliff says anyone who has made any kind of home improvement still has time to enter the contest if he hurries. Just paste a snapshot of the improvement to an 8 1/2" by 11" sheet of paper.

Also enclose a "before" picture if one is available, and write fifty words or less telling why the improvement was made and its importance to the home.

Send entries to Keith Hinchcliff, farm housing specialist, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.

Hinchcliff says the home improvement exhibit, which will be located in the Agricultural Engineering building, has been a popular festival attraction during the past three years. It gives home owners a chance to exchange valuable home improvement ideas for better family living.

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HDN:mfb
3/9/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 14, 1960

Lambs On Pelleted Feed Turn In Better Performance

Tests at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station show that lambs fed a pelleted ration turned in a better performance than lambs fed the same rations in meal form.

The two test rations were grain sorghum and hay, and corn and hay. Research workers self-fed each ration as 50 percent concentrate and 50 percent hay mixture. Both rations were fed in meal and pellet forms.

Lambs on both pelleted rations gained faster, graded higher and required less feed per pound of gain than lambs receiving meal.

Between the two rations, however, there was no difference in rate of gain or feed efficiency.

-30-

Early Weaning Gives Faster Gains

Weaning lambs at 50 to 60 days of age paid off with much faster gains in a University of Illinois test at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

During the first month after weaning, these lambs did not gain so well as unweaned lambs. But after that they more than made up the difference with much faster gains.

The early-weaned lambs were fed both in drylot and on pasture.

-30-

Gleaning Cornfields Pays Off

Using lambs to glean cornfields before and after harvest can bring a farmer an extra $14 to $36 an acre, reports a University of Illinois lamb research worker.

-30-

HAC:PAC:mfh
3/9/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 14, 1960

Students Invited to UI Ag Student Guest Day

High school students planning to enter the University of Illinois College of Agriculture next fall can get a lot of their "college questions" answered Saturday, April 2.

On this date the College will present its annual Agricultural Student Guest Day program. Prospective college students can learn all about admissions, costs, scholarships, housing and campus activities.

In addition, they can attend special sessions on the many different careers offered in agriculture.

Assistant Dean C. D. Smith reports that the program begins with registration at 9 a.m. in Gregory Hall. All junior and senior high school students are invited to attend.

The Ag Student Guest Day program is planned as part of the College's Farm and Home Festival. The Guest Day program winds up at noon, so students have all afternoon to tour Festival exhibits.

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PAC:mfb
3/9/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 1960

Illinois Soil Testing Program Explained
at Farm and Home Festival

Illinois' booming soil testing program receives well-deserved recognition at the University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival in Urbana March 31 and April 1-2.

A Department of Agronomy exhibit points up these facts about the state's soil testing program:

1. Illinois pioneered in soil testing and has been a leader in the field since the beginning.

2. The state claims 126 soil testing laboratories. This includes 80 county and 46 commercial laboratories.

3. A study of U. S. soil testing programs shows that Illinois leads all other states by a comfortable margin. In 1957, Illinois farmers tested 662,000 soil samples. Wisconsin was next with 175,000.

This extensive soil testing program has helped make Illinois one of the most productive areas in the country, explains Jack Baird, U. of I. agronomist in charge of the exhibit.

Baird says soil testing has often, by actual yield increases, 'proved to be one of the soundest approaches to good farm management available to the modern farmer."

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IDN:mfb
3/16/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 1960

Fescue Can Make Good Summer Grazing

Favorable rainfall and good management can produce good grazing from fescue during the summer months even though this crop is at its best for early spring, late fall and winter grazing.

Research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station have tested summer fescue pastures. They report 370 to 410 pounds of gain an acre in 90 days of grazing from May through early September in 1958.

But these pastures were drilled with 25 pounds of seed an acre and were heavily fertilized to produce a vigorous stand. Thick stands, closely grazed, remained finer leafed and seemed more appealing to grazing animals.

The forage was grazed heavily. Fifteen beef cows and calves were run on each 10-acre pasture for about two months. Then they were taken off for a month and put back on for a month. This system kept the grass from getting too mature and woody.

Research workers recommend creep-feeding calves on fescue pastures.

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HDG:mfb
3/16/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 1960

Check Woody Shrubs For Rodent Damage

Heavy snows are forcing mice and rabbits to turn to woody shrubs and small trees as a food supply.

These hungry rodents gnaw on the bark and can seriously damage shrubs, warns a University of Illinois extension fruit crops specialist.

Homeowners should look above the snow surface for rabbit damage. Look below for mice damage. Paint wounds immediately with tree wound paint. This helps the tree or shrub to recover much faster.

Screens or heavy aluminum foil wrapped around the trunk will help to protect shrubs and trees from rodent damage. Rabbit repellents and poison bait may also help.

-30-

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 1960

Sheep Flocks Can Help Increase Farm Income

Sheep flocks offer farmers a chance to increase their total farm income at less expense than buying cattle or hogs.

To be economical, however, a sheep flock must have at least 50 ewes and two good rams. Many Illinois farmers could justify establishing a flock, says E. E. Hatfield, University of Illinois animal scientist.

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NO

About Saving the College Degree

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 1960

Note to Editors:

Next week's Farm and Home Festival will be the biggest event of the year for the Colleges of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. Thousands of Illinois citizens will view the teaching, research and extension programs of the two colleges.

We hope you also will have time to visit the Festival and get acquainted with the colleges' staffs. We will set up Press Headquarters in the Visual Aids Building, just east of the Agricultural Engineering Building. We'll have hot coffee and a packet of stories for your use.

We hope to see you there.

Hadley Read

Hadley Read
Extension Editor

Farm Operator's Investment Averages Over $15,000

Young men who want to start farming need about $15,000 capital to do an efficient farming job.

If they don't have this much, they should start thinking about where they can borrow it, or how they can obtain it under a rental agreement. This suggestion comes from University of Illinois agricultural economist F. J. Reiss.

Speaking before the University of Illinois Festival audience this week, Reiss reported that livestock operators on one-man farms had an average capital investment of $16,961 in 1958. About $6,000 was in machinery and equipment, $6,800 in livestock and $4,000 in feed, grain and seeds.

Grain farmers with crop-share leases had an average investment of about $14,450. They had slightly more invested in machinery and equipment and feed, grain and seeds, but less in livestock than livestock-share operators.

Run-down farms may be easier to rent, but they may require high capital investments for improvements. Reimbursement guarantees are essential to protect a young tenant against losing capital if he leaves the farm, Reiss pointed out.

-30-

HDG:mfb
3/23/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 1960

Baby Pigs Use Creep Feed Efficiently

University of Illinois tests show that baby pigs use creep feeds efficiently even though these feeds are fairly expensive.

Animal scientists also believe that young pigs can make more efficient gains than older hogs eating cheaper feeds.

Research workers weaned the baby pigs at two weeks of age. Then they fed them experimental creep rations until the pigs were six to eight weeks old.

All pigs used an average of 1.81 pounds of feed for each pound gained.

-30-

Feed Grain to Steers Before Pasturing

Cattlemen planning to pasture steers this summer should work them up to a full feed of grain during March and April.

This applies mostly to steers that have been wintered on rations composed largely of roughages with a little grain, explain University of Illinois animal scientists.

They also suggest turning steers on pasture while the grass is fairly short. This encourages the steers to continue eating grain.

Cattle on pasture and receiving grain do not use grass as efficiently as cattle grazing without grain. Feeding grain, however, gets cattle ready for market in late summer or early fall.

This is important, since choice cattle prices are usually good at that time.

-30-

PAC:mfb
3/23/60
NO

Type of Grain Feed Concentrate

Information is lacking to show what kind of grain was used
[illegible] satisfactorily even though there is a fairly abundant supply.

Animal Husbandry Fire Bulletin that young cattle can make use
[illegible] devise plan under some existing circumstances feeds.

Research workers assert the only pigs to do well are
[illegible] they have come experiment crops - others until the pigs were six
[illegible] were weeks old.

All pigs must be weighed at [illegible] and [illegible] each
period.

[illegible] Grain Feed Concentrate

Cattlemen planning to obtain cheap summer gains would
[illegible] to a small lead of ripe grain [illegible] and barley.

This supplies enough to create fair gains [illegible] on the
concentrate [illegible] to combine with a little [illegible] protein
[illegible] minerals and vitamins.

They also supply bulky [illegible] on pasture with the grain
[illegible]. This encourages the animals to continue eating grain.

Cattle on pasture and receiving grain do not use [illegible]
[illegible] as cattle grazing without grain. Feeding grain, however,
[illegible] for market in late summer or early fall.

Until it is certain, since grain feeds are usually
[illegible] that time.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Illinois to Fatten More "Home-Grown" Cattle

URBANA--A University of Illinois animal scientist said today that feeder cattle production in southern Illinois is on the upswing.

At the same time W. W. Albert said that many central and northern Illinois farmers could profitably increase their cow herds.

Albert explains that western feedlots are cutting into the available feeder stock supply. And more southern farmers are fattening their own feeders rather than shipping them north.

Low transportation costs of midwest grains are also encouraging southerners to produce, as well as fatten, more cattle.

In light of these facts, Albert believes that Illinois farmers may look for feeder stock closer to home. As a result, the southern Illinois region could profitably turn out more and more feeders.

Other Illinois farmers could also produce more feeders. They can increase their cow herds to take advantage of low-quality roughages once regarded as having little feeding value.

Research shows, for example, that corn stalks and corn cobs have considerable nutritional value for cow herds.

With other regions fattening more cattle, the midwest today produces only 71 percent of the fed cattle. During the 1930's the corn belt fattened 83 percent.

-30-

PAC:mfb
3/23/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 11, 1960

Installment Land Contracts Find Wide Use

Buyers and sellers of Illinois farm land are using installment contracts with satisfaction.

Sellers can receive payments over a period of several years and obtain income tax savings. Buyers who are short of funds can acquire land they couldn't obtain in any other way.

N. G. P. Krausz, University of Illinois professor of agricultural law, recently completed a field study of 43 installment land contracts.

Down payments varied from nothing to 25 percent of total sale value. Length of contracts also varied, but most of them ran from 5 to 20 years. Interest on the unpaid balance varied from 0 to 5 1/2 percent.

Most contracts were drawn up with the help of an attorney. Clear and complete written contracts are the best policy, Krausz points out.

-30-

HDG:mfb
4/6/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 11, 1960

Dwarf Fruit Trees Ideal for Home Owners

Families with cramped lawn space will find that dwarf fruit trees are the answer to providing a continuous array of fresh home-grown fruit during the summer and fall.

Dwarf fruit trees take up less space than standard trees. Yet they produce higher quality fruit that's larger in size, points out Frank W. Owen, University of Illinois fruit crops specialist.

Dwarf fruit trees also bear fruit within three to four years after planting. Regular trees require five to 10 years to produce their first crop.

Home owners will find dwarf trees easier to prune and spray. As a matter of fact, gardeners can prune dwarf trees to fit the home landscape pattern.

A few disadvantages, however, spoil the dwarf tree's otherwise good record.

For example, some rootstocks used for dwarfing are susceptible to diseases. Some dwarf rootstocks have a weaker root system than regular trees. Therefore they need permanent support with stakes or wires.

Owen definitely believes, however, that home owners will find that dwarf fruit trees are better suited than standard trees for home gardens.

-30-

PAC:mfb
4/6/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 18, 1960

Early Birds Harm Soil

A University of Illinois agronomist asks farmers not to invade soggy fields with caravans of machinery.

That's some order for corn and bean raisers already vexed at the late year. But Jack Baird warns that heavy equipment used too early on wet soils brings on serious compaction problems. It hurts the soil's capacity to take in water and air and prevents roots from penetrating freely.

"Minimum tillage" is Baird's answer to anxious farmers. By making less trips across the field, they can delay plowing and still get crops planted as soon as they would have otherwise.

According to Baird, 75 percent of corn and bean land needs nothing other than plowing. A firm seedbed is needed only in the crop row, and a heavy press wheel can accomplish that.

Plow-plant in one trip is the ultimate in minimum tillage. Those not ready to go all out can get good results by hooking a harrow or clodbuster behind the plow this spring. Then they can follow with the planter, says Baird, making everything a quick, two-trip operation. Another good way is pulling the planter behind a tractor with a cultivator attached. The shovels break up the plowed ground for the planter.

Minimizing tillage is more than just a way to shave operating costs, Baird stresses. Like adding organic matter, he feels that it is a vital tonic for overworked soils.

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RFH:mfb
4/13/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 18, 1960

Dry Weed Killers Fit Farm Picture

Granular herbicides score well in pre-emergence weed control. This ability makes them especially valuable in controlling annual grasses in crop rows, says Ellery Knake, University of Illinois agronomist.

With this dry-type weed killer, the chemical is carried on clay particles, Knake explains. The herbicide is usually applied in a band directly behind the planter press wheel, and then it lies in wait for weed seeds to germinate.

Application rates are about the same as for liquid herbicides except that the 2,4-D ester in granular form should be applied at two pounds of active ingredient per acre. One and one-half pounds is normally recommended for 2,4-D ester in liquid form.

Convenience is a big advantage of granular herbicides. They come neatly bagged, there's no need of mixing or hauling water and you don't have to worry so much about tractor speed during application.

Farmers have to weigh convenience against extra costs, however. According to Knake, granular herbicides average up to $1 more per acre than the liquid form. Also, farmers who already have spray equipment may not want to make an additional investment for a granular applicator.

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RFH:mfb
4/13/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 18, 1960

Minimum Tillage Saves Time and Money

Farmers who want to boost their net incomes may find that minimum tillage can help.

University of Illinois agricultural economist R. A. Hinton figures that, compared with using conventional tillage, farmers using minimum tillage save $146 to $159 in operating costs on 100 acres of corn.

The fixed investment costs of tractors and machinery would be about the same for both methods, however.

Hinton says a farmer can boost his net income even more by making good use of the time saved by minimum tillage. By producing more livestock or farming more acres, he could earn from $155 to $172 more net income for each 100 acres of corn.

Figuring labor at $1 an hour, total gains from minimum tillage would add up to $301 to $331 for each 100 acres of corn.

Greatest time saving from minimum tillage, however, will show up when plowing is delayed until planting time. This may be the case on many Illinois farms this year.

When a farmer can do his plowing and other tillage well in advance of planting, it will take him less time to finish the planting job than if he uses a minimum-tillage system. But this time saving is often offset because planting can begin one or two days sooner with a plow-plant minimum-tillage system.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 25, 1960

Price Changes Cut Livestock Returns

Lower prices received for hogs and eggs and higher prices paid for feeder cattle reduced returns on Illinois livestock farms in 1959.

A. G. Mueller, University of Illinois agricultural economist, reports that on record-keeping farms hogs sold for an average of $19.84 a hundred pounds in 1958 compared with $13.52 in 1959. Egg prices dropped from 36 cents to 30 cents a dozen.

Returns per $100 feed fed to hogs dropped from $180 in 1958 to $114 in 1959. Mueller figures that farmers need a return of about $145 to break even on total production costs.

Poultry returns for each $100 worth of feed fed dipped from $142 to $120. The break-even return is about $175.

Feeder cattle returns dropped from $144 to $120. The agricultural economist says that a farmer needs about $135 to break even.

Dairy and beef cow herds were the only major enterprises that came close to covering all production costs. Returns per $100 worth of feed fed to dairy cattle dropped from $199 to $191. The break-even point is about $200. For beef herds, returns dropped from $162 to $147, with the break-even point at about $145.

Returns per $100 worth of feed fed show the margin available for a farmer to pay for labor, equipment and supplies and to leave a profit, if any. This margin varies with different kinds of livestock and changes in feed costs and prices received for livestock and livestock products sold.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 25, 1960

Fruit Crops Specialist Moving to Dixon Springs

The University of Illinois has announced that its small fruit crops extension specialist for southern Illinois is moving to the University's Dixon Springs Experiment Station near Robbs.

Until now J. W. "Bill" Courter has been stationed on the Urbana campus.

The switch in location will enable Courter to travel more extensively through the southern region of the state. At the same time he plans to expand his small fruit and vegetable research plots at the Experiment Station.

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Dixon Springs Studying Corn Earworm

Habits of the pesky corn earworm will come under the scrutiny of two entomologists this summer at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station near Robbs.

Bill Luckmann and Jim Sanford of the Illinois Natural History Survey have just finished planting several sweet corn plots on the Station. Later this spring and summer they'll quietly watch egg-laying habits of the corn earworm.

They are interested in learning the relation between corn development and the earworm's egg-laying.

-30-

PAC:mfb
4/20/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 25, 1960

Excessive Antibiotics in Hog Rations Can Be Costly

Hog producers who depend on antibiotics as their sole method of controlling diseases will find their feed costs soaring.

University of Illinois livestock specialist G. R. Carlisle emphasizes that antibiotics should back-stop good sanitation and disease practices. They should not serve as a substitute. Why?

First, antibiotics cannot completely check diseases. Second, if extremely high levels of antibiotics are needed to control diseases, feed costs jump.

To illustrate this point, Carlisle cites experiences of two producers: The first one follows good management practices. Therefore he gets good performance from his hogs by using only 10 to 20 grams of antibiotic in a ton of feed. At 10 cents a gram, the antibiotic costs up to $2.00.

The other producer relies entirely on antibiotics and must use about 100 grams in each ton of feed to control disease. The cost is about $10 per ton of feed.

The moral is: Antibiotics certainly have a place in swine rations. But depending on them as the only method for stopping diseases can be costly.

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PAC:mfb
4/20/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 2, 1960

Researchers Stalk Stalk Rot

High powered corn culture has upped yields and efficiency and also some disease problems.

For instance, stalk rot has been more severe in recent years. It has pathologists and plant breeders on the quest for more resistant hybrids.

Stalk rot killed 41 percent of the corn plants in fields surveyed last season by the University of Illinois Department of Plant Pathology.

One of the pathologist's responsibilities toward a remedy is determining basic reasons why some strains of corn are more resistant to stalk rot than others. Pathologists A. L. Hooker and Jeweus Craig are tackling this at the University of Illinois. They believe the nature of resistance lies in the chemical content of the stalk and the type of cell metabolism. A decrease of carbohydrate content has been linked with victims of the disease; so has reduced density of the pith structure. The U. of I. pathologists hope to isolate some of these characteristics so they and plant breeders will know what to select for in developing resistant hybrids.

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RFH:mfb
4/27/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 2, 1960

Cattle Like to Lick Paint

"Wet Paint" signs don't mean a thing to people or cattle, says Dr. Bruce Brodie, University of Illinois veterinarian.

People like to touch newly painted surfaces, but cattle like to lick them. Dr. Brodie says lead poisoning has already killed some calves this spring. Just a few licks of lead base paint are enough to kill calves or cause severe sickness in yearlings.

As farmers prepare for spring painting, they should keep in mind that paint is the primary source of lead poisoning in cattle. Animals may lick freshly painted surfaces or chew old paint off barns, gates and fences.

Dr. Brodie recommends using nonlead paint wherever possible, especially on pens and stalls. He also suggests that farmers keep cattle from buildings and fences where paint is peeling.

Poisoned cattle will show apparent blindness and sometimes paralysis. Severely poisoned cattle may show weakness, trembling and diarrhea.

Prompt diagnosis and treatment will help save poisoned cattle. In an emergency a dose of Epson salts may be recommended by the veterinarian. These salts are not a treatment. They prevent further absorption of lead by turning it into a lead sulphate, which the animal's system cannot absorb. The veterinarian may then give an E.D.T.A. injection, which contains an effective antidote for lead poisoning.

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WDR:mfb
4/27/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 2, 1960

Minimum Tillage Cuts Soil Loss; Yields Just As High

An experiment at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station in southern Illinois shows a major advantage for minimum tillage.

Last year Lee Gard, the station soil and water research worker, planted corn on a 5 percent slope. Part was planted with the usual seed bed preparation. The other part was planted using minimum tillage with the wheel-track planting method.

Corn yields on the two areas were similar. The conventional plot yielded 69 bushels an acre while the wheel-track planting produced 76 bushels.

But the big difference was in soil losses. For every bushel of corn produced on the conventional plots, 14 pounds of soil were lost. On the wheel-track plots, only one pound of soil was lost for each bushel of corn produced.

The water losses were five times as high from the conventional plots as from the wheel-track plots. Fifteen percent of the rainfall last summer was lost through runoff on the conventional plots, while only three percent was lost on the wheel-track planting.

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HDG:mfb
4/27/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 9, 1960

City Growth Won't Reduce Farm Output;
Land Use Planning Needed

City growth, new highways and industrial development are taking about one million acres of land a year from agricultural use. But even at this rate it will take several decades before agricultural output is affected significantly, a University of Illinois agricultural economist reported this week.

Harold G. Halcrow stated that the time may come when the United States will have a shortage of good productive farm land. But, more likely, he expects that scientific advancements will enable farmers to keep production in pace with the growing population.

There is an urgent need, however, for better planning of land use, Halcrow emphasized. The migration of nonfarm families into the open country is largely unplanned. The result is many problems for both new and longer established residents. The need for schools, highways and other facilities present tax and revenue problems for the developing community.

Halcrow also pointed out that not enough planning is being done for using land for recreational purposes. People in growing cities place a high priority on recreation. Use of some land adjacent to population centers for this purpose should receive high priority in our planning, he concluded.

Halcrow spoke before the Illinois State-Wide Planning Conference meeting on the University of Illinois campus this week.

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IDG:mfb
5/4/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 9, 1960

Plan Your New Farmhouse For Farm Living

Farm families who plan to build a new farmhouse this summer should be sure to select a plan that caters to the special needs of farm living, warns Keith Hinchcliff, University of Illinois farm housing specialist.

Hinchcliff says most home plans now published are for city lots. These plans may need some alterations before they meet the special needs of farm living.

In most city lot home plans, space is lacking around the back entrance for work clothes storage, wash-up, farm business records and between-chores relaxation. Also, family rooms are too often inaccessible from the rear or service entrance.

The guide book, "Contemporary Farmhouses," and other farmhouse plans that take most of the special farm needs into consideration are available at your county farm adviser's office and at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in Urbana.

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HDN:mfb

Interior Location O.K. for New Bathroom

Farm families who are having trouble locating a new bathroom where it will have an outside window may want to consider an interior location, explains Keith Hinchcliff, University of Illinois farm housing specialist.

Hinchcliff says an electric ventilation exhaust fan will more than make up for the loss of a window. And better light can be provided artificially.

Many interior bathrooms are being equipped with a single all-purpose ceiling fixture that will heat, ventilate and light the room.

HDN:mfb
5/4/60

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 23, 1960

Weed Killers Dangerous to Trees, Shrubs

Weed-killing chemicals that aren't handled properly can often do more harm than good, warns Ted Curtin, University of Illinois extension forester.

Vapors from such chemicals as 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T can drift through the air and attack trees, shrubs and bushes. Excessive applications to control weeds in lawns may leach through the soil and injure tree roots.

Most herbicide chemical damage can be spotted by looking at the leaves of affected plants. With mild damage, leaf margins will be slightly cupped or the entire leaf may be twisted and rolled.

More severe injury usually causes leaves to grow long and narrow, and the veins appear unusually prominent. In time severely damaged leaves will die.

Curtin says the best way to protect against herbicide injury is to follow the directions on the label. It's best to spray under low pressure. Don't apply herbicides on windy days, and always keep spray nozzles close to the ground.

Some sprays cause less damage than others. Look for sprays that contain low-volatile esters or amine compounds. The contents will be marked on the label. You can also avoid drift injury by using granular forms of chemicals.

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HDN:mfb
5/18/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 23, 1960

Switch Pasture Management System at Dixon Springs

Sheepmen planning to improve their pasture management systems might take a tip from sheep research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station in southern Illinois.

Many years ago workers set up the pasture program on 120 acres. They designed the program so that the acreage produced the seasonal grazing, hay, silage and grain for 200 ewes and their lambs.

The acreage was in the following six-year rotation: winter oats, fescue, fescue, winter oats, legume mixture and legume mixture. In any one year, this is how the crops stacked up: 1/3 in small grain, 1/3 in fescue and 1/3 in legume mixture.

But, alas, this system had flaws. Although the grain balance seemed O.K., there was always too much fescue but never enough legume mixtures.

In addition, the fescue insisted on growing in legume seedings, even on plowed seedbeds. And the legume seedbeds also turned out to be excellent seedbeds for weedy grasses, such as giant foxtail.

To overcome these problems, workers now allow two fields to remain in permanent fescue for winter, spring and fall grazing. They are switching the remaining fields to a five-year rotation: corn, small grain and three years of orchard grass—legume pasture.

Each year sheep will have 20 acres of fescue rather than 40; 60 acres of legumes rather than 40; and 20 acres each of corn and small grains.

Workers are confident that the one year of corn will stamp out the weedy grasses that have plagued the straight legume seedings. They are also confident that the new rotation system will be an improvement over the old.

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PAC:mfb
5/18/60
NO

Agriculture Experiment Stations and Farmers Institutes

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 30, 1960

Hybrid Sorghums Compete Favorably With Corn

Farmers plagued by wet weather this spring might consider planting hybrid grain sorghums if they haven't planted corn yet.

Experiments at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station indicate that these sorghums outperform corn in years of late planting. Grain sorghums also outyield corn in unusually wet or dry years.

Workers at the University of Illinois station report that corn might outperform sorghums only when conditions are ideal for corn production.

The three top yielders in both grain and silage at Dixon Springs have been RS-610 (Texas 610), RS-560 and DeKalb D50a. Of the three, DeKalb D50a grows tallest by nearly a foot. It also has the longest head and the greatest distance from the base of the head to the top, or the flag leaf. It has an open-type head, whereas the other two have compact heads.

The three sorghums all mature at about the same time.

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Sorghum Excellent for Livestock

Livestock producers will find that grain sorghum is an excellent feed for all livestock, but it should be cracked or ground.

Sorghum grain contains 2 or 3 percent more protein but somewhat less fat than corn. In most rations, sorghum may be substituted for corn, pound for pound, report University of Illinois animal scientists.

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PAC:mfb
5/25/60
JO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 30, 1960

FFA Convention Slated for June 7-9

Outstanding FFA members from_____ county will head next week for Springfield, site of the 1960 Illinois Future Farmers of America Convention.

They'll join 1,500 other FFA youths from all over the state for the three-day session. The program gets under way Tuesday, June 7, and winds up Thursday night.

During the three days the boys will compete in speaking contests, conduct business sessions, elect 1960-61 officers and participate in many other activities. Several members will also receive special awards.

H. R. Damisch, chief of agricultural education, Springfield, explains that the FFA is the official organization of high school boys enrolled in vocational agriculture.

In Illincis alone there are some 500 FFA chapters.

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PAC:mfb
5/25/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 6, 1960

Keep Hands Out of Mouths of Infected Cattle

Farmers should not put their hands in the mouths of sick cattle, says Dr. E. I. Pilchard of the veterinary medical diagnostic laboratory operated jointly by the Illinois State Department of Agriculture and the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine at Urbana.

Animals showing nervousness may have encephalitis, a name given to brain inflammation or damage from any cause, such as rabies, sporadic bovine encephalitis or lead poisoning. Farmers risk exposing themselves to rabies if the encephalitis is caused by this disease.

Dr. Pilchard reports that encephalitis appears to be increasing in Illinois. The diagnostic laboratory found 34 cases of encephalitis in cattle during February, March and April 1960 compared with 27 cases during the same period last year. Although the diagnostic laboratory receives only a small percentage of the animals with this condition, the number of diagnosed cases serves as a sort of yardstick, indicating that encephalitis may be becoming more common in cattle.

It is impossible to tell what is causing this condition by just looking at an animal. However, a veterinarian can use field and laboratory tests to pinpoint the cause of brain damage.

Dr. Pilchard advises farmers to watch for signs associated with encephalitis. Cattle may lose condition and act as if blind, or they may become dumb or vicious. They sometimes bellow continuously if encephalitis is caused by rabies.

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JDR:mfb
5/1/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 6, 1960

Weaning Lambs Early Helps Control Parasites

University of Illinois research shows that farmers can stymie internal parasites in lambs by weaning or separating the lambs from the ewes on pasture.

Two years of studies at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station turned up the following facts:

1. Lambs weaned and kept on pasture showed only 38 worm eggs per gram of feces.

2. Lambs on pasture with ewes during the same period showed a buildup to about 3,800 eggs per gram of feces.

3. Lambs kept in drylot, with ewes brought in daily from pasture for nursing, showed no evidence of internal parasites.

The Dixon Springs animal scientists feel that these studies may have tremendous possibilities for helping farmers control internal parasites. Early weaning will virtually eliminate the need for drenching and will help insure bigger and healthier lambs for market.

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PAC:mfb
6/1/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southern Illinois Farmers Pool 38,000 Pounds of Wool

One hundred farmers in the area surrounding the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station pooled 38,000 pounds of wool this spring.

These growers received an average price of 48 cents a pound from the top bidder, the Boston Top Company. This carload of wool was graded and bagged at the station before being sold.

This is the third year in which the Dixon Springs Station has cooperated and assisted in this cooperative marketing program.

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HAC:HDG:mfb
6/1/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 13, 1960

Sorghum Almum Shows No Advantage

Sorghum almum has entered the picture as a possibility for supplemental pasture.

University of Illinois agronomists, however, would not pick it over certain sudangrass varieties, namely, Piper, Sweet and Greenleaf sudangrass.

Sorghum almum (also sorghum grass) has close kinship to Johnsongrass, a primary noxious weed in Illinois. This is the biggest issue agronomists take with it. Sorghum almum seed is very similar to Johnsongrass seed, increasing the chances of Johnsongrass contaminating seed lots. Also, sorghum almum crosses freely with its Johnsongrass cousin. This means that even if seed came entirely from sorghum almum plants, the lot could still contain Johnsongrass seed if Johnsongrass was in or near the seed field area.

Sorghum almum has also showed no yield advantage over recommended sudangrass varieties, according to 1959 trials.

Like sudangrass, sorghum almum presents the danger of prussic acid poisoning to livestock. None of these grasses should be grazed until the first growth and regrowth is about knee high.

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6/8/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 13, 1960

Proper Moisture Key to Silage Quality

One advantage of grass silage over hay is that silage gives farmers more leeway with the weatherman.

But this advantage can be carried too far, warns K. A. Kendall, University of Illinois dairy scientist. This is especially true if farmers put up forage that is too wet.

Some dairymen go so far as to put up grass silage between showers, Kendall explains. One farmer who did this last year saw his herd milk production drop 20 percent.

The silage was so full of water that the cows couldn't eat enough to get nutrients they needed for top production.

Kendall says silage for vertical silos should be at least 30 to 35 percent dry matter. This means that grass cut for silage in the late-bud to early-bloom stage should probably wilt in the field for one or two hours on a good drying day.

There is one exception to all of this, Kendall explains. That's when the forage is to be stored in a surface silo. Forage at about 25 percent moisture will pack better in the silo with less spoilage due to excess air.

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HDN:mfb
6/8/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 13, 1960

Farm Trucks Cost About Ten Cents a Mile, Study Shows

Farm trucks cost their owners about 10 cents a mile to own and operate, a study by University of Illinois agricultural economists shows.

Operating costs for gasoline, oil, grease, repairs and labor averaged about 5 cents a mile. Fixed costs, such as depreciation, interest on investment, license fees, insurance, antifreeze and other items, averaged about 5 cents a mile.

This study included 19 one-half- and one-ton trucks on central Illinois farms in 1958. The trucks were driven an average of 4,650 miles.

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HDG:mfb
6/8/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 13, 1960

Elm Beetles Can Severely Damage Chinese Elms

Insect specialists at the University of Illinois warn that elm leaf beetles can severely damage elms, especially Chinese elms, during the summer.

These beetles deposited their eggs underneath leaves right after the leaves unfolded this spring.

In southern Illinois, the larvae, or worm stage, are already chewing leaves on some trees. In central and northern Illinois, larva feeding will soon begin.

Sometimes larvae completely skeletonize the leaves.

The adult beetles begin appearing about late June or early July. They chew small round holes in the leaves.

Adult beetles are about 1/4 inch long. Yellowish legs and antennae and a yellowish to green body identify them. The yellow wings are also bordered by a black stripe.

To control elm beetles, spray trees as soon as damage appears. Use one of the following mixtures:

1. Lead arsenate--4 pounds per 100 gallons of water.

2. DDT--2 pounds of 50 percent wettable powder per 100 gallons of water.

3. DDT--2 quarts of 25 percent emulsifiable concentrate in 100 gallons of water.

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PAC:mfb
6/8/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 20, 1960

Giant Foxtail, a Thief in Corn Fields

Giant foxtail growing in corn and soybean fields could steal as much as one-fourth of the crop this summer.

Three years' research at the University of Illinois shows that if a farmer has 50 foxtail plants in a foot of row he could lose 25 percent of his corn yield or 28 percent of his soybean yield. Many fields in Illinois have a lot more than this number of weeds.

Even smaller weed counts can mount up to serious losses. For example, even six surviving giant foxtail plants can reduce yields by 12 percent.

Soybeans also suffer heavily from weeds. A field that would normally yield 35 bushels if weed free would suffer a 10 percent loss if six weed plants per row remained. This would be a 3 1/2-bushel loss on every acre.

Grass weeds like giant foxtail can be controlled with certain chemicals. But the costs will run from $3 to $5 an acre with band application. On many Illinois farms even this expense will be more than repaid because of the serious losses that weeds are causing.

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HDG:mfb
6/15/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 20, 1960

Gives Guides for Combine Shoppers

A University of Illinois agricultural economist has some guides to help prospective combine buyers figure out what size of machine they want.

First of all, economist R. B. Schwart points out that in central Illinois there are about 85 hours available to harvest small grain between July 5 and July 24, and about 65 hours to harvest soybeans between September 20 and October 9. His estimates are based on average weather and harvesting conditions.

Suppose, then, that a cash-grain farmer has 90 acres of soybeans and 60 acres of small grain. It's the soybean acreage that will determine what size of combine is needed. According to Schwart, a 7-foot P.T.O. job will do the soybeans in ample time--in about 64 hours. For both crops it will take about 107 hours at a cost of $4.09 per acre.

Or the same farmer could go to a 10-foot self-propelled job and get the same acreage done in 75 hours, but at a cost of about $6.50 per acre.

What the farmer needs to ask himself is this: (1) Are the 32 hours I can save by owning the larger combine worth the extra cost of about $2.41 per acre, or $361 per season? And (2) what could I earn if I invested the $3,300 extra cost for the larger machine somewhere else in my business?

Size of cutter bar is another thing to consider. A basic 10- or 12-foot combine can be outfitted with a 12- or 14-foot cutter bar. Although the additional two feet may not increase the capacity for harvesting small grain, it may increase the capacity for harvesting soybeans, depending on the row width.

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RFH:mfb
6/15/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 27, 1960

Wet Weather Causing More Cutworm, Armyworm Trouble

The black cutworm now looms as a bigger threat to corn than usual because of Illinois' siege of wet weather.

The adult moths of the cutworm usually lay their eggs in low, wet spots. Since so many fields are completely water-soaked, egg-laying is more general this year.

Cutworm survival will also increase under these conditions, resulting in more severe corn injury.

This warning comes from Steve Moore, entomologist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey.

The true armyworm, which attacks grasses, small grains and corn, is also causing more trouble. Wet weather eliminates parasites and diseases that normally hold down the true armyworm population.

The combination of wet weather and late-planted corn may also create an armyworm problem this fall. This little fellow especially likes younger corn. Therefore, when he develops late this summer, late-planted corn will be just his size.

The weather has not directly affected first-generation corn borers. But it may indirectly affect second-generation borers. Why? Simply because the borers can infest so many late-planted fields. On the other hand, borers may not seriously damage any one field, because they have their choice of many susceptible fields.

In contrast, wet weather makes some insects unhappy. Grasshoppers and chinch bugs, for example, prefer warmer and dryer weather. So the chances are that they'll cause little trouble this year.

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PAC:mfb
6/22/60

Problem Solving Using Computer Simulation

The basic concepts and terms of a computer method to solve real problems of military value are presented.

The basic ability of the computer to rapidly imitate the behavior of many fields are completely mechanical, enabling the speed of the next.

Computer accuracy will also increase more rapidly, resulting in more powerful computer systems.

This writing takes place during three decades, culminating with the early 80's and ultimate personal computing power.

The term computer, which actually means small devices and is also causing more trouble. The machine language that currently held down the true computer capabilities.

The combination of war weapons and intercontinental wars may also be an important problem this year. This little fiction concerning [illegible]. The problem, when by designed from this recently like [illegible] down will be just one day.

The weapons use may [illegible] [illegible]. But it may [illegible] [illegible] because the machine can indeed be many [illegible] floods. Of that many, bombs may not automatically change any one [illegible] have short course of many [illegible] fields.

In combat, war weapons have become [illegible] and common [illegible] are also [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 27, 1960

Illinois DHIA Butterfat Production Reaches All-Time High

Average butterfat production in Illinois Dairy Herd Improvement Association herds reached a record high last year--averaging more than 400 pounds per cow.

One herd in every four produced 450 or more pounds of butterfat. And a record 62,375 cows were tested.

University of Illinois dairy specialist Gary Harpestad says the state's 1,614 DHIA herds averaged 402 pounds of butterfat and 10,565 pounds of milk during the 1959-60 testing year.

The average return above feed costs was $257--a figure that has been bettered only twice before.

Harpestad credits accurate records for the spectacular showing of Illinois DHIA herds. He says records gave the dairymen a sound basis for culling unprofitable cows and helped them select outstanding heifers for herd replacements.

The U. of I. dairy specialist urges dairymen who are not on a record-keeping program to see their county farm adviser about starting one.

Harpestad says one of the several different programs available in most Illinois counties should fit the need of every dairyman.

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HDN:mfb
6/22/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 27, 1960

Oats Stay Out of Disease Trouble

Diseases aren't making much headway in oats this year.

Yellow dwarf, the virus disease that took a heavy toll last year, has done very little damage, reports H. Jedlinski, University of Illinois and USDA plant pathologist. The aphids that carry the yellow dwarf virus appeared later than last year and in much smaller numbers. By now oats in central and southern Illinois seem far enough along to weather any late infection by the virus. Late oats in northern Illinois may be more vulnerable, but Jedlinski thinks that chances for severe infections are relatively slight.

Halo blight has done some damage in central Illinois, Jedlinski reports. However, dry and sunny weather has checked further progress of the disease.

No rusts have been observed so far, and consequently no heavy damage is anticipated in central and southern Illinois. Rusts have only a remote chance of doing damage farther north among late-planted oats, where wet, cool weather has checked their development.

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RFH:mfb
6/22/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 4, 1960

2,4-D Can Clean Up Corn

2,4-D should prove useful in corn now, especially where pre-emergence sprays were not used earlier and where wet weather has made weeds too much for a cultivator to handle alone.

2,4-D will control most broadleaved weeds, however, it won't stop grasses.

Here are application recommendations from Ellery Knake, University of Illinois agronomist. Until the corn is three or four feet tall, apply no more than 1/4 pound per acre of the ester form or 1/2 pound per acre of the amine form of 2,4-D acid. Do not spray corn from the time it starts to tassel until after the kernels reach the soft dough stage.

To help prevent injury to corn, Knake says to aim the spray nozzels toward the soil and the base of the corn. And be sure to stay within recommended dosages.

Also, avoid drift by maintaining a spray pressure of not over 30 to 40 pounds per square inch. High pressures break the spray particles into a fine mist that can drift easily to other areas damaging susceptible crops like grapes and tomatoes. A fine mist isn't necessary for a good weed kill, Knake stresses. He also urges that farmers do not spray on windy days and that they do not use high volatile ester forms of 2,4-D when there is danger of damage to nearby crops.

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RFH:mfb
6/29/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 4, 1960

Tissue Tests Help Spot Plant Food Deficiencies

Tissue tests used on a growing crop will show whether it is getting enough nutrients for maximum growth.

University of Illinois soil chemist S. W. Melsted points out that these tests will tell whether the plant is getting too much or too little plant food, but will not tell how severe a deficiency is. So these tests do not replace regular soil testing.

Tissue tests are now commonly used to detect nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium shortages. Tests are also available for some minor elements.

Melsted believes that the nitrogen tissue test is the most valuable, since no good nitrogen soil test is available. He suggests starting a weekly testing program for corn early in July. By testing every week, one can find out how early in the season a deficiency appears. The earlier a deficiency shows up, the more serious the nitrogen shortage. With corn, Melsted suggests making the test on the leaf at ear level.

Potassium, phosphorus and magnesium tests can be made on any part of the plant and are needed only once or twice during the season.

Farmers desiring help in making tissue tests may want to see their farm adviser or vocational agriculture teacher. If corn or soybeans look off color, they can check up on their fertilizer program while the plant is growing. At harvest time, they can only guess why yields are poor, Melsted concludes.

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HDG:mfb
6/29/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 4, 1960

National Farm Safety Week Set for July 24-30

National Farm Safety Week, July 24-30, is to arouse interest and local participation in solving the farm accident problem.

Needless deaths and injuries must be reduced if the farm and home are to become a safer place in which to live and work, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist, University of Illinois.

Illinois Rural Safety Council estimates are all too accurate. Here is what the Council predicts for 1960:

One of every 17 farm persons will suffer a disabling injury as a result of an accident.

Accidents will kill 48 farmers every single day.

A disabling injury will strike some farm person every 109 seconds during the year.

Total cost of accidents to farm people will be over one million dollars during the next 12 months. Each farm resident's share of that amount is $40.16 plus 20 days lost time.

These things will happen unless farm residents learn and obey farm safety rules.

Enjoy farm life--practice safety.

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OLH:mfb
6/29/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 11, 1960

Long-Fed Calves and Yearlings Make Most Return

For the past 11 years, long-fed steer calves and long-fed yearling steers have made the most return above feed costs and costs of the feeder.

This is what the records show for Illinois record-keeping farmers who bought good to choice feeder cattle in the fall. University of Illinois agricultural economist Earl R. Swanson reports that steer calves weighing less than 500 pounds when bought averaged $39.07 a head return above feed costs and the cost of the feeder. The long-fed yearling steers fed under a summer pasture program and weighing 500 to 750 pounds when purchased averaged $37.32.

In only one of the past 11 years did these systems fail to pay for at least the cost of the feeder and the feed. That year was 1951-52.

Long-fed heifer calves and long-fed yearling steers fed under a drylot program failed to pay the feeder and feed costs in two of the 11 years.

Short-fed yearling steers weighing 500 to 750 pounds when purchased failed to meet these costs in three of the 11 years. Short-fed heavy steers above 750 pounds when purchased made the lowest average return. They failed to pay back feeder and feed costs in four of the 11 years.

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HDG:mfb
7/6/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 11, 1960

Show Cattle Worm Infestations Can Look Like Tampering

University of Illinois veterinarians warn that a tiny, thread-like worm can produce lumpy, inflamed areas in the flanks and undersides of show cattle. These lumps can be mistaken easily for incisions or injections sometimes used to illegally alter the conformation of show animals.

The worms, called Stephanofilaria stilesi, can also produce lesions that look much like mange or ringworm.

These worm infestations have been fairly common in western states. Several cases were reported in show cattle exhibited at the 1948 Western Livestock Show in Los Angeles. At that time owners of affected cattle considered the lesions merely as blemishes that might affect the prize-winning ability of animals. The worms were also present in some animals at the 1959 International Livestock Exposition.

The U. of I. veterinarians say the skin of infested animals has an abnormal appearance that may raise the question of tampering. They recommend that cattle owners have a veterinarian carefully inspect all animals that are being fitted for show. If necessary, the veterinarian can recommend treatment with a chlorinated hydrocarbon preparation well in advance of the showing season.

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WDR:mfb
7/6/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 11, 1960

Researchers Test Narrow-Row Corn For Silage

Visitors at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station will see an unusual way to grow corn this summer. The research workers have drilled corn in rows only seven inches apart.

They plan to use the corn for making a heavy forage crop for silage. It has been heavily fertilized with nitrogen to get a heavy tonnage.

Next winter the station research workers will compare silage from the drilled corn with silage from regular corn, dwarf corn, grain sorghum and grain sorghum heads. Wintering calves will be used in the test.

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HDG:mfb
7/6/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 18, 1960

Illinois Participating in Regional Sheep Breeding Project

An ambitious project to produce better midwestern lambs for today's consumers is gathering steam in the north-central region.

Experiment stations at Illinois, Ohio and North Dakota are playing a key role in this cooperative project. It's designed to measure lamb and carcass characteristics that affect the value of lambs.

It will include measures of the heritability of many traits to (1) determine which physical traits will appear often in following generations, (2) measure breed differences and gains from cross-breeding, (3) develop more reliable measures of carcass value and (4) evaluate the effect of environment on performance.

Each year animal scientists take measurements on several hundred lambs. They also exchange lambs between the three states to determine environment's effect on lamb production.

Results of this project should give more information on the development of breeds for lamb production. And the project should answer questions regarding the suitability of existing breeds for breeding purposes.

The University of Illinois is carrying out its share of this project at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station in Pope county.

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PAC:mfb
7/13/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 18, 1960

No Suntan Lotion for Sunburned Hogs

Farmers sometimes take better care of their swine than they do of themselves, but they still draw the line at rubbing suntan lotion on sunburned hogs.

University of Illinois veterinarians, however, advise farmers to do something, because swine sunburn is not ordinary sunburn. It is caused by a combination of intense sunlight for long periods and a chemical change taking place in the skin. This change is called photosensitization.

It results when swine eat such plants as alsike and red clover, rape and St. Johnswort weed. Certain materials absorbed from these plants are deposited in the skin. When exposed to sunlight, they undergo a change and cause the skin to redden and swell.

Such drugs as sulfathiozole can also cause photosensitization when given for various internal infections.

If hogs sunburn, put them in a shaded area during the day. Pasture them at night unless they are in a confinement system. When swine are removed from the described plants and other causes of photosensitization, the skin returns to normal in a few days unless an infection has become well established in the sunburned areas.

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WDR:mfb
7/13/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 25, 1960

Cover Crops Stop Erosion

Winter cover crops are worth considering for erosion control and perhaps late fall and early spring pasture.

Crops like field brome, rye and rye grass can be seeded any time now between the rows of corn or soybeans. If all goes well, the grasses will be established well enough before fall to keep soil erosion in check.

C. N. Hittle, University of Illinois agronomist, makes special mention of field brome as a cover crop. Field brome seeded last August at the University's south farm has shown that it can produce a "great mass of fibrous roots." Hittle says field brome is also easy to manage in spring plow-down operations, since at that time it ordinarily has not headed out.

Field brome (Bromus arvensis) is a winter annual and is not to be confused with the long-lived perennial smooth brome (Bromus inermis) and the short-lived perennial prairie brome (Bromus catharticus).

Cyclone hand seeders are commonly used for seeding, and rye seeding by airplane has been done in large-scale operations.

Late-season water shortages sometimes prevent a lush entry into the fall. To help establishment, Hittle says that planting dates should not be postponed too long.

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RFH:mfb
7/20/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 25, 1960

Suggests Mosquito Control in Farm Ponds

Whack! Swat! "Drat it, I missed him."

This summertime comment is typical on many mosquito-infested farms, especially those with lovely, cool ponds. Such ponds can harbor thousands of mosquitoes, warns Steve Moore.

Moore, entomologist with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the University of Illinois, suggests that farmers can treat their ponds with larvacides if mosquitoes are causing trouble.

For ponds without fish, use a 1 percent concentration of DDT, chlordane or toxaphene. Or use a 1/2 percent concentration of dieldrin, lindane or malathion.

For best results, dilute the chemical with fuel oil, diesel oil or kerosene. Apply 10 quarts of total spray for each acre of water.

Farmers lucky enough to have fish in their ponds should use pyrethrins. Buy a pyrethrin material labeled "for use as a killer of mosquito larvae." Mix according to directions, and apply about 10 quarts of spray per acre.

As added protection, farm families might try "DET." DET, which stands for diethyltoluamide, is one of the best mosquito repellents on the market.

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PAC:mfb
7/20/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 25, 1960

Safety Week Stresses Many Farm Hazards

This week, July 24-30, is National Farm Safety Week. But it's up to farm families to practice safety 365 days a year, emphasizes O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

It's the whole family's job to keep alert for hazards. They need to quiz themselves about hazards that may be found on the farm, in the home, on the highway or in recreational activities. They must especially watch for hazards around machinery and unsafe climbing devices, the two most common areas of farm work injury.

Accidents take about 14,000 lives among farm residents each year. More than a million farm residents are injured. In fact, farming claims more "on-the-job" deaths than any other major industry, reports Hogsett. This points out the need for strong accident-prevention efforts among all farm people.

The theme this year is "Enjoy Farm Life--Practice Safety." This clearly indicates that safety doesn't happen--it must be planned.

Planning for greater safety on your farm may be the most important planning you ever do.

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OLH:mfb
7/20/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 1, 1960

Population Trends Favor City Areas

Since 1950, 51 Illinois counties have dropped in population, while the other 51 have gained.

The shift has been from farm to city, according to University of Illinois rural sociologist C. L. Folse, who cites preliminary figures from the 1960 census. The state's largest cities and surrounding counties have received 96 percent of the total population increase.

Illinois population is now estimated at slightly over 10 million, says Folse. That's a 15 percent gain from 1950.

Here are the counties that accounted for most of the increase: Champaign, Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, LaSalle, Macon, Madison, Peoria, Rock Island, St. Clair, Sangamon, Tazewell, Will and Winnebago.

Folse believes that the continued shift from rural to urban poses problems in both types of communities. In general, the losses have been determined by the extent to which communities depend on agriculture. A corresponding decline in number of farms and farmers has probably occurred in those communities, Folse thinks.

As for the increases in the other, more urban half of the state, Folse cites two major reasons: continued high birth rates all through the 1950's and a substantial migration into the state, particularly of Negroes from the South.

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RFH:mfb
7/28/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 1, 1960

Irrigation Helps Pasture at Dixon Springs

Irrigation activities are in full swing at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Irrigated pastures are getting the first sprinkler treatment they've needed all year. Over a period of years, wet, dry and intermediate, it has been found that an average of six irrigations works out best for pasture.

Dixon Springs men are pleased with this year's performance of a 2 1/2-acre orchard grass—ladino clover pasture. Five yearling heifers have utilized it well throughout the spring and summer. Grazing the mixture at this rate provides an excellent balance between clover and grass. The orchard grass shows the greenness and tenderness generally associated with early spring grasses.

Dixon Springs irrigators have also treated corn during its important two-week period of tasseling and ear-shooting--that's when corn's need for water is most critical. Water applied at this time can boost yields by 25 to 30 bushels an acre.

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RFH:mfb
7/27/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 1, 1960

Don't Let Kids Swim in Livestock Watering Ponds

Farm ponds that look so inviting to kids on hot, muggy afternoons can present a disease hazard, warns Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois veterinarian.

Cattle or hogs infected with leptospirosis may shed infectious organisms into the water. These organisms can live in quiet water for 10 days or more. People can pick them up in open scratches or through eye and nose membranes. If this happens, the leptospira germs can cause intermittent fever, chills and severe headaches.

Infected dogs also shed a type of leptospirosis organism. This is one reason why health officials ban dogs from public swimming areas.

The organism shed by dogs causes disease signs in people similar to those caused by organisms shed by cattle and hogs. But the attack is usually more severe and may persist for 10 days.

The leptospirosis organisms may lurk in all fresh water, says Dr. Woods. But the most important threat to human health exists when people swim in stagnant ponds frequented by livestock.

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WDR:mfb
7/27/60
NO

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 8, 1960

U. of I. Cattle Feeders Day Slated September 2

The University of Illinois College of Agriculture announces that its annual Cattle Feeders Day will be held Friday, September 2.

More than 1,000 persons are expected to attend this event, which attracts cattlemen from all over the state and from surrounding states as well.

The program gets under way at 10 a.m. CDT with tours of the beef cattle barns. Visitors can study feeding trials in progress and look over the University's purebred beef cattle.

During the noon hour a barbecue lunch will be served in the Stock Pavilion.

At 1:15 the afternoon program begins with reports of several major research studies completed this past year.

L. H. Simerl, U. of I. agricultural economist, will discuss the beef cattle outlook. And W. C. Whetsell, an Oklahoma rancher, will wrap up the afternoon program with "A Rancher's Look Into the Future."

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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PAC:je
8/3/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 8, 1960

Dixon Springs Bases Fertilization on Soil Tests

Farmers perplexed by poor pastures this summer might take a tip from the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Pasture-makers at this station refertilize pastures every five to six years, or at every rotation. More important, they use soil tests to determine how much fertilization the pastures need.

They've found that these practices pay off in nutritious forages that produce sleek cattle and contented sheep.

Before seeding new pastures in the fall, these men make bulk applications of lime and phosphate. In addition, they broadcast or drill more fertilizer with the seeding.

A typical treatment on Dixon Springs pastures includes (1) 100 pounds of 48 percent superphosphate per acre and (2) 100 pounds of 60 percent muriate of potash per acre. This is in addition to the lime and rock phosphate called for by the soil tests. On soils low in potash, the 100 pounds of potash is certainly not enough.

The Dixon Springs men believe "too much of many things may be harmful, but too much fertility in our soils is rare and welcome."

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PAC:je
8/3/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 8, 1960

Release New Book of Sheep Equipment Plans

The Mid-West Plan Service has released another in its series of equipment plan books for livestock growers--this one written especially for sheepmen.

University of Illinois ag engineer Don Jedele says the book contains more than 80 plans and diagrams representing the latest ideas in homemade sheep equipment.

Typical plans in the book include sorting and loading chutes, self-feeders, waterers, lamb bunks and creeps, stock guards, corrals and portable dipping vats.

As an added feature, the book also gives a number of feedlot layouts designed for top sheep production efficiency.

The sheep equipment book is the third in a series of equipment plan books for livestock owners. Other plan books are available on swine and beef and dairy equipment.

The books sell for $1.00 each. You can get copies from your county farm adviser or from the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural Engineering in Urbana.

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HDN:je
8/3/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 1960

Agronomy Day at University of Illinois, September 14

University of Illinois agronomists will show their latest crop and soil research at Agronomy Day on September 14 at Urbana.

The 18-stop tour of the agronomy research farm will feature a preview of the future as crop and soil scientists show their research, report results to date and suggest what these findings will mean in the years to come.

Some highlights of the program include new uses for corn made possible by harvesting two crops from the field in one year; high fertility applications to corn with high plant populations and planted in 20- and 40-inch rows with no cultivation; competition between soybeans and common pigweed; high-oil corn; use of Mexican Teosinte for developing new corn plants; testing and developing soybean and alfalfa varieties; rates, dates and carriers of nitrogen; corn and soybean diseases; tissue testing and soil testing; and a walk-down-in-excavated soil profile.

Tours begin at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at the farm at noon. The agronomy research farm is located directly south of the main university campus at Champaign-Urbana.

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HDG:cm
8/10/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 1960

Give Suggestions For Building Trench Silo

Research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station have used many types of silos. For farmers planning to build a trench silo, the researchers point out that good drainage is essential.

Usually a hillside makes a good trouble-free location, since the bottom of the silo will open onto a slope. The site should be near the barn or some other place where the cattle are fed.

The silo should be planned to fit the herd. At least a 12-inch slice of silage should be fed each week during the winter. During warm weather, a 3- to 4-inch slice must be removed daily from the silage face.

To plan the size of silo for a herd of cattle, station workers estimate that a cubic foot of silage will weigh 35 pounds, about the amount fed daily to each cow. For a 30-cow herd feeding 175 days, a farmer would need a trench silo 8 feet deep, 10 feet wide at the bottom, 14 feet wide at the top and 60 feet long.

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HDG:cm
8/10/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 1960

Ants, Ants, Ants and More Ants

An insect specialist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey reports that he's receiving an increasing number of calls about ants.

It seems that these pesky ants are annoying home owners inside as well as outside the house, says H. B. Petty.

To get things under control again, he recommends using a 3 percent concentration of chlordane or a 1/2 percent concentration of dieldrin. Buy these chemicals as emulsifiable concentrates and mix them with water. For more detailed mixing directions, read the container label.

With the mixture, spray the foundation of the house until it's literally dripping. Also spray the three-inch band of soil along the foundation. Repeat the treatment in one month. This treatment will help to keep ants, crickets, oriental roaches and other insects out of the house.

Many home owners also report that "sidewalk" ants are increasing. To control these pests, spray the same mixture along the edge of the sidewalk and in all cracks and crevices. Also spray the foundation of the house.

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PAC:cm
8/10/60
NO

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 22, 1960

Homeowners Need to Protect Lawns From White Grubs

Those emerald green lawns that homeowners have tended so carefully this summer now need protection from annual white grubs.

To the grub, grass roots are quite a delicacy. Consequently grubs often kill large patches of sod.

H. B. Petty says "the adult form of the grub resembles a June beetle, but is smaller." Petty is an insect specialist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey.

The adults lay their eggs in early summer. By September, the eggs have hatched and the young grubs start feeding on roots. They are often visible when the sod is rolled back.

To grub-proof lawns, Petty recommends applying heptachlor, aldrin, or dieldrin. Use 1/4 pound of dieldrin or 1/2 pound of heptaclor or aldrin for every 10,000 square feet of lawn. This is about the size of an average size lot.

Homeowners can buy these chemicals as emulsifiable concentrates. Mix the concentrates with water and spray the lawn. Then wash in the spray with a hose.

These chemicals are also available in granular form and can be spread with a fertilizer spreader. But Petty believes it's easier to use the emulsifiable concentrates.

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PAC:mf
8/17/60
NO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cattle Feeders Day Report Will Compare Dry and Wet Corn

With many farmers planning to harvest wet corn this fall, a report on high moisture corn's feeding value should attract interest at the University of Illinois Cattle Feeders Day, September 2.

Beef cattle scientists have compared the feeding value of high-moisture ear and shelled corn with regular dry corn.

In the first phase of the study, they fed dry ear corn, that averaged 15 percent in moisture content, to one group of heifers. A second group received wet ear corn with a 36 percent moisture content.

The second phase of the study featured shelled corn. One group received shelled corn dried to a 15 percent moisture level. Another group received corn that averaged 30 percent in moisture content.

The corn in all rations was fed as part of a standard fattening ration.

Preliminary data indicates that cattle receiving dry ear corn turned in a better performance than cattle fed high-moisture ear corn. The complete results will be presented at Cattle Feeders Day.

The program starts at 10 a.m. with tours of the beef cattle farm. The formal program begins at 1:15 in the Auditorium when the major research reports will be presented.

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PAC:mf
8/17/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 22, 1960

Footrot Heavy in August

Footrot, usually associated with spring and winter mud is causing Illinois cattle farmers trouble this August, says Dr. J. P. Manning, University of Illinois veterinarian.

The bacteria causing footrot live in the soil and usually enter hoof wounds when animals stand in mud. During late summer, the infectious organisms are evidently triggered into activity by stress. This may be caused by over-heating coupled with wet pastures, or injuries caused by pebbles, crushed rock, or dried balls of mud wedged between the claws.

Wash the hoof of an animal lame with footrot, says Dr. Manning. Then put the animal in a clean, well-bedded pen away from other stock. The infection often localizes in the deeper tissue just above the hoof, requiring professional treatment, he adds.

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WDR:mf
8/17/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1960

Forecast Soybean Price of $1.95-$2.00

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--A University of Illinois agricultural economist today estimated that Illinois soybean growers will average $1.95 to $2.00 a bushel for their 1960 crop, although prices may bulge above this at some time.

Speaking before the American Soybean Association annual meeting, T. A. Hieronymus analyzed the situation in this way:

The current crop estimate of 548 million bushels is the best figure available at this time. While it is 10 million bushels above last year, the total supply will be a little lower because of reduced carryover.

Soybean oil selling for 8 to 9 cents a pound and soybean meal at $50 to $55 in bulk at Decatur would mean an Illinois farm price of $1.95 to $2.00. To obtain this price, crushing margins would have to be about the same as in the past two years.

The market for soybean meal and soybeans for export continues to expand. Disposing of oil continues to be a problem, but demand will increase at moderately lower prices than at present.

The market for soybeans will continue to grow as long as prices remain in the $1.90 to $2.00 range. But higher prices will sharply curtail the market potential.

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Demand for soybean meal could increase substantially in the coming year. Feed grain prices will remain low, and livestock feeding will be profitable. But high use of bean meal requires that prices remain below $60 a ton. At $50 a ton, meal from the entire soybean supply could be used up.

Edible fat and oil supplies are large throughout the world. Although soybean oil has sold for around 8.25 cents a pound this past year, the price probably won't be quite so high in the year ahead.

The lower soybean price support has now removed the influence of the loan program on the market price of soybeans and their products.

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HDG:je
8/18/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Agronomists Copy Indian Idea

URBANA--In India farmers thin their corn in midseason and use this part as fodder for cattle. The rest stays on to produce grain for human consumption.

And what Indian farmers have been doing for hundreds of years is getting a Yankee twist and may some day wind up as something new for American farmers.

The idea of taking two crops from the same field of corn is being tested at the University of Illinois agronomy farm in Urbana.

The basic experimental design is this: between every set of grain rows are jammed up to six closely spaced fodder rows. The fodder rows will be harvested for green chop or silage, and the grain rows will be harvested as usual later in the year.

Two graduate students are working on the project, Narender K. Jain and Mahesh N. Mishra. They're from India, naturally--the north-central part.

The studies evolved when East met West at preliminary-idea sessions the students had with U. of I. agronomists.

Jain's and Mishra's adviser, Agronomist J. W. Pendleton tags this work as a future possibility for midwest corn growers. It's pointed toward the day when food and fiber needs will be greater than they are now.

One thing sure, the Indian-inspired studies are pointing up some overlooked capacities of hybrid corn.

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In the studies, the Indian students aim to take off a crop of corn fodder and still get, say, a 100-bushel grain yield from the same field. To get this yield, they've planted corn twice as thick in the grain rows, since there are only about half as many grain rows as in normal fields.

Such crowding ordinarily hurts yields, but taking out the fodder rows just before tasseling time allows more sunlight to reach the grain rows, which may offset the crowding.

Theoretically at least, one acre of corn ground should produce the forage and grain that normally requires two acres. At harvest time this fall, the Indian students hope to prove their point.

They also have a related study under way in which they're growing corn strictly for tonnage, drilling it at a whopping 200,000 plants per acre. One plot, harvested on July 8, yielded 30 tons of green forage per acre. More corn was immediately drilled in its place, and sometime before frost it should be ready for harvest, making two cuttings of corn from the same plot.

For producing sheer tonnage, corn is showing remarkable abilities. The University of Illinois dairy and animal science departments are now running nutrient tests to see how such corn ranks in feed value.

Mishra and Jain's sojourn of study in the United States is financed jointly by the University of Illinois and the International Cooperation Administration. After their work here, they'll return to India to teach in agricultural universities.

Visitors at Agronomy Day September 14 will see these plots and hear more about this research project. This test will be only one of the 18 stops on the tour of the agronomy research farm.

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RFH:je
8/18/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PAC:mf
8/17/60

-2-

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 29, 1960

Demand Increases for Soil and Water

Guelph, Ontario--The intense pressure on soil and water resources will grow with a population that should reach at least 370 million 45 years from now.

Elmer Sauer, U.S. Department of Agriculture and University of Illinois soil conservationist, made this statement today (August 29) at the annual meeting of the Soil Conservation Society of America in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Sauer is president of the organization.

He described the future pattern of land use as follows:

"By the year 2,000, the population of the United States will probably be 85 percent urban. The amount of land for urban use will probably double by that time, requiring about 3 percent of the total land area. Currently, Class I farm land amounts to only 3.8 percent of the total land area.

"As time goes on, we will also need an increasing area in lakes and parks for recreational use by our ever-expanding population.

"All this means an approximate loss of two million cropland acres each year to highway, urban and industrial expansion, and hence increasing pressure on the land remaining for food and fiber."

Sauer pointed out that soil conservation relates to efficiency of production, with a look to the future. Conservation practices have to be part of a sound management program that pays off for the farmer.

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Sauer urged putting continued stress on research in production, processing, marketing and consumption, while at the same time working to conserve and improve such renewable resources as soil and water.

"The public depends on agriculture to manage its resources to meet the needs of future generations."

According to Sauer, most people don't think of water as "a vital natural resource that is becoming more limited each day." But the already huge demands for water for domestic use, for sanitation, for manufacture and for agriculture increase each year because of our expanding population, he said.

Sauer cited the importance of research which seeks ways to utilize sea water and reclaim brackish water. The funds available for such work are infinitesimal compared to its significance, he said.

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RFH:cm
8/22/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Irrigation Not Always Profitable for Illinois Farmers

URBANA--When hot, dry August days and curling corn leaves turn a farmer's thoughts to irrigation, he might first profit by hearing the experiences of farmers who have irrigated.

Velmar W. Davis, U. S. Department of Agriculture economist at the University of Illinois, has completed a survey of 145 farmers who have used irrigation. He reports that many irrigation systems were installed in 1954 following the 1953 dry weather, but the number of installations leveled off in 1955 and 1956. Since rainfall was generally abundant in 1957 and 1958, few new systems were installed, and some farmers sold or discontinued using their systems.

Only 13 of 77 farmers who were equipped to irrigate field crops used their systems in 1958, Davis reports. The average acres irrigated dropped from 45 in 1956 to six in 1958.

Specialty crop farmers, on the other hand, increased the average acreage irrigated between 1954 and 1958. Somewhat fewer irrigators, however, used their systems in 1957 and 1958.

The average investment for irrigating field crops is high. Among 40 farmers, the investment averaged $7,433 per farm, or about $86 an acre irrigated.

In 1957, 26 farmers who reported irrigating corn averaged 2 1/2 applications and 2 inches per application. They averaged 38 bushels more corn per acre than with no irrigation. With an average

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[illegible] Irrigation Systems

[illegible] Department of Agriculture [illegible]
[illegible] Division of Illinois, has completed a survey of all farms
[illegible] need irrigation. The report [illegible]
[illegible] 1954 totaling the 1953 [illegible]
[illegible] 1955 and 1956. Since [illegible]
[illegible] 1957 and 1958, new [illegible]
[illegible] owners [illegible]

Only [illegible] farmers who were [illegible]
used their systems [illegible]. The average [illegible]
[illegible] to six in 1956.

Specialty crop farmers, on the other hand, increased [illegible]
[illegible] irrigated [illegible] and fruit. Commercial [illegible]
[illegible], and [illegible] systems in 1957 and 1958.

[illegible] irrigation investment for [illegible] crops in Illinois
[illegible] farmers, the investment averaged $7,413 per [illegible], to cover
[illegible] more [illegible].

In 1957, 46 farmers who reported [illegible] water systems
[illegible] and 4 [illegible] per acre-inch. They averaged 10
[illegible] more corn per acre than [illegible]. With an average

corn price of $1.15 at that time, they estimated a profit of $10.98 an acre, or a 13 percent return on their investment.

In 1958, however, four farmers who irrigated their corn raised yields only 21 bushels above yields of corn without irrigation. This increase was not enough to pay all the extra costs. Davis estimates that they averaged a net loss of 3 percent on their investment.

Most irrigating in Illinois is done on sandy or silt loam soils, Davis reports. These soils have less water-holding capacity than others. They are also most responsive to irrigation.

Corn and soybeans are the most commonly irrigated field crops. Gladiolus, vegetables, strawberries and nursery crops are the most commonly irrigated specialty crops.

Farmers who are thinking about irrigation must decide whether the money invested this way will pay returns as high as if put to some other use, Davis points out. On many Illinois farms that are relatively unimproved, investments in fertilizer, improved seed, pasture improvements and more productive livestock will pay a higher rate of return over several years than a similar amount invested in irrigation.

On highly developed farms, however, where the best farm practices are followed, irrigation may be a profitable investment, Davis concludes.

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HDG:cm
8/22/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hot Weather Means Skin Problems for Dogs

URBANA--Heavy scratching, falling tufts of hair and dandruff are the warning signs of skin disease that dog owners commonly encounter in hot weather, says Dr. Erwin Small, University of Illinois veterinarian.

Ringworm is one of the most common skin problems aggravated by hot weather. The fungus causing this infection attacks the roots of the animal's hair. As the hair becomes brittle and drops out, a crust or scale forms on the surface of the skin. It causes an irritation that the dog tries to relieve by scratching.

Although children most often contract ringworm from other infected children, they occasionally get it from an infected animal. But the relationship is not one-sided, says Dr. Small. Children can be just as generous, giving their ringworm to Fido.

Unlike ringworm, many skin diseases are "look-alikes." Parasites like fleas, lice, ticks or mites can cause skin diseases. Allergies, diets or soaps can also cause skin disorders.

Animals taken to a veterinarian for any skin disorder should not be washed or medicated beforehand, recommends Dr. Small. Special tests must be made on skin scrapings or samples from infected animals. Washing and medication can hide the cause of infection.

Subjecting Fido to an assortment of home remedies usually fails, and the dog continues to suffer, adds Dr. Small. There are many medicines and many types of skin conditions. But once the precise cause is known, there are usually only a few effective medicines.

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WDR:cm
8/22/60

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Walk-In Soil Profile Completed at Agronomy Research Farm

URBANA--A stranger passing by might ask, "What's that big hole in the ground with the roof on top and steps leading down into it?"

But to the soil scientists at the University of Illinois agronomy research farm this "big hole" tells a fascinating story. With this simple excavation about 5 1/2 feet deep, 10 feet long and 8 feet wide, they can explain the importance of every inch of the soil profile from the rich blacktop soil to the coarse glacial outwash material far below.

This profile is Flanagan silt loam, a common soil found in central Illinois that has an uncommon ability to produce high crop yields when properly cared for. Chemical analyses and field experiments give soil scientists a detailed knowledge of how this soil and others similar to it can produce the highest yields at the lowest cost.

Soil scientists B. R. Sabey and L. J. McKenzie built the profile just before a recent tour of internationally known soil scientists from 40 countries. It will be shown to the general public at Agronomy Day on September 14. Agronomy classes will use it in their studies after that.

The soil profile is only one of 18 stops scheduled for the Agronomy Day tours beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at the farm at noon. The research farm is located directly south of the main campus at Champaign-Urbana.

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HDG:cm
8/22/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 1960

Many Home Owners Guilty of Watering Lawns too Often

A University of Illinois landscape specialist said this week that many home owners are watering their lawns too often.

H. R. Kemmerer says that, with Illinois' fairly abundant rainfall this summer, lawns need watering only once a week. Yet many folk sprinkle their lawns every day. Sprinkling makes the lawns more susceptible to diseases, especially if it is done in the evening.

The key to successful watering, explains Kemmerer, is to thoroughly soak the upper six inches of soil. To do this, apply one inch of water in a two- to three-hour period. This amount of moisture should carry the lawn through one week of hot, dry weather.

To find out whether lawns need water, use an auger or trowel to dig up a sample "core" of soil six inches deep. If the entire six inches is dry and crumbly, get out the hose.

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PAC:cm
8/24/60
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 1960

Rural Development Program Expands in Southern Illinois

The University of Illinois agricultural extension service has announced plans to broaden its rural development program into an area resources development program in nine southern Illinois counties.

Les Broom, formerly farm adviser in Pulaski-Alexander counties, will direct the program. He will make his headquarters at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

For several years a pilot rural development program has been under way in Pulaski and Alexander counties under the direction of Stanley Ceglinski. He will replace Broom as farm adviser in those counties.

The area resources development program will include the family farm but will also encompass industrial, recreational and community development.

Broom, a graduate of the University of Missouri, has served as farm adviser in Illinois and Missouri since 1934. He has also taught school, farmed and appraised land for the Federal Land Bank. He and his family will live near Vienna.

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HAC:HDG:cm
8/24/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1960

Scientist Discovers New High-Sugar Sweet Corn

An accidental discovery by a University of Illinois plant scientist has led to the development of a new "super sugary" sweet corn. It could be a dream come true for the corn-on-the-cob connoisseur.

Although the new corn looks like any other sweet corn growing in the field, it has a sugar content about twice as high as that of ordinary corn. And another important quality that gives this corn great future prospects is its ability to hold this sugar without loss.

Ordinary sweet corn carries about 20 percent sugar, but much of it changes to starch shortly after harvest unless the corn is cooled quickly and kept refrigerated. That's why home gardeners who pick their corn and put it into boiling water immediately usually have the best tasting corn on their tables.

But this new "super sugary" corn contains about 45 percent sugar. Even after 48 hours at room temperature, it still retains 40 percent sugar. Ordinary sweet corn would have only one-fourth this much.

With this new corn, commercial growers a great distance from market could supply consumers with a much higher quality product than they are now able to do. The new corn will yield just as much as regular sweet corn. It is just as tender, but the texture is slightly different.

J. R. Laughnan, U. of I. corn geneticist, discovered the high sugar gene accidentally when he was studying color characteristics of

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corn. He crossed it with regular sweet corn to develop the new "super sugary" hybrid.

Limited quantities of single-cross seed of this new corn will be available from the Illinois Seed Producers Association, Champaign, for 1961 planting. The seed will sell for $1.00 a pound and will be sold to those who want to produce seed.

More details on this new corn will be presented at Agronomy Day on September 14 at Urbana. One of the 18 stops on the research farm tour will feature this new vegetable corn. Free samples of seed will be given to those who would like to try the corn in their gardens.

Tours begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue throughout the day. Lunch will be served at the farm at noon.

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HDG:mfb
8/31/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1960

Cattle Reciving High-Moisture Corn Made Slower Gains

In a recent University of Illinois test, cattle receiving high-moisture corn made slower and more expensive gains than similar cattle eating dry corn.

In testing wet ground ear corn, researchers found that it had 36 percent moisture. This amount was too high compared with the 25 to 30 percent moisture usually recommended. The dry corn in the test averaged 15 percent moisture.

Dry ground ear corn produced the best gains, 2.07 pounds per head daily, and at the lowest cost, $13.36 per 100 pounds of gain.

The dry shelled corn ranked second. It produced gains of 2.01 pounds daily at a cost of $15 for every 100 pounds gained.

Cattle on wet shelled corn made 1.81 pounds of gain daily at a cost of $16.27 per hundred pounds gained.

Heifers receiving wet ground ear corn turned in the poorest performance. They gained only 1.51 pounds a day at a cost of $16.74 per hundred pounds.

Research workers emphasize that the amount of moisture at harvest plays an important role in wet corn's feeding value. The ear should test between 25 and 30 percent. The ground ear corn mixture will contain at least 5 to 10 percent more moisture than the grain alone at harvest time.

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HDG:mfb
8/31/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1960

Feed Corn Silage 140 Days For Cheapest Gains

Research just completed at the University of Illinois gives cattle feeders some guide as to how long they should feed corn silage before finishing steers on a full feed of grain.

Steers that received a heavy feed of corn silage for 140 days and were then finished out on grain made the cheapest gains. Their total feed costs, including silage and grain, averaged $14.75 per hundredweight of gain.

Steers on a 280-day silage feeding period had the second lowest feed cost, $15.16, followed by $15.54 for those fed silage for 210 days. Those full-fed grain for the full feeding period had costs of $16.75 a hundred pounds.

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HDG:mfb
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1960

Field Shelling and Mechanical Drying Have Advantages

Field shelling and mechanical drying of corn have some important advantages, reports Velmar W. Davis, USDA agricultural economist at the University of Illinois.

Farmers who use this method have lower field losses because of early harvest and better field conditions. The picking and shelling jobs are also combined into one operation. And shelled corn storage costs less than half as much as comparable ear-corn storage.

The added cost of drying the corn is the biggest disadvantage of field shelling, Davis points out.

Farmers shifting to field shelling have a choice of three types of harvesting equipment: (1) The grain combine equipped with a corn-head attachment snaps and conveys the corn into the threshing chamber. (2) The mounted picker-husker snaps and husks the corn and conveys it to a sheller that is mounted or trailing behind. (3) The picker-sheller snaps, husks, shells and conveys the grain to a tank or trailing wagon. This type of machine was the first manufactured for field shelling but is now the least important type in use, Davis points out.

Drying equipment includes heated air in a continuous flow or batch system, a supplemental heat system or natural air drying without heat.

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NO

Operating and Mechanical Objects and Advantages

Field sheller and mechanical design of previous corn shelling machines, notably Wehmer U.S. Pat. No. [illegible] Disadvantages of Illinois.

Because most use auto motive rave lower [illegible] husking rollers but poorer field condition. The picking and sh[illegible] life also combined into one operation. And shelling [illegible] lean [illegible] not be much of [illegible] corn damage.

The other evil of drying the corn is the [illegible] and smelling. Drying [illegible] mar.

[illegible] Starting to dried shelling have a choice of three [illegible] harvesting equipment. (1) the grain combine equipped with a [illegible] automatic [illegible] and combines the corn into the regular [illegible] (2) the mechanical picker-husker shape and [illegible] the corn and [illegible] it to a trailer that is wrecked or tearing machine. (3) the [illegible] ear corn [illegible] husk, shells and conveys the grain to a [illegible] or [illegible] wagon. This type of machine was the first mechanization [illegible] something but is now the least efficient [illegible] in use. [illegible] points

[illegible] equipment includes mounted six to a [illegible] [illegible] a supplemental gear driven or [illegible] via driving wheels

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1960

Fall Best Time for Planting Shrubs

Cool fall breezes fanning Illinois serve as a reminder that home owners can start planting evergreen shrubs.

H. R. Kemmerer points out that shrubs planted during the fall develop good root systems before spring. The soil is also drier during the fall, and consequently easier to work.

Kemmerer is a landscape researcher with the University of Illinois.

He believes that yews are the best type of evergreen shrub. They are green the entire year, resist insects and diseases and grow in either sun or shade. Home owners can use them as hedges, accents or fillers. The various types include dense, dwarf, spreading Japanese, hatfield upright and hicks yews.

On the other hand, junipers are the most common evergreens. But they definitely require sunlight and do not resist red spider and bagworm attacks. Many different types of junipers are available, including andorra, sargeant and pfitzer. Canaert red cedar is a good upright form.

Whatever evergreen you choose, make sure the roots are balled and burlapped to reduce shock to the shrubs during transplanting. After buying shrubs, plant them immediately.

Give the new shrub plenty of water. In fact, fill the hole with water once or twice while planting. Do not, however, fertilize. Fertilizer stimulates fall growth that cold weather can severely damage.

Fall-planted shrubs do not require much pruning. But a little trimming to maintain their natural shape will make them look neater.

Kemmerer adds that the shrubs do not need mulching. They can develop a good root system without the protection that mulches offer. Mulching will, however, help control weeds next summer.

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9/21/60
NO

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Program to Control Internal Parasites of Sheep

"A sick sheep is a dead sheep" is the oft-heard lament of sheepmen everywhere.

Although this saying isn't necessarily true, sheepmen can improve flock health by controlling internal parasites, says Dr. Norman D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He notes, "Internal parasites not only are the most important cause of death in sheep, but they also weaken animals so that other diseases can hit a flock more frequently."

Dr. Levine says phenothiazine may be used as a capsule, bolus or drench at the rate of 1/2 ounce for lambs, 1 ounce for most sheep or 1 1/2 ounces for sheep over 100 pounds. He recommends the following routine for breeding flocks:

1. Treat all animals in late fall, just after they are taken off pasture.

2. Treat all animals in midwinter, about 1 to 1 1/2 months before lambing.

3. Treat ewes, rams and wethers in the spring just before placing them on pasture.

4. Treat all animals, including lambs, when the lambs are 2 1/2 to 3 months old.

5. Treat all animals about the middle of summer.

Contact the local veterinarian before worming when sheep are in poor condition, suggests Dr. Levine. He also cautions farmers to carefully read the labels on phenothiazine preparations. Phenothiazine is marketed either by itself or mixed with lead arsenate for simultaneous treatment of roundworms and tapeworms. Do not use this mixture as often as phenothiazine alone, and probably not more than twice a season. Lead arsenate is poisonous. It is stored in the liver, and animals treated with it too often may be seriously injured.

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WDR:mfb
9/21/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1960

DHIA Processing Center Is Big Hit With Dairymen

The Dairy Herd Improvement Association record-processing center in Urbana is fast becoming a big hit among Illinois dairymen.

University of Illinois dairy scientist Gary Harpestad says more than 1,000 of the state's dairymen are letting the processing center's giant electronic computer keep track of their production records.

About half of the herds on test in Illinois are now enrolled in the program. And herds are being switched from field to central processing at the rate of about 50 to 60 each month.

Harpestad says the center's 650-IBM electronic computer can easily turn out monthly records on 80,000 cows during a normal 40-hour week.

He believes the computer will eventually handle records for all of the cows on test in Illinois.

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HDN:mfb
9/21/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3, 1960

List Breakdown of Corn Harvest Costs

Costs of harvesting corn will vary with type of equipment, moisture content of the corn when harvest begins, method of storage, field loss and amount of corn produced.

V. W. Davis, USDA agricultural economist at the University of Illinois has figured some of these costs to guide farmers in selecting the most economical system for their farms.

For less than 3,000 bushels of corn, the lowest cost system is conventional ear corn harvesting and storage in wooden cribs. For 3,000 to 5,500 bushels, the costs for field shelling and natural air drying will run about the same as for ear corn harvesting.

Although natural air drying is the least costly of all drying systems, it is slow and its success depends on favorable weather.

Farmers who produce 5,500 bushels of corn or more can field-shell and use supplemental heat for drying at a cost about equal to that of conventional ear corn harvest.

To justify the costs of heated air drying and use of a corn combine, Davis figures that a farmer would need to harvest at least 12,000 bushels.

The costs of harvesting corn at 30 percent moisture with a combine, using a heated air batch dryer and storing in a metal bin, figure at 22.8 cents a bushel for a crop of 13,200 bushels. To harvest the same amount at 20 percent moisture with a conventional picker, haul it to the crib, unload it, store and later shell it and take the usual field loss will add up to about 23.5 cents a bushel.

The costs are lower, however, when a farmer begins harvest with corn at 25 percent moisture. With the 13,000-bushel volume, field shelling, hauling, supplemental heat drying, storing and field loss will add up to only 20.7 cents a bushel.

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9/28/60

Tranquilizers Lower Beef Costs

Tranquilized steers may have been a lot happier during a 29-week feeding period, but they gained only 2.05 pounds per day while the ones facing reality without the aid of tranquilizers gained 2.09 pounds.

At the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station near Robbs, Illinois, cattle research George Cmarik tested this prop of modern man on half of a group of heavy yearling steers.

The non-treated cattle ate 55 more pounds of feed for every 100 pounds of gain. Because of the increase in gain, however, Cmarik figured that the feed cost 92 cents less per 100 pounds of gain for the tranquilized group.

Each group was self-fed a complete ration of ground ear corn, hay and soybean oil meal.

Cmarik tested trifluomeprazine, a tranquilizer that is slowly released in the body over an eight-week period.

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Contouring A Habit

Folks just get used to farming on the contour at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

After years of plowing, disking, harrowing and planting or drilling on the contour, it seemed only natural to bale hay on the contour too.

Graceful, curving lines of bales around the hills are testimony to long experience in contouring.

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9/28/60
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 10, 1960

U. of I. Sheep Day Program Announced

A program liberally sprinkled with research reports and experiences of sheep producers sums up the University of Illinois Sheep Day scheduled for October 28.

The program gets under way at 9 a.m. CDT with various demonstrations and exhibits at the Sheep Farm, south of Memorial Stadium.

At 10 a.m. the program shifts to the Stock Pavilion, where U. of I. staff members will report the following research studies: (1) Nitrate poisoning in sheep. (2) Do high-roughage fattening rations cause soft carcasses? (3) Identifying carcass quality. (4) Sire comparisons for market lamb production. (5) What's in a sheep's head? (6) Self-feeding bred and lactating ewes. (7) Wool pools--how and why? (8) 1960 results of the sheep production project.

After lunch, Nolan Nelson, sheep producer from Morris, will discuss "Commercial and Purebred Ewes on My Farm." William Heggemeier, Kirkland, will report on purebred and feeder sheep he uses in his farm operation.

Kenneth McMillan, a U. of I. freshman from Prairie City, will tell how he earned his college money by raising sheep. U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division, will report on "Sheep Breeding Research and the Future."

L. L. Felts, University of Wisconsin, will wrap up the program with a talk on "Breeding for Productivity."

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PAC:mfb
10/5/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 10, 1960

Fall Tuberculosis Threat Serious

The tuberculosis threat to livestock promises to be especially serious this fall, warns Dr. George Woods, University of Illinois veterinarian.

Because old hens present the primary tuberculosis hazard to other farm animals, they should be shipped immediately after the laying season. But the more productive old hens are being kept this year because many chicks were bought late last spring and these pullets won't start laying until late fall or winter. If allowed to mingle, the older, affected birds can infect pullets through their droppings.

Endangering not only new laying stock, tuberculous hens also pose a threat to swine and cattle. Last year 5,985 total and 349,119 partial swine carcasses were condemned as tuberculous.

Old hens carry the organism capable of causing swine tuberculosis. By allowing hens to share pens and houses with swine, the farmer increases the swine tuberculosis hazard.

Cattle exposed to the droppings of tuberculous poultry seldom contract the disease, but they do become sensitized and react to test. Branded by law, reacting animals are taken to a federally inspected slaughter house, where veterinarians examine the liver and spleen for the tell-tale nodules indicating an active tuberculosis infection.

Dr. Woods suggests taking several sick or dead birds to a veterinarian or a state diagnostic laboratory as a routine check for tuberculosis. This should be done especially if old birds go light and limp before dying.

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WDR:cm
10/5/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 17, 1960

High Yields Key to Profits

Farmers harvesting corn can get a good idea of their profits by how much corn they haul out of the field.

A University of Illinois farm management extension specialist pointed out this week that profit per acre is directly related to yield per acre. As yields go up, production costs per bushel go down and profits go up. F. M. Sims points out that this relationship will apply on most farms. There are exceptions where the operator pushes for extremely high yields and his costs go up faster than additional returns.

Sims cites a 1957 farm record study to prove his point. On 253 good central and northern Illinois grain farms of the same size and same type of soil, the one-third with highest crop yields averaged about $10,000 higher farm earnings than the one-third with low crop yields. About three-fourths of the difference in net farm earnings has been traced to the value of crop production. The top farmers averaged 20 percent higher crop yields than the lowest.

On test demonstration farms in southern Illinois, net earnings per acre ranged from a loss of $11.26 to a profit of $26.67 an acre during a recent five-year period. The highest earnings came in years when crop yields were highest.

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10/12/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 17, 1960

Corn Harvest Losses Vary With Method

Farmers who harvest their corn with the conventional ear corn picker suffer the highest harvest losses, research by U. S. Department of Agriculture scientists shows.

V. W. Davis, USDA agricultural economist at the University of Illinois, cites these results from tests conducted in Iowa during 1959:

Total harvesting losses with the conventional picker averaged about 13.5 percent of total yield when corn was planted on May 1 and harvested November 4. When the corn was planted on June 10 and harvested November 28, the total loss was about 12.6 percent. More than half of this loss occurred as shelled corn when the snapping rolls removed the ears from the stalk.

When picker-shellers were used, total harvesting losses averaged 8.44 percent for the early planted and harvested corn. For the later planting, losses totaled 9.35 percent.

Corn combines showed up best in reducing total harvesting loss. In the early planted corn, losses averaged 4.55 percent; and in late planting, about 6.1 percent.

The lower harvest losses for the field shelling methods can help pay for the investment in this equipment, Davis points out. But of course the farmer who is considering a switch from ear to shelled corn harvesting must also have adequate volume, available drying facilities and a system for storing, marketing or feeding shelled corn on his farm.

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10/12/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 24, 1960

Supplements Boost Gains on Cornfields

A University of Illinois livestock specialist reports that cattle and hogs fed protein while gleaning cornfields will gain enough weight to more than pay the supplement's cost.

As proof, G. R. Carlisle cites a trial in which gains increased 3/4 pound per head daily when the cattle received a protein supplement. Each dollar spent for supplement returned $2.85.

The average of 13 corn-belt experiments has shown that:

1. Pigs receiving supplement each gained 1/2 pound more daily while gleaning cornfields.

2. Each bushel of corn produced 4.5 more pounds of pork when supplement was fed.

3. Each pound of supplement saved 6.4 pounds of corn.

If corn in the field is worth only 50 cents a bushel, a supplement must cost over $6.00 per hundred pounds before it becomes too expensive to feed.

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PAC:mfb
10/19/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 24, 1960

No One Success Formula For Hog Producers

All successful hog producers do not follow the same system. That fact was clearly evident on the hog farms visited on farm management tours in Illinois during the late summer.

Here are the most important ideas picked up from the tours as listed by D. F. Wilken, University of Illinois agricultural economist:

1. High-profit farms have high corn yields and a high number of pigs per litter. Highest profit farms have these things plus large numbers of livestock and low operating costs.

2. Most successful hog producers select a particular hog-raising program, get it down to a system and stay with it.

3. Farmers visited on the tour could spot trouble before it became serious. They kept up-to-date records and made a habit of doing chores on time.

Wide variations in hog production systems are likely to continue, Wilken says. Each farm may differ in such things as soil type, tenure arrangements, skills and ages of operators and the farmer's personal preference. All of these things influence the management picture.

Substituting capital for labor on high-volume farms may become more important in the future, according to Wilken. Labor bottlenecks can prevent the most efficient use of managerial abilities.

More than 3,700 persons attended these farm management tours, which are held annually by the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service in cooperation with the University of Illinois Agricultural Extension Service.

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10/19/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 24, 1960

Prevent Overeating Disease in Feeder Lambs

As feeder lambs move into Illinois, lamb feeders prepare for their traditional fall fight against overeating disease.

A University of Illinois veterinarian, Dr. George Woods, says there are several effective ways to prevent lambs from eating themselves to death.

First, always put young lambs on pasture or hay for one or two weeks while gradually starting them on grain. Then have a veterinarian vaccinate healthy lambs against overeating disease at least 10 days before giving them a full grain ration or putting them on stalk fields.

Instead of vaccinating, some farmers give one-third ounce of sulfur with each lamb's daily feed. Results indicate that this approach has some value.

Overeating disease is not contagious. It occurs when intestinal bacteria, stimulated by too much grain, produce a deadly poison. To date no preventive or treatment methods are 100 percent effective, but they do cut death loss.

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WDR:mfb
10/19/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31, 1960

To Burn or Not to Burn

"To burn or not to burn," muses Mr. Average Home Owner as he balefully stares at autumn's leaves smothering his well-tended lawn.

William Nelson, University of Illinois landscape specialist, offers this advice: Rake and burn leaves if any plants are afflicted with disease; otherwise the disease will overwinter in the ground or leaves.

Check for black spot on roses, any leaf spot on trees and shrubs and other diseases.

If no diseases are lurking around, leaves make a satisfactory mulch for winter. Use them for mulching flower beds, roses, evergreens and other plants. However, remove them next spring, as they are dense and will keep out air and moisture during the growing season.

Even if leaves are not needed for mulching, rake them anyway.

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PAC:mfb
10/26/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31, 1960

Protect Rose Bushes From Winter's Wrath

A University of Illinois landscape specialist suggests protecting rose bushes this winter by banking earth around the base of each plant.

William Nelson advises "hilling up" the earth about 6 to 8 inches. If the plant beds are small, bring in soil so that digging will not expose the roots of the plants.

Rose bushes should be banked any time after the first hard freeze, but before the ground freezes. By now most of Illinois has had the first freeze.

Home gardeners in northern Illinois should also mulch the plants to give them further protection. Use straw, leaves or corncobs. But use leaves only if the plants are free from diseases.

Apply the mulch over the soil banked against the plant.

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PAC:mfb
10/26/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31, 1960

Soybeans Can Seldom Compete With Other Feeds in Dairy Ration

A University of Illinois dairy scientist warns Illinois dairymen that ground soybeans usually can't compete economically with other feeds for dairy cows.

K. A. Kendall points out that ground soybeans will compete with corn and cob meal in the dairy ration only when beans sell at about the same price per bushel as corn.

Whether soybeans can replace soybean oil meal or other protein supplements in the ration also will depend on the relative prices of the products. But, in general, ground soybeans can't compete with soybean oil meal as an economical feed.

Some dairymen claim that feeding ground soybeans to cows will boost the butterfat content of their milk. However, in most tests the maximum increase is only about 0.25 percent--not enough to cover the additional cost of grinding the beans.

Kendall warns that ground soybeans should not be added to concentrate mixtures that contain urea. That's because soybeans contain urease, an enzyme that acts upon urea and releases ammonia. This makes the feed unpalatable.

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IDN:mfb
10/26/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 14, 1960

New Trees Need TLC This Winter

Giving some "tender, loving care" this winter to newly planted trees will help them survive winter's fury.

William R. Nelson, University of Illinois landscape specialist, offers these tips:

1. Mulch the base of the trunk.

2. Wrap the trunk up to the first branch. Wrapping prevents moisture losses and sun scald. Use burlap strips about 1 1/2 inches wide or a commercial wrapping paper available in garden shops. Wrap in a spiral pattern, making sure the burlap or paper is securely fastened.

3. Stake the tree or brace it. Otherwise strong winds will sway it, disrupting any established roots.

Driving stakes right next to the trunk is one method of bracing. These stakes should reach up to the first branches. Wrap an inner tube around the stakes about 10 inches above the ground, halfway up to the first branch and just below the first branch.

Another method uses two or three stakes driven in away from the trunk. Attach wires from the stakes to the trunk at the same three locations mentioned above: at the base, halfway up and just below the first branches.

Protect the tree from the wire by using strips of an inner tube, hose or plastic tubing.

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PAC:mb
11/9/60
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 14, 1960

Good Management Aids Soybeans; Helps Counter Bad Weather

Despite unfavorable weather, good management helped the University of Illinois Allerton trust farms chalk up their second highest soybean yield this year. On eight farms with 905 acres of soybeans, the average yield was 34.9 bushels per acre.

For the third straight year, Frank Lubbers, Jr., had the highest yield, 39.3 bushels an acre. Everett Glasgow was second with 36.4 bushels. Both operators planted in 28-inch rows instead of the usual 40-inch rows.

Narrow-row planting is recommended by the University of Illinois department of agronomy as one way to increase soybean yields.

In spite of several wet spots in a 125-acre field, Roland Hoffman and Sons averaged 37 bushels an acre. They used a pre-emergence weed killer in granular form to control giant foxtail.

A 40-bushel average for all University trust farms is in sight, says J. B. Cunningham, manager. Perhaps all that is needed is a normal season and application of the latest know-how.

Cunningham says know-how includes continued use of good seed, control of weeds through cultivation, use of a pre-emergence herbicide, narrow-row planting, more attention to physical condition of the soil and better drainage.

Lindarin is a promising variety, according to Cunningham. It is slightly earlier than Harosoy; it pods a little higher from the ground, making it easier to harvest; and the plants are less subject to lodging.

In 1946 Robert Allerton gave eight farms in Piatt County to the University of Illinois. These farms are now operated as regular commercial farms.

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EEW:mfb
11/9/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21, 1960

Illinois Continues Lead in Soil Testing

Illinois farmers continued their lead in amount of soil tested during the past year.

A report just issued by the University of Illinois soil testing laboratory shows that farmers had 561,000 samples tested in 1959. Tests were made on 53,992 farms, or about one out of every three in the state.

J. C. Laverty, in charge of the University soil testing program, credits Illinois' lead to the 80 county extension laboratories and 46 commercial laboratories serving farmers of the state. Some other states also have an extensive system of county laboratories, but they do not test as many samples. The University soil testing laboratory serves as the quality control center to check the tests of county and commercial laboratories.

The leading county laboratories in number of acres tested during 1959 were McLean, Christian, DeKalb, Jefferson, Vermilion and Shelby. Leading counties in terms of number of farms having tests made were Shelby, Macoupin, Christian, Madison, Clinton, Marion and Effingham

Soil tests are the best way for a farmer to be sure he is applying the amounts of plant food nutrients needed by his soil without putting on too much or too little, Laverty emphasizes. They will help him decide whether plant food will give him a better return than spending his money in some other way.

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HDG:mfb
11/16/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21, 1960

Liquid, Dry Fertilizers Equal

Liquid fertilizers are as good as dry ones.

Regardless of the form of fertilizer, if enough plant nutrients were added to meet soil test requirements, yields increased in a two-year test conducted by A. L. Lang, University of Illinois agronomist.

The type of fertilizer to use depends on (1) how well it fits the field and crop's needs, (2) how convenient it is to handle and apply and (3) what it costs per unit of plant nutrients.

Liquid fertilizers seem to be just as good as, but no better than, other fertilizers, Lang said in an article on liquid fertilizers in the fall issue of Illinois Research.

Corn receiving starter fertilizer made more early growth than corn receiving only the broadcast fertilizer. However, the amount of early growth was about the same for liquid and dry starters. The beginning growth encouraged by the starters did not greatly increase yields.

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EEW:mfb
11/16/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28, 1960

Set Five Goals For Profitable Hog Enterprises

"Bigness" is not the whole answer to making livestock enterprises more profitable, University of Illinois farm management specialists point out. But larger enterprises generally do have lower costs per unit of meat produced.

Some 1958 records of northern Illinois hog farms ranging from 180 to 259 acres show the advantage of larger operations. On farms producing fewer than ten litters, farm and family earnings averaged $7,840. On farms producing more than 50 litters, the average was $15,260. Farm and family earnings are the returns to capital invested in the business, family labor and management.

U. of I. farm management specialist F. M. Sims points out that 1958 was a profitable year for hog producers. When hog prices are low, increasing volume may not make much difference in net income.

On the basis of records of successful hog producers, Sims and H. G. Russell, U. of I. livestock specialist, list these five goals or standards for hog producers:

1. Wean 8 1/2 to 9 pigs per litter--farrow 10.

2. Have pigs weigh 35 to 40 pounds at eight weeks and average 300 pounds or more per litter at weaning.

3. Market all pigs at six months of age or less when they weigh 200 to 225 pounds.

4. Produce 100 pounds of pork with 400 pounds of feed, including feed fed to breeding stock.

5. To cover total costs of hog production, including operator's labor and interest on all money invested in the enterprise, farm records show that the hogs must show a return of at least $145 for every $100 worth of feed fed.

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HDG:mfb
11/22/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28, 1960

Lice Make Their Move

It's estimated that about one-third of the cattle herds in Illinois are lousy--from the standpoint of having lice infestations.

In these herds lice are populous enough to lower milk production in dairy and retard weight gains in beef animals. It's high time for control measures in these herds, and in less infested herds, too, because lice populations build up with the arrival of cool weather. By January or February they can become a real problem.

Although spraying is more effective than dusting, both methods are recommended, says Steve Moore, University of Illinois extension entomologist. For beef cattle, use lindane or malathion. On dairy cattle, use only rotenone.

Complete coverage of the animals is important. The treatment may need to be repeated in 14 days.

According to Moore, lindane and malathion will also control mange at the same time they are used to control lice.

A good precautionary measure is to spray new cattle before they are placed with the herd. Lice are transmitted from animal to animal by contact.

For dairy cows, dusts containing 0.5 to 1 percent rotenone are effective and relatively inexpensive. Use about three ounces of of dust per animal.

Also helpful in fighting winter onslaughts of lice are backrubbers dispensing 0.5 percent rotenone or 5 percent DDT in a light-grade fuel oil. Use DDT on beef cattle only, however, and only from a backrubber.

Also, do not treat calves under three months old. And when using lindane as a spray, allow 30 days between treatment and slaughter.

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RFH:mfb
11/22/60
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 1960

Census Shows Illinois Farmland Values at $319 an Acre

The 1959 agricultural census shows that Illinois farmland has an average value of $319 compared with $230 in 1954.

University of Illinois agricultural economist F. J. Reiss points out that sharply rising land prices during the past 10 years have made capital gains as important to landowners as the earnings from farmland.

Reiss also makes these observations on land values:

Current trends in the farmland market indicate that 1959 may have been the peak year in land prices.

The highest per-acre values were reported in the Chicago area of Cook, DuPage, Lake and Kane counties. Only three other counties reported average values over $500 an acre. These were Champaign, Macon and Piatt.

Values of land and buildings showed a higher percentage gain in southern Illinois than in any other part of the state outside the Chicago area. The land values in 36 counties crossed by and south of U. S. Route 40 showed a rise of 47 percent, from $103 in 1954 to $151. The average increase for the state was only 39 percent.

In the Chicago area, land values are affected primarily by nonagricultural factors. Outside this area, the 1959 average values ranged from a low of $59 an acre in Pope county to a high of $545 in Champaign county.

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Above Illinois farm-
ing at 2319 Sangamo

The 1929 agricultural census gave that climate informed
average value of fifty cropped with $250 - a top

University of Illinois agricultural economist O. T. Coons
cur that sharply rising land prices during the past 10 years
de capital gains as investors in landowners as the earnings fro
ed.

Prices also makes them susceptible as no land values:

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ses the peak year of land prices.

The highest returns values were reported in the Corning dis
x, Sidney, Lake and Iowa counties. Only five [illegible] county
d average values over $300 an acre. Three were [illegible], Champ
ur.

Values of land and buildings showed a similar pattern with
ison Illinois often in any other part of the state showing the
s were. The land values in 26 counties dropped by [illegible] of
rease in almost a fifth of 87 counties, from 50% in 10% to 100%
ge increase for the state was only 19 percent.

In the Chicago area, land values are affected primarily by
ultural factors. Because this area, the 1929 average values
from a low of six an acre in Kane County to a record $545 in
ge County.

Values rose proportionately more in southern Illinois than in the more fertile soils in central and northern Illinois. The probable reason is the good response the less productive soils make to fertilizers, weed and insect control measures and timely use of tillage and harvesting machinery.

The larger returns obtained through use of new technology on southern Illinois soils have probably increased land values more in this area than elsewhere in the state.

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HDG:mfb
11/30/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 1960

DHIA Records Show Top Earnings For High Producers

Illinois Dairy Herd Improvement Association records again point out the money-making advantage high-producing cows have over low-producers.

DHIA records show that cows producing about 13,000 pounds of milk and 500 pounds of butterfat last year earned eight times as much money per hour for their owners as cows producing about 8,000 pounds of milk and 300 pounds of butterfat.

And the high-producers earned nearly twice as much per hour as cows producing 400 pounds of butterfat, according to Leo Fryman, University of Illinois dairy scientist.

Fryman says the specialists who made the study assumed that feed costs represent about 50 percent of the total cost of producing milk and that labor costs take another 25 percent.

The specialists also estimated that it takes about 100 hours to care for a mature cow for a year.

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HDN:mfb
11/30/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 1960

Farmers Face Competition Along With Other Groups

Farmers are not the only group that have faced competition keen enough to force them out of business.

University of Illinois agricultural economist R. W. Bartlett points out that American industry in general has been competitive in recent years. Even though population has risen 46 percent since 1929, he cites these reductions in various industrial groups during the past 30 years:

Retail food stores - 33 percent.

Dairy manufacturing plants - 56 percent.

Farms - 28 percent.

Coal miners - 64 percent.

Railroad employees - 20 percent.

To keep agriculture free, prosperous and competitive, Bartlett recommends five lines of action:

Lower support prices on cotton, wheat and other farm surpluses that will clear the market during normal periods. Pay adjustment compensation on a temporary basis, and expand the soil bank.

Keep American business competitive by avoiding marketing quotas that would restrict farm production and encourage labor-management cooperation to increase productivity, efficiency and job security.

Extend federal orders to stabilize markets for other perishable farm commodities besides milk.

Reduce hauling costs on farm products and supplies by expanding use of the piggyback system and integrating truck-rail-water rates.

Expand markets for livestock and livestock products. Two possible ways would be to sell meat on a carcass basis and sell milk concentrates as substitutes for fresh whole milk.

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HDG:mfb
12/7/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 1960

DHIR Growing Fast

Illinois purebred dairymen are turning to the new Dairy Herd Improvement Registry program at a record rate.

University of Illinois dairy scientist Ralph Johnson points out that, although DHIR is less than a year old, nearly one-third of all Illinois herds participating in official testing programs are now enrolled in the new plan.

DHIR is designed specifically for registered dairy cattle breeders who have Dairy Herd Improvement Association records calculated electronically at the new central processing system in Urbana.

The program was put into action last year to eliminate duplication of herds enrolled in both DHIA and HIR programs. Breed associations accept records from the new plan as official records for publication in their breed magazines.

Johnson says dairymen who are interested in enrolling in DHIR can write to their breed association for application forms and rules.

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HDN:mfb
12/7/60

Season's Greetings

FROM THE EXTENSION EDITORIAL OFFICE

THROUGH THIS YEAR OF 1960 WE HAVE ENJOYED YOUR FRIENDSHIP, YOUR HELP, AND YOUR CONTINUED INTEREST IN THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

ALL OF US IN THE EXTENSION EDITORIAL OFFICE SINCERELY HOPE YOU HAVE A MOST HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

RADIO-TV

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PRESS

VISUALS

ADMINIS-TRATION

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 1960

Higher Milk Production Expected;
Little Price Change Likely

Dairy farmers will probably produce a little more milk in 1961 than they did in 1960, but their prices are likely to average about the same, University of Illinois agricultural economist R. W. Bartlett reports.

The prices that milk producers receive after April 1 will depend partly on the support level established for the next 12 months. But it seems likely that the support price will be at least as high as it has been in the past year.

Consumers are expected to use about as much fluid milk as they did in 1960. They will also continue to buy frozen dairy products at a high rate. Purchases during 1960 averaged 51 pounds a person compared with about 25 pounds just before World War II.

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Huge Corn Supplies to Hold Prices Near Loan

Corn prices have passed their low, but huge supplies will prevent them from reaching the loan price until late spring or summer, a University of Illinois agricultural economist believes.

L. F. Stice reports that the 1960 Illinois corn crop brought Illinois farmers overflowing cribs, knotty production and marketing problems and disappointing prices. The 1960 crop of 694 million bushels set a new record and is 3 percent larger than last year's crop.

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HDG:mfb
12/14/60
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 1960

Family Farm Will Remain;
Little Change in Farm Prices

A University of Illinois agricultural economist believes that the family farm will remain the basic unit in American agriculture. But it will be more mechanized and more specialized and will require more capital investment than in the past.

Harold G. Halcrow feels that farm prices in the next few years will continue at the general level of the past two or three years. A return to the prices of the early 1950's does not seem likely.

Price trends of recent years reflect the broad shift in world markets as the effects of World War II and the Korean war recede into the background, he points out. Food will continue to be one of the great bargains, and farm problems will continue to be one of the major domestic issues.

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Hog Prices Favorable; Lower
Prices Expected Next Fall

Hog producers should plan now to take advantage of present favorable hog prices but should be ready for price adjustments by the fall of 1961, a University of Illinois livestock marketing economist suggests.

E. E. Broadbent points out that the highest prices normally come in June for 200- to 220-pound market hogs. Hogs weighing under 180 pounds and over 240 pounds take quite severe discounts at that time. Because of the smaller 1960 fall pig crop, spring and early summer markets in 1961 should be quite favorable.

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IDG:mfb
12/14/60
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 1960

Changes in Social Security

At least four changes in the Social Security law are of interest to farmers, says George B. Whitman, University of Illinois economist.

Here's a brief rundown of the changes made during the last session of Congress:

1. If you become severely disabled, a change in the law permits payments at any age if you have paid Social Security tax for five of the past ten years previous to the disability.

2. A year and a half of working time under Social Security is still required before any benefits can be paid. But under the new law most people can become insured more quickly than before. Some older people who did not work long enough under the old law may now be eligible for payments.

3. Parents working for sons or daughters in their farm business are covered by Social Security after 1960.

4. The new law now says that any nonprofit organization can cover an employee who wants Social Security. Before, two-thirds of the employees had to want coverage.

Whitman suggests that farmers check at least every three years with the local office to see that their Social Security record is correct. He also urges farmers to get in touch with the local office for more information on the recent changes.

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EW:mfb
2/19/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 1960

"Crotching" Ewes Pays Off in Lower Lamb Losses

"Crotching" ewes before lambing has paid off in more lambs saved at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

This process of shearing the wool and tags from around the dock, down the back of the hind legs and around the udder provides a clean, clear, open dinner plate for the young nursing lamb, station workers report.

Handling ewes may cause a greater number of premature lambs and dead lambs at birth. But in tests at the station last winter, this disadvantage was easily overcome and lamb losses were much lower, particularly the first week after lambing.

If the ewes are closer than a month to lambing, the research workers suggest that flock owners delay crotching until immediately after lambing.

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AC:HDG:mfb
2/19/60
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 1961

Adapted Varieties Important

Planting an adapted variety can mean the difference between a crop and no crop.

For example, in 1957 leaf rust disease hit spring oats hard. An adapted variety, Minhafer, survived the attack while many fields planted with Clinton, which is susceptible to leaf rust, were not worth harvesting.

W. O. Scott, University of Illinois agronomist, defines an adapted variety as one that performs consistently well in its environment.

Scott includes in the term environment such things as the soil's fertility level and water holding capacity; the average and extremes in rain fall; the frequency and kinds of disease and insect attacks; and, the average temperature as well as the extremes during the growing season.

Since most of these things differ from one place to another, an adapted variety which grows well in northern Illinois may not do nearly as well in southern Illinois.

Not only do varieties differ in their ability to adjust to different areas, but also, varieties have so called built-in-differences. These characteristics are controlled by breeding.

The seed quality is one such difference. Scott also lists lodging and shattering resistance as other major differences between varieties.

Scott suggests that farmers check with their county farm adviser for complete information about the best adapted varieties to use

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EEW:mfb
12/28/60

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 1961

Time for Caution in Cattle Business

A University of Illinois livestock marketing economist believes that 1961 will be a time for caution in the cattle business.

M. B. Kirtley expects that earnings will generally be relatively low. Producers will find that careful selection of the time and place to market their cattle will be especially important. Further problems also appear likely in 1962 when supplies of beef will be higher and hog slaughter will also be high.

For 1961 cattle prices will continue to move lower, Kirtley believes. Prices for better grades of fed cattle will probably average about $2 a hundred pounds below 1960. Lower grades will decline even more.

Prices should be stronger in the early part of the year, however. Limited numbers of fed cattle scheduled to come to market in January and February should mean prices close to those of a year earlier. The spring market which has been favorable for the past three years will be good, but not so much above winter prices as in recent years.

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HDG:mfb
12/28/60

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 1961

Cut in Government Spending Not Likely

There is no evidence of any substantial cut in government spending in the near future, a University of Illinois professor of agricultural law believes. On the contrary, most signs point to an upward trend in spending if any change should occur.

N. G. P. Krausz points out that government benefits, once they are established and people get used to them and depend on them, are difficult to remove or cut back.

The federal government through federal aid programs actively encourages states to tax for certain purposes by guaranteeing "free" federal money on a matching basis. Old-age assistance and aid to dependent children are examples of such aid.

In 1957 the tax burden per person for state and local taxes in Illinois averaged $233, Krausz reports, whereas the national average was about $242. In 1960 the federal tax burden per person in Illinois averaged about $543 compared with a national average of $424.

As the population continues to grow, more government services are demanded. The rising percentage of school-age children and older persons puts a greater burden on taxpayers, because these groups require more state assistance, Krausz points out.

Krausz cited these figures in the first issue of Illinois Agricultural Economics, just published by the University of Illinois department of agricultural economics. This new publication is designed to provide timely economic information for agricultural leaders.

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HDG:mfb
1/4/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 1961

Food Market Shows Steady Growth

American consumers boosted their spending for American farm food products a little more than 5 percent each year during the 1950s, a University of Illinois agricultural economist points out. Even when the change in buying power of the dollar is figured in, the growth in the market for food has averaged about 3 percent a year.

Population growth accounts for about two-thirds of the growth in demand for food, T. A. Hieronymus explains. Higher incomes and improved diets are responsible for the other one-third.

If the greatest amount of food products are to be sold, a marketing system must cater to consumer desires, the economist emphasizes. The food marketing system in the United States is highly developed. But there is still a need to improve quality of products, reduce marketing costs and develop new processes and products.

If food producers are to sell to consumers, they must price their products attractively. American farmers are sending their products into a very price-conscious market. Any attempt to control the supply of food products would retard further growth of the market for food, Hieronymus concludes.

These statements appear in the first issue of Illinois Agricultural Economics, a new publication of the University of Illinois department of agricultural economics.

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HDG:mfb
1/4/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 1961

Slobber Hay New Dairy Problem

University of Illinois dairy scientist John Byers warns dairymen who feed second cuttings of red clover and alfalfa hay or silage this winter to watch for signs of excessive salivation, or slobbering, in their herds.

During the past few years dairymen from all parts of the state have reported that cows in their herds began slobbering within 1 1/2 to 24 hours after eating second cuttings of affected forage.

In all cases the animals ate one to three feedings of the "slobber" forage, salivated excessively and then refused to eat any more. Many dairymen said it was not uncommon to find 1 to 1 1/2 inches of saliva in mangers after cows ate the forage.

Byers says it's important that dairymen who find affected hay report it to the U. of I. department of dairy science. Researchers are working to solve the problem. The key to their success will depend on getting samples of the hay as soon as it is discovered.

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HDN:mfb
1/4/61
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 16, 1961

Money Management Just As
Important As Farm Management

Poor money management can be the stumbling block in good farm organization and operation, a University of Illinois agricultural economist points out.

A. G. Mueller says that money management for farm families differs from that for city families because business and family money matters are combined, He makes these suggestions for controlling and managing farm family financial affairs:

1. Keep track of the flow of dollars in and out of your bank account. Use farm and home account record books to see where the money comes from and where it goes.

2. Keep a record of farm inventory values and depreciation to supplement records of sales and expenses.

3. Calculate your net worth at least once a year. A regular net worth statement helps to measure financial progress. Net worth is simply the total value of all that you own after subtracting all that you owe.

4. Set up a spending plan or budget to make sure that you will have the money when you need it.

5. Protect yourself against risks. Fire, casualty and liability insurance are important. Keep debts in line with your net worth and capacity to repay.

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HDG:mfb
1/11/61

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ag Short Course Offers 21 Courses

URBANA--Some 21 courses ranging from farm arithmetic to animal hygiene will be offered to young farmers during the University of Illinois winter short course in agriculture February 6 through March 17.

Short course supervisor Warren Wessels says that courses will be offered in agricultural economics and engineering, crop and livestock production and management and prevention and control of animal diseases.

Another course that has been highly popular during previous short courses is dating, engagement and marriage.

Wessels points out that the College of Agriculture sponsors the short course for young farmers who cannot attend college on a regular basis. Anyone 18 years old or older may attend. Although most students are between 18 and 23 years, ages of previous students have ranged up to 65 years.

Total costs for attending the short course range between $190 and $230. This total includes tuition, fees, books and supplies, housing and meals.

Prospective students may apply for $100 scholarships offered by the Illinois Foundation FFA and many member banks of the Illinois Bankers Association.

Short course students, explains Wessels, share in all the privileges of regular University students. This includes athletic events and social functions.

For more information concerning the short course, contact your county farm adviser or vo-ag teacher or write to Warren Wessels, 104 Mumford Hall, Urbana, Illinois

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 1961

Farmers Face Important Decision
in Planning Farm Grain Storage

Grain farmers face a real dilemma in planning future grain storage needs, a University of Illinois grain marketing economist points out.

L. F. Stice reports that the low corn price last fall and the fairly rapid recovery have caused many farmers to think seriously about their grain storage needs. Heavy marketings of high-moisture corn overtaxed commercial storage and drying facilities. Many farmers feel that the remedy lies in more on-the-farm storage and drying.

Stice believes depressed harvest prices are likely to be fairly common during the next few years if large corn crops continue, if field shelling grows in popularity, if corn is sold at harvest and if government grain stocks are not reduced. Most observers of corn-harvesting methods are confident that more corn will be field-shelled. But whether the bulk of market corn will be dried or stored on farms or in elevators is yet to be determined.

When 1960 corn loans mature next August, the government will almost certainly need more storage space in Illinois to store the loan corn. After that, the government need for storage is less certain. Reduction in stocks will come slowly. Less grain production is possible, but not certain.

An excess of commercial storage space would help to support grain prices at harvest, Stice points out. An abundance of empty space might cause farm storage to be unprofitable.

Stice suggests that most farmers might decide to have a moderate amount of storage space on the farm as price insurance. The government's reseal program guarantees some income for use of this storage space.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 1961

Twenty-Inch Rows Best for Grain Sorghums

Grain sorghum planted in rows 20 inches apart produced the highest yields in tests this past year at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

The 20-inch rows produced 126 bushels an acre. The rows 40 inches apart averaged only 66 bushels; the 30-inch rows, 76 bushels; and 10-inch rows, 80 bushels.

The researchers did not cultivate these plots, but they did apply 2,4-D when the plants were about four inches tall. Yields would probably have been higher if the wider rows had been cultivated. But, with the closer spacings of 10 and 20 inches, the weeds were well controlled by the herbicide and shading of the sorghum plants.

Silage yields from the 30-, 20- and 10-inch rows varied from 16 1/2 to 17 1/2 tons an acre. The 40-inch rows yielded only 12 1/2 tons.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 1961

U. of I. Tests Automatic Beef Feeding

University of Illinois agricultural engineers plan to carry feed automation to the limit this winter at their new, completely automatic beef feeding installation.

Ag engineer Don Daum says the main purpose behind the automatic feeding setup is to fit components from many different manufacturers into a single working unit.

Daum points out that there are many pieces of automatic equipment on the market. But to date little has been done to fit these pieces into a compact, automatic feed-handling unit.

The new beef feeding system was first operated in January 1960 for feeding silage only. It was modified considerably during the summer and is probably in for some more minor changes this winter, now that researchers are trying it out in a full-scale feeding program.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
INIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 1961

Note to Editors: Attached are several stories covering talks to be given at the Illinois Custom Spray Operators' Training School January 25-26 on the University of Illinois campus.

Petty Describes Insect Outlook for 1961

H. B. Petty said today (January 25) that face flies might present one of the farmer's most important insect problems in 1961.

"They will be just as bad as last year, if not worse," he continued. "They'll probably be most severe in the northern one half to two thirds of Illinois. So far they have not been troublesome in the southern one third to one half. Face flies are so named because they cluster on the faces of cattle and horses."

Petty, describing the 1961 insect outlook, spoke before the Illinois Custom Spray Operators' Training School. He is an extension entomologist with the University of Illinois and the Illinois Natural History Survey.

He said that two Illinois areas could look forward to chinch bug troubles. One area includes DeWitt, Macon and Piatt counties and fringes of the counties surrounding them. The other covers southeastern Bond county and the north-central section of Clinton county.

Before chinch bugs develop, however, they must have dry, hot weather and thin, open stands of small grains.

The outlook for corn borers is not too serious. How severe they become depends mainly on weather and planting time. If farmers

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plant early and the weather is favorable for the borer, damage could occur north of a line from St. Louis to Paris, excluding extreme northeastern Illinois. This applies to field corn.

Grasshoppers will probably present moderate troubles north of a line from Lawrenceville to Carthage.

In southwestern and west southwestern Illinois, Hessian flies increased this past year. In southeastern and east southeastern Illinois, however, a dry fall and poor germination lowered the fall infestation of these pests that attack wheat.

Petty adds that Hessian flies were at a peak in 1956. Then their numbers decreased intil 1958. New he warns that they are approaching another peak, which may occur this year in some areas.

Northern counties can again expect a spittlebug problem. But it will not be serious. Central counties will have a light infestation. Since spittlebugs attack hay, and hay is a surplus crop in many areas, few farmers attempt to control these insects.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 1961

Sees Trend Toward More Fertilizer Use

Illinois is likely to maintain its position as one of the top states in fertilizer use, a University of Illinois agronomist stated this week.

S. R. Aldrich reported that in just 20 years Illinois farmers have changed from very limited users of fertilizers to the highest in the country. He believes that they will continue to boost their fertilizer use for these reasons:

Larger yields remove more nutrients from the soil.

The soil's supply of nitrogen must be higher as the yield potential goes up.

Higher yields increase production efficiency and give a farmer more net return with which to buy needed fertilizer.

The trend toward more crop specialization raises fertilizer demand. For example, when 1,000 acres of corn replace 1,000 acres of oats, farmers need about 25 extra tons of nitrogen and half that much extra potassium, but little change in phosphorus. When corn replaces wheat, nitrogen and potassium needs go up, but phosphorus need goes down.

In the future, fertilizer recommendations will give more attention to the natural fertility, subsoil nutrients and production potentials.

Recent research has shown that nutrient needs vary with the stage of crop growth. This may lead to fertilizer application to meet specific needs of crops at the critical stages.

In the future, higher crop yields and the drain on native soil reserves of minor elements will result in new deficiencies that must be filled. At the present time, however, deficiencies are limited to a few soils and a few crops.

Aldrich spoke before the fertilizer and chemical session of the University of Illinois Agricultural Industries Forum.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 1961

UI Scientists Grow Cow Mammary
Gland Cells In Test Tubes

A group of University of Illinois dairy biochemists are working to answer a question that has for centuries puzzled scientists and laymen alike.

The question: How do cows make milk?

To carry out the research, U. of I. scientist Bruce Larson and his associates have kept cow udder tissue cells alive in laboratory test tubes for more than two and one-half years.

Larson says that for a short time the test tube cells actually continue to make milk in the laboratory.

After a few days, however, the milk-making process stops. But the cells continue to grow and organize as if they were still in the cow.

Researchers believe these tiny test tube cells may some day unlock enough secrets to explain how milk is produced in the cow's udder.

Larson's study is also turning out information on what happens to body cells when they grow under abnormal conditions. This type of information is needed to learn why some cells become cancerous and others remain normal.

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IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 1961

'ax Proof Your Responsibility

University of Illinois farm economists point out that if your ndividual income tax return is questioned by the Internal Revenue ervice, the law assumes that you are guilty until proven innocent.

This differs from other segments of United States law, which ay that you are innocent until proven guilty. It's not the tax agent's ob to prove that your return is wrong; you must prove that it's right.

The U. of I. economists say that's one of the reasons accu- ate, up-to-date records are a must for every farmer.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13, 1961

Trend to Country Hog Markets May Mean Higher Costs

A University of Illinois livestock marketing economist reports that the shift from terminal to local hog marketing may bring some high marketing costs for Illinois hog producers.

E. E. Broadbent points out that several of the more efficient Illinois country markets handle over 100,000 head of hogs a year and will employ about three or four men. Many markets, however, handle fewer than 30,000 hogs and employ about two men at each buying point.

Obviously the larger volume gives a definite advantage to the large-scale market operator. His fixed costs for salaries, overhead, interest, taxes and maintenance will be spread over more hogs sold.

Broadbent believes that the large-volume operator could pay as much as 25 cents a hundred pounds more for hogs than the low-volume operator. He points out that, with a market volume of 20,000 hogs a year, a market employing two men must cover its costs with an average of 33 hogs a day. On some days, 10 to 12 hogs must cover expenses.

If many small local markets keep operating, they must do it either by paying relatively low prices for the livestock they buy or by employing low-salaried help. Broadbent questions whether either practice builds much stability into the market for livestock.

Looking to the future, he believes that hog markets will be forced to consolidate to reduce costs and to coordinate their services to livestock producers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13, 1961

Good Boars Improve Carcass Quality of Hogs

A University of Illinois livestock specialist has reported how one hog producer has improved the carcass qualities of his hogs.

G. R. Carlisle says this producer uses production-tested boars backed up with certified production records. He started using them in 1958 when a packing house cutting test showed that his hogs had only 44 percent of the carcass weight in the four lean cuts--ham, loin, picnic and boston butt.

He immediately bought two purebred boars from certified breeding stock. The pigs sired by these boars yielded carcasses with 48 percent of the carcass weight in the four lean cuts.

The gilts from this pig crop were bred to boars of another breed that had a long history of certification. The herd from which they came has used 11 different certified boars.

The pigs sired by these boars produced carcasses that averaged 51 percent of the carcass weight in the four lean cuts.

Carlisle admits that this may be an extreme example. But it does show that carcass quality is extremely heritable and that good boars can rapidly improve this characteristic.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20, 1961

Home Owners Increase Fertilizer Use for Lawns

The desire to have an attractive lawn like their neighbors is stimulating more and more home owners to use fertilizers, according to a University of Illinois plant pathologist and turf grass specialist.

M. P. Britton reports that about 45 percent of all home owners use fertilizer on their lawns. On the average they used about 51 pounds last year. The average home lawn measures about 4,000 square feet, and the average fertilizer application runs a little over 12 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

The 43,136,000 home owners applying fertilizer used almost 1.1 million tons last year, Britton reports. The fertilizer industry has become aware of this growing market for its products off the farm. It has been estimated that 15 percent of all fertilizer sold in 1960 was applied for uses outside the traditional farm use.

Britton points out, however, that research is needed to find out more about the relationships between fertilizing and diseases and the best way to maintain healthy turf areas, such as in lawns, parks, golf courses, school grounds, cemeteries and airports.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13, 1961

Research Shows No Advance for Grinding Hay

University of Illinois dairy scientist J. H. Byers says there is little evidence that grinding hay boosts forage feed efficiency for dairy cows.

In fact, recent research indicates that grinding reduces forage digestibility because of the rapid rate at which the roughage passes through the intestinal tract, Byers explains.

The U. of I. researcher says there is also evidence that grinding will lower the butterfat percentage of milk when the ground hay makes up a major portion of roughage in the diet.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 1961

Sees Trend to Cow Herds in Corn Belt, Great Lakes Region

A. L. Neumann, head of the University of Illinois beef cattle division, believes that beef cow herds will begin increasing in the Corn Belt and Great Lakes region.

"This trend is necessary to supply more feeder cattle to this area," says Neumann. He explains that new feedlots, increased size of present feedlots, and switch-overs from cow herds to feeding operations have made feeder cattle scarce.

Too, midwestern cattle feeders can no longer depend on the West and Southwest to supply feeder cattle. A heavy increase in cattle feeding in the West has almost dried up these sources.

The southeast can still produce more feeder cattle, but Neumann feels that the Corn Belt and Great Lakes region must take up the slack.

Scarcity has also caused the cost to jump. And since the cost of feeders is so high in relation to prices of fed or slaughter cattle, the farmer's chances of making a consistent profit from price spread are slim.

There's little chance that feeder cattle will become more plentiful for several years. It's hard for the supply to catch up with the demand, and the traditional sources are already producing at capacity. This leaves feeding margin as the farmer's only chance to make a profit.

Gains must be so economical that they will cover all costs and still produce a profit. This means that most farmers should feed calves or light yearling cattle. And they should feed rations containing a lot of cheap roughage. In the Corn Belt, no other crop can equal corn silage for producing cheap but moderately rapid gains.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 6, 1961

Debeaking Pullets Does Not Hamper Egg Production

A University of Illinois poultry specialist, S. F. Ridlen, reports that debeaking pullets does not hamper their egg production. Many farmers hesitate to debeak laying hens for fear egg production will drop.

Ridlen recommends debeaking before pullets start laying. If pullets are not debeaked, however, and "picking" starts, debeak immediately regardless of time of year or stage of production. Picking can lead to death losses which are, of course, more important than a temporary loss in egg production.

Ridlen bases his recommendations on recent debeaking tests with White Leghorns, Rhode Island Reds, White Rocks and New Hampshires. All pullets were hatched in the spring. Then several pullets in each breed were debeaked in the following fall, winter or spring.

Results showed that egg production declined right after debeaking in all groups except the White Leghorns. This was true regardless of the season. The White Leghorns did not show any drop in production.

Temporary losses, however, were overcome by the end of the test.

All breeds lost body weight during the first week after debeaking regardless of the season. Although these losses were significant, they apparently did not bother egg production.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 6, 1961

Festival Exhibit to Feature
Soil Test Demonstration

During the University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival April 6-8, soil scientists will demonstrate a modern electronic instrument that tells whether or not the soil is acid.

This instrument, known as a pH meter, measures soil acidity. By direct reading it is possible to tell the amount of limestone needed to correct the acid condition.

The pH meter has come into use in Illinois soil testing laboratories in the past year, reports J. C. Laverty, University of Illinois soil scientist. Previously the need for limestone was determined by a visual test. Although this older test has done a good job, Laverty feels that the use of electronic testing equipment will reduce the possibilities for error.

Visitors to the Farm and Home Festival will have an opportunity to see how soil is tested with the pH meter. Those who bring a sample of soil with them can get a free pH test right on the spot.

During the afternoon speaking program on Friday, April 7, Laverty will report on "Recent Modifications in Illinois Soil Testing."

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 1961

U. of I. Swine Day to Include Report on "Planned Parenthood"

URBANA--"Planned parenthood" for sows and gilts will be the subject of a major report at the University of Illinois Swine Day March 28.

P. J. Dziuk, animal geneticist, is studying how to control heat periods of sows and gilts by including certain hormones in their feed. When the hormones are removed from the ration, the animals come into heat almost simultaneously. The result is more uniform farrowing dates, which have several advantages.

For example, farmers would not have to stay up night after night watching over newborn pigs. And they could market more uniform pigs.

Another Swine Day feature includes a report of European hog production. Dean Wolf, editor of FARM JOURNAL'S HOGCAST, recently toured many European hog farms with a group of American farmers. Wolf will discuss several unusual and outstanding farms they visited.

Several other reports will also be presented during the program, which begins at 10 a.m. in the University Auditorium. Early arrivals, however, can inspect swine equipment displayed in the Stock Pavilion. The program winds up at 3:15 p.m.

Area Swine Days, similar to the Urbana Swine Day, will be presented at the following towns: Mt. Vernon, March 29; Carlinville, March 30; Rushville, April 3; Knoxville, April 4; and Amboy, April 5.

Watch this newspaper for more information about these Area Swine Days. Or contact your county farm adviser.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 1961

Survey Shows Advantage for Certified Seed

Farmers who plant uncertified seed oats this spring run the risk of planting a lot of "dead" oats along with far too many "live" weeds.

W. O. Scott, University of Illinois agronomist, cites a recent seed box survey showing that more than 11 percent of the uncertified oat samples contained so much weed seed that they would have been unsalable.

One sample had so much weed seed in it that the farmer would have been sowing more than one noxious weed per square foot if he planted two bushels of oats per acre.

Germination percentages of some of the uncertified lots were just as bad as the purity. Some of the oat lots tested as low as 15 percent germination, while one wheat sample dipped as low as 2 percent. Certified oats averaged 95.6 percent germination, and certified wheat averaged 93.5 percent.

Scott points out that the uncertified seed oats may actually cost more than certified seed when cost is figured on the basis of pure live seed. Pure live seed is the percent of pure seed times its germination rate.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 20, 1961

U. of I. Farm and Home Festival, April 6-8

Governor Otto Kerner has accepted an invitation to speak at the University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival on Friday afternoon, April 7, in the University auditorium.

In the official Festival program released this week, Dean Louis B. Howard of the College of Agriculture said, "Our three-day program based on the theme, 'Foundations for the Future,' includes a variety of features designed to provide pleasure as well as practical information. It also gives us an opporturnity to show you how we are using research to improve farming and family living in Illinois."

Four major exhibit areas on the south campus will feature displays and demonstrations. Exhibits will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Thursday. On Friday and Saturday exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special exhibit presentations are offered each day from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Details of the speaking program, exhibits, special events and the Agriculture Student Guest Day and Home Economics Hospitality Day on Saturday April 8, are included in the printed program. Copies are available from any county farm or home adviser. High school agriculture and home economics teachers and senior high school principals have also received copies of the program.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 20, 1961

College of Agriculture Alumni
Schedule Annual Meeting

The University of Illinois College of Agriculture Alumni Association will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 314 Illini Union on the campus. This is the first day of the annual Farm and Home Festival.

Frank Shuman, the featured luncheon speaker, will report his experiences in India and Afghanistan with the International Cooperation Administration and University of Illinois programs. Shuman graduated from the College of Agriculture and served for many years as Whiteside county farm adviser.

Awards for outstanding service will be presented to four agriculture alumni. New officers and directors will be elected, and committees will report their activities during the morning business session.

Luncheon reservations should be sent to Karl E. Gardner, secretary, 104 Mumford Hall, Urbana, by April 3. Anyone who has ever attended the College of Agriculture is invited.

Association officers and directors for the current year are Fred Hoppin, Lincoln, president; Roy Yung, Springfield, vice-president; Karl Gardner, Urbana, secretary-treasurer; John Morris, Chadwick; Fred Painter, Ottawa; DeVere Mummert, Astoria; Donald Allen, Carrollton; Karl Adams, Bloomington; William Dimond, Lovington; Curt Eckert, Belleville; Eldon Powel, Effingham; W. C. Anderson, Marion; Frank Fieber, Albion; Don Wilken, Danforth; and Melvin Sims, Liberty, directors.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 20, 1961

Prune Fruit Trees Before Buds Start Growing

Frank W. Owen, University of Illinois fruit crops specialist, urges home owners to prune their fruit trees before the buds start growing.

The absence of leaves makes it easier to see the wood as well as the buds that have survived the winter. If, however, trees have not been pruned by the time buds start growing, it's all right to prune up to June 1.

For pruning, you'll need hand shears, long-handled "loppers," or a pruning saw. Make sure the blades are sharp so that they will make clean cuts. When removing branches, cut as close as possible to the main limb.

Now you're ready to follow these steps:

1. Remove all dead, broken and otherwise damaged branches. Also remove low branches that may drag the ground when bearing fruit.

2. Remove long branches that grow either across the top or up from the bottom and shade out other branches. Sunshine is absolutely essential for wood to bear fruit.

3. Remove branches that rub or interfere with other branches.

4. Thin out the tree. Limbs should not be tangled or interwoven--they should "stand alone." In thinning, it doesn't matter what you cut as long as it thins. But do not remove all of the little twigs and branches growing on the larger limbs. These little fellows will some day produce fruit inside the tree.

5. When shortening the height of the tree or reducing the length of a limb, always cut back to an established side branch that's about the same size as the limb you're removing.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 27, 1961

Seed Protectants Do Not Protect After Seeds Germinate

H. B. Petty, extension entomologist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey, warns farmers that seed protectants do not protect seeds after they germinate.

They merely protect the seed from insects before germination. They do not protect against cutworms, wire worms, root worms, corn root aphids and other pests that attack roots and stalks during the growing season.

Although the seed treatment is comparatively cheap, Petty says you get only what you pay for. He adds that seed protectants are not necessary when farmers apply soil insecticides like aldrin and heptachlor at planting time. When broadcasting these insecticides, apply at the rate of 1 1/2 pounds per acre. Use only 1 pound per acre when applying them in the row.

Petty adds that farmers who treat seeds in the planter box have a tendency to cut down the seeding rate. Consequently he advises farmers not to treat seeds in the planter box.

He still recommends using seeds treated with fungicides to protect them against plant diseases.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 27, 1961

Festival Visitors Can Examine
Termites, Their Habits and Damage

He's a fellow who's commonly found in many Illinois homes. In fact, you may have stumbled over him recently, as he moves in with the warmer spring weather. He works quietly but industriously.

What's his name? Reticulitermes flavipes. Disgruntled home owners, however, know him better as a plain, ordinary, trouble-making termite. Yet few people really know much about him, says Steve Moore, insect specialist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey.

So Moore and his co-workers are planning a live exhibit of termites and ants for the University's Farm and Home Festival April 6-8.

People watching the exhibit can learn how to distinguish between ants and termites. They can study the habits of the insects. They can learn to tell whether wood damage is caused by termites or ants.

Moore points out that both termites and ants live underground in colonies. But termites begin swarming inside from early February until June or July. Flying ants also start swarming in February, but they continue swarming until fall. Home owners often confuse the two types.

Termites eat the soft part of wood, leaving the annual ring intact. The remaining shell is in layers and in a splinter-like state. Termites also seal their runways and feeding areas with mud.

On the other hand, carpenter ants, the only ants that feed on wood, gouge large, smooth areas out of wood, irrespective of grain. And their galleries are mud-free.

Interested persons can learn more about termites and ants at the Festival.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 27, 1961

Festival Exhibit to Center
on "Planned Parenthood"

Visitors to the 1961 University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival may find that one of the most interesting exhibits concerns "planned parenthood" for livestock.

Animal science researchers have been studying how to control the breeding period of sows so that a certain number of sows will come into heat at the same time. That would mean that they would farrow at the same time.

When the system is finally developed to the practical stage, it will have many advantages to farmers:

1. Farmers can breed sows during a two-day period instead of stretching it out over a 21-day period.

2. A shorter farrowing period enables the farmer to use his space, equipment and time more efficiently.

3. Uniform age of the pigs makes management easier.

4. The farmer can market pigs that are more uniform in size and weight.

The animal science exhibit during the Festival will portray how scientists are conducting their controlled breeding work.

The Festival will be held April 6-8 at Urbana.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 3, 1961

U. of I. Wood Specialist Lists Four Ways To Remove Stumps

Each year with the return of spring, home owners again get out and start cleaning up their yards. One of the biggest spring chores is the removal of stumps.

C. S. Walters, U. of I. wood technologist, says that there are several ways property owners can remove stumps by themselves with the aid of simple, inexpensive tools.

The cheapest and the easiest, although not the quickest, method of removal is to cut the stump below ground level and cover it with moist soil. Decay organisms will rot the wood. The decaying method may be speeded up by boring several vertical holes in the stump before you cover it with soil.

Stumps also may be burned out rather quickly with charcoal, coke or coal in a stove made of a metal container similar to a five-gallon paint can. The stove is made by removing the top and bottom of the can and punching four or five one-inch draft holes in the side near the bottom. Place the stove over the stump and build a fire in it. After the fire burns the wood in one part of the stump, move the stove to a new location.

For larger stumps you can use a 55-gallon steel oil drum or a wall of bricks. A very hot fire is needed to burn out stumps since the wood absorbs moisture from the soil and burns like green wood.

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The only chemical stump remover Walters recommends is Stumpfyre. His recommendation is based on tests conducted by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station.

Grubbing or digging out stumps is hard work, and persons who are not accustomed to heavy work should be careful not to strain or overexert themselves. Stumps of trees larger than 14-15 inches in diameter are rather difficult for the average person to remove by grubbing.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 3, 1961

U. of I. Reports Research At Swine Day

Swine research men at the University of Illinois reported studies with hygromycin B, molasses and flooring at Swine Day March 28 at Urbana.

Livestock specialist W. F. Nickelson told the audience that hygromycin B fed to pregnant sows and gilts had no harmful effects. He explained that this substance is an antibiotic that's used as a worming agent. During the past several months, however, hog producers had reported that hygromycin B fed for prolonged periods seemed to impair the hearing of some pigs.

This would not be a problem in market hogs, but could be in breeding stock. Deaf sows and gilts would be more likely to lie on baby pigs, since they couldn't hear them squeal. There have also been unconfirmed reports that feeding hygromycin to breeding stock produced abnormal pigs.

But gilts fed hygromycin B in the University studies farrowed normal pigs that gained satisfactorily. Litter size was not affected either. And no pig losses due to impaired hearing of the gilts seemed to occur.

D. E. Becker, head of the swine division, reported studies that confirmed earlier findings that blackstrap molasses has only 60 percent the value of corn in fortified corn—soybean meal rations.

He said that some producers had wondered whether molasses had any value as a substitute ingredient in fortified corn—soybean

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meal rations. They thought that a small amount might improve feed intake and gain of growing pigs by making the ration more palatable.

Becker tested two levels of molasses, 2.5 percent and 5 percent, in the ration. Neither level significantly affected the rate of gain.

On the other hand, the group fed 2.5 percent molasses required 2.1 percent more feed than pigs fed the same ration without molasses. And the group fed 5 percent required 5 percent more feed.

Switching to flooring studies, swine researcher A. H. Jensen said that a series of 14 tests showed that pigs on steel mesh made 19.5 percent faster gains than pigs on concrete floors.

Pigs on the steel mesh showed no adverse effects from being on the mesh. And their feet and legs, in particular, showed no harmful effect. Pigs on the mesh also stayed much cleaner and dryer than pigs on concrete.

Workers cleaned the concrete floors daily. But cleaning of the concrete under the steel mesh varied from daily in hot weather to monthly during the winter.

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PAC:df
3/29/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 3, 1961

Tell How To Find Amount Of Urea In Supplement

University of Illinois animal scientists offer this method of telling how much urea is mixed in a protein supplement.

The scientists first point out that when the feed tag says "this supplement contains protein from non-protein sources," it means the supplement contains protein from urea.

Divide this non-protein source figure by 2.6 to find the percentage of urea in the supplement.

Five percent is usually the maximum recommended figure. If the supplement contains more than five percent of urea, mix it carefully with the grain ration.

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HDN:df
3/29/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 10, 1961

Carelessness The Real Hazard In Using Pesticides

A research entomologist warns farmers that the real hazard they face in using livestock pesticides is their own carelessness.

George C. Decker of the Illinois Natural History Survey said that there have been no cases of death or illness in either man or animals traceable to pesticides used according to their label instructions.

Pesticides are chemicals used to control insects or other pests on plants and animals.

Thousands and sometimes millions of dollars worth of research stand back of label instructions. Such research is necessary before the U.S.D.A. approves a product for use. Before they grant approval, the manufacturer must present scientific evidence that if the product is used according to directions, it will work satisfactorily without injuring man or other animals and crops, that it's not supposed to harm.

Yet due to irresponsibility, carelessness, delusion and skepticism, pesticides are often mis-used, said Decker. Too, there have been cases when pesticide users, or their neighbors, have wrongly charged pesticides with harming animals or crops. Research men know what quantity of a pesticide that animals or crops can tolerate. Therefore they can readily tell if a pesticide was the real villain in causing injury.

Decker pointed out that many farmers question such restrictions as "Do not harvest, "Do not feed," or "Do not pasture for X number of days." And some don't follow these restrictions. Yet they are asking for trouble because some pesticides remain in body fat or are excreted in milk unless these restrictions are followed. If the farmer is "discovered," he is subject to legal action and his products cannot be legally sold.

Decker spoke at the University of Illinois Farm and Home Festival.

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PAC:ml
4/5/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 10, 1961

Points To Consider In Buying A Dog

"We should buy a dog." Perhaps someone in your family casually said this after watching the neighbors playing with their frisky dog.

The statement was quickly forgotten, only to pop up again and again until your family began to take it seriously. Finally, the decision was made, "We'll buy a dog as soon as it gets warmer and we can take him outdoors more often."

Once the decision is made, prospective dog buyers must consider several important points, according to Dr. L. C. Helper, University of Illinois veterinarian.

The first point, according to Dr. Helper, is to decide what you want in a dog. Do you want a work dog, pet, watchdog, lap dog or outdoor dog?

"If a man prefers reading to exercise, he'll be happier with a dog that's not very active," Dr. Helper explained. "On the other hand, parents who want a dog for their children may be unhappy with a tiny, fragily-boned dog because children are often too hard on them."

The second consideration is where to buy the dog. You can save yourself grief and money by asking the local veterinarian about local breeders and pet shops. "Just as in any other field, there are good and bad pet shop dealers, breeders and kennels and the veterinarian usually knows if any diseases are prevalent in a certain establishment," Dr. Helper said.

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Other points to consider:

1. Sex. A female is cleaner, more apt to stay home. On the other hand, her license may cost more and special precautions must be taken when she is in heat.

"Spayed females make as good a pet as males," Dr. Helper said. "Contrary to public opinion, a spayed dog's weight can be controlled so that it will not become overweight."

2. Find out dates of distemper and canine hepatitis vaccinations. Also, find out what the dog was given--anti-serum or vaccination--so that your veterinarian can continue proper treatment. Breeders, according to Dr. Helper, keep a record of these things, whereas pet shops and humane societies may not have such records.

3. Rabies inoculation. If your puppy is three months or older, get him vaccinated.

4. Find out the diet. Unless there is a smooth transition in the puppy's diet, he may become ill.

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EWS FROM AGRICULTURE
VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 1961

Storage, Market Price Key In
Feed Grain Program Decision

Available storage, expected market price and type of farm operation are key factors farmers face in making their decisions about the 1961 feed grain program, a University of Illinois agricultural economist points out.

R. B. Schwart says that a farmer must have storage available to take advantage of the program.

If a grain farmer has storage and he estimates that the market corn price will be $1.00 a bushel or less, then there are few situations in which he would not find it advantageous to comply, the economist believes.

The livestock farmer who has farm storage and who plans to participate and seal his corn must estimate the free market corn price needed for feeding plus costs of hauling and handling. In his situation, he may find little advantage in complying.

The farmer who must rent storage may pay as much as 15 cents a bushel for the season. In addition, he may have extra costs for loan fees, personal property taxes and shrink that will reduce the net support price from $1.20 to about $1.00.

Farmers who participate will find it to their advantage to get top yields per acre. The operator whose average yield has been below the base yield established by the ASC committee will find it especially advantageous to apply enough fertilizer to insure at least the base yield, the economist believes. Those with yields above average, however,will still be ahead to maintain their present high yield levels.

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HDG:mfb
4/12/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 1961

Plant Early Vegetables According
To Hardiness, Last Frost

Eager home gardeners should plant early vegetables according to their hardiness and the date of the last killing frost.

A University of Illinois extension vegetable crops specialist, Joe Vandemark, advises planting these hardy vegetables as soon as the ground can be prepared: asparagus crowns, cabbage seeds, peas, kale, onion seed or sets, spinach, rhubarb crowns and horseradish roots.

The following vegetables are half-hardy and can be planted two to three weeks before the last killing frost usually occurs: beets, broccoli plants, cabbage plants, celery plants, Swiss chard, parsnips, radishes, early potatoes and lettuce.

Plant these tender vegetables from the time of the last killing frost to one week later: tomato seeds, New Zealand spinach, snap beans and sweet corn.

Plant tender vegetables two to three weeks after the last killing frost. These vegetables include cucumber, eggplant, lima beans, muskmelon, okra, pepper plants, pumpkins, squash, sweet potato plants, tomato plants and watermelons.

In southern Illinois, the last killing frost usually occurs between April 5 and 15; in central Illinois, between April 15 and 30; and in northern Illinois, between April 30 and May 5.

Soil temperatures taken with a soil thermometer are also helpful as a planting guide. The following minimums are required for

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germination: 32 degrees F. for lettuce, onion, parsnips and spinach; 40 degrees F. for beets, cabbage, carrots, parsley, peas, radish, Swiss chard and turnips; 50 degrees F. for sweet corn and tomatoes; 50 degrees F. for lima beans, snapbeans, cucumbers, muskmelons, squash and watermelons.

Chances for a successful early vegetable crop are best when you combine the guides on last frost dates and soil temperatures with your previous experience.

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PAC:mfb
4/12/61

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 1961

Strawberries Make Delightful Addition To Home Garden

Strawberries make a delightful addition to home gardens and bring "ohs and ahs" of pleasure when the family sits down to enjoy home-grown berries.

Sound tempting? If so, you'd better get busy. Chester Zych, who heads up strawberry research at the University of Illinois, advises planting strawberries early in the spring.

For the southern Illinois region, Zych recommends the following spring-fruiting varieties: Dixieland, Pocahontas, Fairfax, Tennessee Beauty and Armore. Two recommended ever-bearing varieties are Ozark Beauty and Gem.

For northern Illinois, Zych recommends Vermilion, Fairfax, Catskill and Sparkle as spring-fruiting varieties. Ogallala and Gem are the two recommended ever-bearing varieties.

Spring-fruiting varieties bear fruit only once during the year.

Although strawberries will grow on a wide range of soil types, they prefer deep, fertile, well-drained soils that hold water well. Light sandy soils and heavy clay soils, however, are all right if they are properly managed. Heavy applications of manure and plowing under of green manure crops make these latter two soil types more suitable for berries.

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Before planting, work and loosen the soil to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. Then mix in thoroughly about 1/2 bushel of well-rotted manure every square yard.

If plants are planted in matted rows, space rows about 3 1/2 to 4 feet apart. Space plants about 2 feet apart within the rows. Spring-fruiting varieties are usually planted in matted rows.

Ever-bearing varieties are usually planted in "hills." Set plants one foot apart in multiple rows about one foot apart. Plant in groups of 2, 3 or 4 rows with about a 2-foot aisle between groups.

About 10 to 14 days after planting, apply 1 or 1 1/2 pounds of a 10-10-10 fertilizer for every 50 square feet. Repeat this application within 4 to 6 weeks if plants still look a little droopy.

Home gardeners who have trouble with insects or diseases, can write for a leaflet "Insect and Disease Control No. 4" from the Department of Plant Pathology, 218 Mumford Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

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PAC:mfb
4/19/61
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 1961

Great Energy Potential
Through Boost In Corn Oil

Boosting the oil content of corn through breeding and selection offers a gigantic potential for raising the energy output from American farms, a University of Illinois agronomist reports.

Speaking before a recent symposium of corn breeders, scientists, and industry representatives, M. B. Russell, head of the U. of I. agronomy department, compared the potential gain in energy to a 5 megaton bomb.

The present four billion bushel corn crop with an average 4.5 percent oil content produces about 100 million tons of corn containing 4.5 million tons of oil, Russell pointed out. By raising oil content to 6.5 or 7 percent another 2 to 2 1/2 million tons of oil could be produced on the same acreage. The energy potential in this much oil is equal to a 5 megaton bomb.

This much extra oil in corn would represent three times the energy contained in all the butterfat now produced in this country; 10 times the energy in all linseed oil, 2 1/2 times the energy in all cotton seed, or 1 1/4 times the energy in all soybeans. The energy from the potential increase in corn oil would roughly equal the energy from all animal fats presently produced in this country.

The job of agricultural producers is to capture energy from the sun and make it available in other forms that people can use. The potential for stepping up the capture of solar energy through raising the oil content of our corn crop offers an unusual opportunity for agriculture to be a great service and benefit to all the human population, Russell concludes.

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IDG:mfb
/19/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 1, 1961

Study New Fence Post Preservative

Fence post preservatives have been available for some time. However, only 10 percent of the 26 million fence posts used annually in Illinois are treated.

University of Illinois wood technologist K. R. Peterson says two reasons may be the high initial cost of treated posts and the special equipment needed for home application.

One answer to the problem may be a penta-gel preservative that is under test by the U. of I. department of forestry.

Application is easy. Researchers simply apply the gel around the underground part of the post with a mason's trowel. Once the material is applied, it forms a crust around the post.

Penetration takes place after the post has been set in the ground and is complete in about 10 to 14 days.

Peterson says initial tests are promising. Square Douglas fir posts with 1/4-inch and 1/2-inch penta-gel coating are all sound after 4 1/2 years in the ground.

During the same period, 30 percent of the untreated posts failed completely, 40 percent decayed and only 30 percent remained sound.

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JEL:mfb
4/26/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 1, 1961

Note: Attached are the names of all students in the College of Agriculture who have a "B" grade point average or better. You may want to include the names of students from your area in the story.

15 Percent Of U. Of I. Ag College
Students Have B Average Or Above

C. D. Smith, assistant dean of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, announced today that 15.4 percent of the College's 1,260 students have a "B" grade point average or above.

This includes students in agriculture and home economics.

Students usually find their freshman year the most difficult because of the transition from high school to college. Yet 15.6 percent of all freshmen have a B average or better.

Some 14 percent of the sophomores, 15 percent of the juniors and 17 percent of the seniors have maintained a B average or above.

People who suspect that girls make better grades than the boys will find that it's true in the College of Agriculture. Some 22 percent of the girls have a B average or better compared with 12 percent of the boys.

Dean Smith explains that girls usually rank higher in their high school classes also. He adds that more boys than girls have part-time jobs in college, and therefore the boys have less time for studying.

Local students enrolled in the College who have a B average or above include:

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PAC:mfb
4/26/61

Agricultural Students in the University of Illinois
College of Agriculture Having a "B" Average or Above

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
Akin	Kenneth Roy Bolen	
Aledo	Leslie Gene Lemon	R. 2
Ashkum	Jack Milton Widholm	
Bader	Donald Keith Cassel	Box 75
Baileyville	Marvin Lee Hayenga	R. 1
Baileyville	Wayne Allen Hayenga	R. 1
Baylis	Max Lynn Webel	R. 2
Bellflower	Delmar Darwin Builta	
Belvidere	Merrill R. Swanson	R. 3, Box 66
Blandinsville	Max Arnold Peterson	R. 1
Bloomington	Marvin Lynn Alwes	R. 4
Bradford	Roy Dewitt Vanostrand	R. 1
Brownstown	Robert William Cole	R. 1
Buckley	Steve Russell Perkinson	
Carlinville	William David Gleason	R. 1
Catlin	Thomas Wayne Clark	R. 1
Champaign	Leo Swettenam Jr.	G 33A Stadium Ter.
Chapin	Larry Alan Werries	R.
Charleston	Peter James Barry	R. 3
Chicago	William Alfred Schiller	2710 Artesian
Clinton	Gary Edward Reynolds	R. 4
Cropsey	Robert John Armstrong	R.
Dallas City	Robert Charles Dorch	R. 1
Earlville	Richard Ross Smith	R. 2
Ellery	Bruce Leon Fryman	
Ewing	William Frank Payne	
Fairbury	Eldon Wayne Askew	R. 3
Fairbury	Jonn Wesley Hacker	Pine Street
Gibson City	Allen Dale Huston	R. 2
Grant Park	Randall Howard Ross	R. 1
Havana	Patricia Louise Crater	R. 1
Heyworth	John Lee Kelly	R. 2
Huntley	David Ralph Henning	R. 1
Illiopolis	Gilbert Maurice Knap	R. 1
Kankakee	James Lloyd Vetter	1042 S. East
Kewanee	John Edward Peden	R. 3
Lanark	Michael Rhodes Lower	
Lane	Marlyn Lynn Trummel	Box 94
Lane	Milton Glenn Trummel	Box 94
Lebanon	Donald Lester Meyer	R. 1

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
Lexington	James Stephen Lindsay	302 N. Cherry St.
Lincoln	Denzil Victor Marten	R. 1
Loami	Raymond George Duewer	
Lombard	Robert Lynn Drieslein	76 S. Highland
Macomb	Jerry Raymond Brookhart	R. 1
Mansfield	Gerald Keith Colmer	R. 1
Mason City	Robert Roy Tracy	R. 1
Mazon	Douglas Allen Holler	R. 1
Mahomet	Roger Dale Dozier	R. 1
Moweaqua	Dale William Fathauer	R. 2
Newman	Clint William Magill	
New Windsor	Darrell Wayne Nelson	
Niantic	Edward Harper Leonard	R. 1
Oak Lawn	David Landis Snavely	9613 S. 52nd Ave.
Orion	Lyle Keith Johnson	R.
Palmyra	Curtiss Hale Giller	
Paris	Ronald Lee Stickler	R. 4
Paxton	Robert Joseph Reber	R. 1
Pearl City	Stanley Arthur Ashmore	
Peotone	Dale Thomas Smith	R. 2
Pesotum	John Phillip Lloyd	R. 1
Petersburg	John Rollin Rosendahl	R. 2
Pittsfield	Larry Lee Bauer	R. 1
Pontiac	John Stevens Bolen	R. 1
Potomac	Jerry Milton Behimer	
Prairie City	Kenneth Gordon McMillan	R. 1
Princeton	William Clarence Crabb	R. 4
Princeton	Burton Eugene Swanson	R. 5
Ransom	Wayne Leroy Sampson	R. 1
Reynolds	David W. Close	R. 1
Rio	Harold Ward Watters	R. 1
Roseville	George Patrick Huston	R. 1
Roseville	Richard Lee Huston	
Roseville	William Ray Martin	
Saybrook	Byron Emery Jones	R. 2
Seneca	Kenneth Dale Eike	R. 1
Shelbyville	Joseph Warren Peek	R. 3
Sheridan	Ronald Henry Hougas	R. 1
Solon Mills	Bruce Lynn Gardner	
South Beloit	Douglas Bert Bauling	R. 1
Springfield	Donald Ray Selinger	536 S. Lincoln
Stewardson	Donald Clarence Beitz	
Stewardson	Fred Franklin Manhart	R. 1
Sugar Grove	David John Schingoethe	R. 1, Box 153
Sullivan	Jack Willard Buxton	112 W. Jackson
Sullivan	Edward James Dunphy	816 N. Worth

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
Thawville	Gene Lyle Weber	
Tolono	John Edward Shepherd	R. 1
Tolono	Dale Eldon Schroeder	R. 2
Toluca	James Allen Shanklin	R. 1
Towanda	Gary Stover Dameron	R. 1
Vandalia	Gary Lee Doolen	1201 W. Jackson
Varna	William Lawrence Palm	R.
Wapella	William Mark Hull	
Waterloo	Robert Bailey Burton	R. 4, Box 30
Waterman	David Hiram Baker	340 N. Hickory
Waynesville	Jimmie D. Harrold	R. 1
White Hall	Larry Grant Howard	R. 1
Wilmette	Robert Perry Bosshart	427 Ninth St.
Winnebago	Richard Lee Liston	Box 384
Woodstock	Earl Mulford Hughes Jr.	R. 1
Wyoming	Maurice Henry Brucker	R. 1
Wyoming	Clement Eugene Gill	R. 1
Out-of-State		
Butler, Wisconsin	Ronald L. Laechelt	4903 N. 126th
Hillsdale, New Jersey	Timothy George Lohman	100 Trinity Place

-30-

PAC:mfb
4/26/61

Home Economics Students in the University of Illinois
College of Agriculture Having a "B" Average or Above

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
Amboy	Diann Joy Dennis	R. 2
Arlington Heights	Audrey Louise Gronert Gieseking	2012 E. Euclid St.
Aurora	Sandra June Bennett	R. 1
Avon	Jacquelyn Edwina Berg	
Baylis	Vera Ruth Dean	
Bement	Barbara Lenore Hodam	533 S. Piatt
Bentley	Carol Joyce Prior	Box 36
Bloomington	Sybil Sue Burgin	Box 674
Bloomington	Nancy Louise Lewis	40 Sunset Rd.
Bloomington	Judith Ann Procknow	925 MacArthur
Bradford	Carole Yvonne Holmes	
Bradley	Babette S. Eckland	Rt. 54 & North St.
Caledonia	Sue Ann Ramsey	
Canton	Jane Ellen Stevens	R. 5
Carlinville	Mary Margaret Clark	928 E. First North
Camargo	Martha Jean Kielhorn	
Carthage	Carol Ann Ufkes	R. 2
Champaign	Carol Margaret Clemons	301 S. McKinley
Champaign	Beth McCamly Dohme	31 Greencroft
Champaign	Nancy Elizabeth Turner	R. 4
Chicago	Carol Jean Bantz	9918 S. Leavitt
Chicago	Barbara Ann Elder	243 N. Austin Blvd.
Chicago	Ruth Lee Spaeth	10028 S. Hoyne
Danville	Nancy Josephine Johnston	2510 E. Main St.
Dalton City	Karen Jane Steele	R. 1
Des Plaines	Bonnie Ann Scott	904 Second Ave.
Dixon	Rosemary Schuster	R. 1
East Peoria	Diane Ruth Henry	1904 Morton Rd.
Elgin	Patricia Ann Long	R. 3
Elmhurst	Susan Jean Wickham	221 Indiana St.
Elmwood Park	Elaine Margaret Wilms	7779 Elmgrove Dr.
Elmwood Park	Marie Magdalene Wilms	7779 Elmgrove Dr.
Evanston	Iris Lynn Clark	1042 Hinman
Ewing	Brenda Joyce Payne	R. 1
Galesburg	Louise Frances Leasure	R. 2, Box 704
Gerlaw	Deanna Lipp	R. 1
Glen Ellyn	Joanne Dorothea Paulsen	350 Oak
Harvel	Patricia Ann Clickner	R.
Illiopolis	Sandra Lee Erwin	
Joliet	Rita Louise Lauterbach	1301 W. Jefferson
Kankakee	Susan Louise Wilken	999 S. 10th

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
La Grange	Ann Bernice Montgomery	19 S. 7th Ave.
La Grange	Pauline Louise Seefeldt	93 N. Gilbert
La Grange	Gervaise Susan Steffen	532 S. Stone
LaSalle	Anida Louise Miller	1400 Campbell
LeRoy	Ann Frederick Jones	111 Park Ave.
LeRoy	Janice Kay Luse	R. 3
Lewistown	Veanna L. O'Malley	1203 S. Main
Lincolnwood	Marcia Zaurann Novoselsky	7125 N. Kilpatrick
Macomb	Lynn Ann Nail	227 N. Ward
Mattoon	Rebecca Joan Kepley	3309 Shelby
Meredosia	Rebecca Gail Van Deventer	Box 266
Monica	Marilyn Jo Ann Higgs	
Mt. Vernon	Jeanne Lee Sharpe	1501 N. 8th St.
New Point	Carla Kay Kunkel	
Newton	Sharon Elaine Earnest	R. 6
Ogden	Sharon Rae Webb	
Ohio	Lynn A. Meisenheimer	
Omaha	Joyce Hale	R.
Oswego	Nannette Carol Smith	R. 1, Box 80
Ottawa	Karen Estelle Arentsen	R. 2
Paris	Sharon Ann Egan	R. 3
Peoria	Sally Joanne Shipp	1418 N. Broadway
Peru	Marilyn Carol Frederick	R. 1
Piper City	Shelley Anne Raudabaugh	29 W. Market
Pittsfield	Janet Lee Irick	R. 3
Prairie City	Janene Walter	R.
Ransom	Mary Jane Geheber	
St. Francisville	Janet Louise Akin	R. 1
Shannon	Ruth Ann Devries	
Sheridan	Sally Lynn Johnson	Box 121
Sparta	Brenda Elizabeth Hayer	R. 3
Springfield	Elizabeth E. Armstrong	1130 Williams Blvd.
Springfield	Jean Ann Mitchell	1309 Dial Court
Stockton	Margaret Ann Williams	R. 1
Streator	Rosalynn Florence Jenkins	R. 2
Sullivan	Jean Ann Dunphy	816 N. Worth
Sullivan	Linda Essie McKown	R. 3
Toledo	Marguerite Ellen Collier	Box 204
Tower Hill	Elizabeth Ann Himes	
Towanda	Judith Ethel Bliss	
Tuscola	Carole Sue Riddle	R. 3
Urbana	Nancy Kay Goers	704 W. Iowa
Urbana	Constance Ann Silver	R. 3

Hometown (Illinois)	Name	Address
Victoria	Carol Leone Fahnstrom	R. 1
Villa Grove	Barbara Gwynn Baird	402 N. Pine
Walnut	Mary Louise Hoge Conley	Box 273
Waukegan	Ingrid Louise Johnson	R. 2, Box 218
Waukegan	Suzanne Beth Schlemmer	535 Martin
Wheaton	Marjorie S. Strandquist	115 E. Park Ave.
Williamsfield	Carol Ann Ostrom	R.
Wilmington	Peggy Diane Parks	Box 92
Wyoming	Ardis Maureen Rewerts	
Out-of-State		
Denver, Colorado	Evelyn Jackson	2939 Monaco Parkway
Franklin, South Dakota	Mary Lee Noonan	R. 2

-30-

PAC:mfb
4/26/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 1, 1961

Early Lawn Diseases Described

Leaf spot and footrot are two of the first fungus diseases of the year that attack lawns, warns M. P. Britton, University of Illinois plant pathologist. He advises prompt control if and when the first signs appear.

Leaf spot disease occurs any time after late March. A heavy infestation of the disease kills grass leaves. The spots often have tan centers and purplish margins.

The closely related footrot attacks anything from the stems on down and may kill large areas of lawns by May or June if not controlled. The affected part of the grass turns brown.

For leaf spot and footrot control, Britton says any one of the following fungicide materials are satisfactory: Dyrene, Ortho lawn and turf fungicide, Kromad, captan, Terson plus mercury and Actidione-thiram. Apply the first spray in early April; apply at least twice more at 7- to 14-day intervals. Four or five spray applications may be necessary during cool, rainy seasons. Merion bluegrass is resistant to leaf spot and footrot.

Britton adds that controlling fungus diseases depends a lot on good management. Good drainage, watering, fertilization and removal of lawn-mower clippings often eliminate the need for fungicide treatments.

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EEW:mfb
4/26/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 8, 1961

Keep Children Off Tractors

Who's to blame when a child is hurt or killed while riding with Dad on the tractor?

Actually it's Dad's fault and maybe Mother should share a little of the blame, says University of Illinois farm safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. Unfortunately, placing the blame doesn't repair a broken body or bring a child back to life.

Children get such a thrill from riding on the tractor that Dad may think he's being good to the youngsters by letting them tag along. Maybe he's done it dozens of times before with no serious consequences.

But look at the score in Illinois last year. Records show that more than 100 persons were injured by tractors. More than 20 were killed. Many of these were small children.

Before you decide to be good to your youngsters by taking them on the tractor, ask yourself this question: "If my child wants to play with a loaded gun, am I being good to him if I let him have his way?"

The answer, of course, is "no." The only way you can be good to your children when they plead, "Let me ride, Daddy," is to say "no."

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OLH:HDN:mfb
5/3/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 8, 1961

First-Aid Kits Needed On The Farm

Prompt and correct treatment of injuries suffered in farm accidents can save your life or prevent serious infection.

University of Illinois farm safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says every farm should be equipped with first-aid kits. And farmers and their wives should know how to use them.

Now that the busy season around the farm has started, be sure you have enough first-aid kits in your home, at convenient places in other buildings and on equipment.

You don't need to buy an expensive kit. You can make your own. All you need is a tight metal box or a tightly covered tin can. Clean it out thoroughly, and label it as a first-aid kit.

Each kit should contain rolls of adhesive tape of various widths, sterile white cloth for bandages or tourniquets, a tube of white vaseline for minor burns, scissors, boric acid, tincture of benzoin, an accepted antiseptic and aromatic spirits of ammonia.

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HDN:mfb
5/3/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 8, 1961

Top Income Producers Report How They Did It

A recent survey among 37 top-income grain farmers in McLean County shows that they made a profit of over $10 an acre in 1960 after including all charges for unpaid labor and interest on their capital. But this was no accident.

These farmers planted about 80 percent of their tillable acres in corn and soybeans. They believed these practices helped them show a good return: timely planting and harvesting, getting high yields with reasonable fertilizer costs, keeping machinery in good running condition, planning all operations in advance, using sound information, owning only machines that can be used fully, keeping good records, controlling weeds and insects and planning purchases and sales wisely.

The survey also showed that 32 of the 37 used soil insecticides and starter fertilizer for corn; about half used herbicides to control weeds in corn; 22 planted 16,000 kernels per acre, 9 planted 18,000 and 5 planted 14,000.

Most of these farmers used nitrogen fertilizers for their corn. Twelve reported applying an average of 55 pounds on first-year corn; 34 averaged 79 pounds on second-year corn and 79 reported using 87 pounds an acre on third-year or continuous corn.

Most of them reported testing their soil and applying lime every six years. More than half sold no corn at harvest time. About half reported drying corn artificially.

D. F. Wilken, University of Illinois farm management specialist, and Howard Robinson, local Farm Bureau Farm Management fieldman, point out that these farmers had no one best way to produce high crop income. Good farm records helped them, however, to see how their practices produced a profit. Having the facts can lead to sound decisions, they conclude.

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HDG:mfb
5/3/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 8, 1961

Don't Wait For Strawberry Diseases - Strike First!

Once disease or insect damage shows up in strawberries, it's often too late to salvage much of the harvest.

That's why home gardeners should hit first by following a planned control schedule, says Dwight Powell, University of Illinois plant pathologist.

Organic mercury sprays are effective in controlling leaf diseases when applied before bloom starts or while the plants are still dormant.

During the early-bloom stage Powell recommends either a spray or a dust containing 50 percent captan and 50 percent DDT, plus either 25 percent malathion or 40 percent chlordane. This treatment controls such insects as strawberry weevil and cat-facing insects and also diseases like gray mold and the leaf diseases.

Powell advises following up at 7- to 10-day intervals with a spray or dust containing 50 percent captan. Applied as needed until harvest, this treatment controls gray mold and leaf diseases.

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EEW:mfb
5/3/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 15, 1961

Here's What To Do In Case Of Tornado

University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says knowing what to do when you see a tornado may mean the difference between life and death. Here are a few suggestions:

Keep calm. It won't help to get excited. Tornadoes usually move in a northeasterly direction at about 25 to 40 miles per hour. If one is coming toward you, move at right angles to its path.

If there isn't time to escape, lie flat on the ground face down in the nearest depression, such as a ditch or ravine. If possible, get into a culvert.

If you are at home and you don't have a cyclone cellar, the southwest corner of the basement usually offers the greatest safety. If you don't have a basement, make arrangements now to take shelter in your neighbors basement.

If time permits, shut off electricity and heating appliances. And, open doors and windows on the north and east sides of the house. This will equalize air pressure and may save your house from destruction.

Hogsett points out that the purpose of a tornado warning system is to give you 10 minutes to take these precautions. They could be the most valuable minutes of your life.

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OLH:HDN:mfb
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 15, 1961

More Than One Way To Get Top Net Income

A University of Illinois farm record study shows farmers can organize their cropping system more than one way to get the same net income.

A recent study compared farms with 90 percent of their tillable land in corn and soybeans and another group with 67 percent in these crops. Soil quality was similar on all farms. In 1959 and 1960, the management profits on these two groups of farms were about the same.

Crop yields averaged slightly lower and fertilizer costs ran much higher on the heavily cropped farms, according to U. of I. farm management specialist D. F. Wilken. The added costs, however, were covered by added returns from more total bushels of cash grain crops.

On the less intensively cropped farms, livestock provided additional returns to make up for part of the lower returns from grain sales.

Under prices and costs that existed in 1959 and 1960, Wilken believes high crop yields and efficient use of labor become more important than more acreage in corn and soybeans to achieve a high net farm income. A farm plan that includes uses for labor, buildings and operator's management know how the year around is likely to mean the highest net farm income in the next few years, he concludes.

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5/10/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 15, 1961

Garden Sprays And Dusts Evaluated

There's no "pat" answer to which is best, a spray or a dust, for controlling diseases and insects in home gardens and orchards. But here are some guides from the University of Illinois Department of Plant Pathology:

Flowers: Dusts are better than sprays. They are easier to apply and stick better when the foliage is wet. Special equipment isn't needed either. U. of I. specialists recommend all-purpose dusts for home use. These mixes contain both insecticides and fungicides and control practically all common insects and diseases. For best results, be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions.

Vegetables: Either sprays or dusts are satisfactory, but complete coverage is the important thing. Again, dusts are easier to apply and do not need special equipment. All-purpose vegetable dusts, if used correctly, control both insects and diseases, but home-mixed sprays generally give better disease control. Some basic ingredients for home-mixed sprays are malathion as the insecticide, and maneb, zineb or captan as the fungicide. Specific problems require a more specific mix.

Fruits: Both dusts and sprays may be used. However, sprays usually give more effective coverage and consequently better control on such fruits as apples and strawberries. The specialists say that home mixes are usually better than all-purpose sprays. The basic materials needed for a home mix are lead arsenate, DDT and malathion as the insecticides, and captan, zineb and wettable sulfur as the fungicides.

The best times to apply dusts are either in the early morning or late evening, when the leaves are damp and the air is still. Sprays, however, can be applied any time when the air is fairly calm.

You can get a complete spray schedule for flowers, fruits and vegetables from your county farm adviser or the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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EEW:mfb
5/10/61
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 15, 1961

Shut Off Tractor When Refueling

University of Illinois farm safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says there's a lot more to filling a tractor gas tank--and doing it safely--than just pouring in the fuel.

When gasoline comes into contact with air, it forms high explosive vapors. A pint of gasoline mixed with air has the power of nearly 11 pounds of dynamite.

Always shut off the tractor before fueling. And take special care not to overfill the tank. If you do spill gasoline on the tractor, wait at least 10 minutes before starting the engine so the gas can evaporate.

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HDN:ml
5/10/61
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 22, 1961

Cool Hogs Make Cheaper Gains

Keeping hogs cool during the hot summer months ahead will pay off in cheaper gains, observed Dick Carlisle, University of Illinois livestock specialist.

He cites California Experiment Station tests to support his statement. The California workers kept hogs nearing market weight in rooms constantly maintained at either 100- or 70-degree temperature.

Hogs kept in the 100-degree rooms required four times as much feed as those in the cooler rooms. Carlisle admits that a constant 100-degree temperature will not be found on an Illinois farm. But the results still show how hot temperatures increase cost of gains.

Carlisle lists these four tips for keeping hogs cool:

1. Provide at least six square feet of shade per hog. On pasture, running the long axis of a rectangular shade north and south helps to reduce dust under the shade.

2. Provide plenty of drinking space--at least one cup for every 20 hogs.

3. If hogs are on concrete, provide a mist sprayer. Turn it on when temperatures climb past 75 degrees.

4. If hogs are on pasture, locate sanitary wallows in the sun, so that hogs will climb in, get wet and then lie in the shade. This allows more hogs to use the wallows.

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5/17/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 29, 1961

FFA Members Seek Star Farmer
Award At State Convention

Only five outstanding young men representing more than 16,000 Illinois Future Farmers of America members now remain in competition for the coveted Illinois Star Farmer Award.

This is the highest state award available to Illinois FFA members. The winner will be announced at the State FFA Convention in Springfield June 6-8.

The final contenders include Dale E. Cohenour, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale E. Cohenour, Sr., Sterling; LeRoy "Dutch" Klitzing, 18, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Klitzing, Altamont; Donald L. Knepp, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knepp, Washington; James Wilson, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wilson, Stanford; and Richard D. Winter, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Winter, Burnt Prairie.

Selection of the Star Farmer Award winner is based on the over-all size, growth and earnings of his FFA-supervised farming activities. Scholastic ability and school and community activities are also considered.

Each of the five final contenders raise as much as 100 acres of corn, soybeans, small grains and legumes. They also raise beef cattle, dairy cows, hogs or sheep, in addition to studying and carrying on the usual high school activities.

The Illinois FFA is part of the official nation-wide organization of high school vocational agriculture students. Illinois has nearly 500 chapters. H. R. Damisch, chief of Illinois agricultural education, is the official adviser to the Illinois FFA.

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5/24/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 29, 1961

Don't Use Electric Mower On Wet Lawn

Always work away from the electrical outlet with an electric lawn mower, suggests O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

Hogsett points out that when the power cord lies on the cut-over area there is less danger of cutting the cord or getting an electric shock from the frayed wires.

To 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 when you want to mow.

Hogsett says it's best to mow only when the grass is dry. Moisture of any kind is a good conductor of electricity. Rain or dew may short out the mower or give you a shock.

Use only heavy-duty rubber-covered cord with a No. 16 or heavier conductor wire for 100 feet of corn on a 1/4 horsepower motor. Check your cord frequently to see that it doesn't have any breaks in the insulation.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 5, 1961

Report Sycamore Anthracnose
Outbreak In Illinois

University of Illinois foresters say shade tree owners are reporting a number of cases of sycamore anthracnose, a leaf blight disease that attacks sycamore trees.

Pathologists generally recognize two types of sycamore anthracnose. One type kills part or all of the young leaves. However, new foliage grows back in early summer, and unless the tree has been hit by several successive defoliations, it won't be seriously injured.

The second type of anthracnose causes darkened areas on the mid-ribs and veins of fully developed leaves. These areas contain brown fruiting fungus bodies that occasionally are visible to the naked eye.

Foresters say that in spite of present concern it's too late to stop the disease this year. If you notice anthracnose symptoms in your sycamores, plan to apply an organic mercury spray before buds begin to swell next spring.

Apply a second mercury spray just before the buds burst, and a third spray seven days later.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 5, 1961

Prune Flowering Shrubs After Blooming

Flowering shrubs, which are just ending their season of glory, will add more beauty to your landscape next year if you prune them now.

W. R. Nelson, Jr., University of Illinois landscape specialist, explains that next year's flowers will bloom on this year's growth. Pruning stimulates new growth which in turn will produce more flowers.

As a general guide, Nelson recommends pruning about one-third of the old branches. Older wood is easy to identify, since it's larger and darker colored than the young branches. Follow these steps in pruning:

1. Prune out the oldest wood at the ground level. Pruning forces new young growth from the root area and produces a multistemmed shrub.

2. Prune the upper branches to improve the shrub's shape or form. But do not alter its natural form of growth. Shearing into rounded balls or flat tops reduces quality and effectiveness of the shrub, since these formal shapes do not harmonize with natural landscapes.

Pruning into balls or flat tops also induces a "sucker" type of growth and an abundance of new shoots that are weak and will produce fewer flowers. And formal pruning reduces the plant's vigor, since the older branches and stems at the ground level are not removed.

Several examples of flowering shrubs are spirea, forsythia, flowering quince, mockorange, honeysuckle and redtwig dogwood.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 12, 1961

Illinois State 4-H Club Week Set For June 21-23

Some 1,200 Illinois 4-H Club members and leaders have been named delegates to the Illinois State 4-H Club Week program at the University of Illinois June 21-23. The big three-day event is the first of its kind since before World War II.

Main objectives of the program are to review and discuss 4-H project and activity goals in Illinois and to outline career opportunities available to young people after high school. All delegates will be high school sophomores or older.

Program chairman Bill Stone of the U. of I. 4-H staff says group discussions on 4-H projects and activities, addresses by prominent speakers, tours of the U. of I. campus and career exploration sessions are educational highlights of the 4-H Club Week program.

Entertainment features include a barbecue in the giant U.of I. football stadium and a 4-H friendship party in Huff Gymnasium.

Featured speakers for the event are Mrs. Marcus Goldman, former delegate to the United Nations, and Mrs. Evelyn Millis Duvall, noted author and family life consultant.

Stone says major delegate interest could center around the career theme of the program. Career sessions will cover a wide range of opportunities ranging from jobs in agriculture and home economics to business, mechanics, nursing and teaching.

A number of exhibits explaining career opportunities will be set up throughout buildings reserved for the program. Delegates also will attend a general assembly organized around the theme, "The Career in Your Future."

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 19, 1961

U. of I. Agronomy Day, June 28

University of Illinois crop and soil scientists will display their latest research at Agronomy Day June 28 at Urbana. Tours of the research farm begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue through the day.

Research workers will report on these studies now under way: soybean diseases, reducing water use, soil moisture, wheat variety tests, oat varieties, breeding oats for disease resistance, soybean fertilization, organic matter, weed control, establishing legumes with chemicals, alfalfa varieties, corn fertilization, rotations, and root diseases in field crops.

In addition, other College of Agriculture staff members will discuss the insect situation, growing a good lawn, new machines for harvesting forage crops, and production potentials of Illinois soils.

Lunch will be served at noon. Anyone interested in seeing the latest developments in crops and soils will want to attend. The Agronomy Farm is located directly south of the main University campus at Champaign-Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 19, 1961

Steers On Pasture Make
Good Use Of Extra Protein

If you're feeding steers on pasture this summer, giving them extra protein will help them gain faster and weigh more at the end of the feeding period.

And their over-all cost of gain will not increase.

A University of Illinois test illustrates these points. Animal science research men pastured two groups of yearling steers on first-year standover legume-grass pasture. All steers weighed about 693 pounds when the test began.

Group 1 steers were self-fed a ration of 12.5 parts of ground ear corn and 1 part of soybean meal. Group 2 steers received ground ear corn only for the first 84 days of the 112-day test. During the last 28 days, they also received soybean meal plus the corn.

A summary of the entire test period showed that Group 1 steers, which received protein during the entire test period, weighed about 30 pounds more than Group 2 steers. Daily gains averaged 2.70 pounds for Group 1 steers compared with 2.31 pounds for Group 2 steers.

The cost per 100 pounds of gain averaged $15.12 for Group 1 steers and $15.87 for Group 2 steers.

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6/14/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 26, 1961

Records Show Higher 1960 Farm Earnings

Illinois farmers boosted their 1960 earnings on all types of farms in northern and southern Illinois, a University of Illinois farm business record summary released this week shows. Except for southern Illinois grain farms, farm earnings in 1960 were above the 1951-60 average.

A representative group of northern Illinois grain farms achieved farm and family earnings of $8,464. This figure was 29 percent above 1959 and the highest since 1956. U. of I. agricultural economist A. G. Mueller explains that this income recovery was due to favorable weather that resulted in high crop yields. Prices for hogs, milk and eggs also averaged higher.

Southern Illinois grain farmers achieved only a small increase in their farm and family earnings compared with 1959. Mueller points out that southern Illinois did not suffer the dry weather in 1959 that central Illinois farmers experienced.

Hog farms showed the largest recovery in all parts of the state. Hog farmers averaged $15.24 a hundred pounds for hogs sold in 1960 compared with $13.88 in 1959. Higher crop yields on many hog farms also helped to boost earnings.

On a group of northern Illinois dairy farms, earnings rose from $6,587 in 1959 to $8,719 in 1960. In southern Illinois, earnings

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rose from $7,319 to $7,911. Dairy farm earnings in 1960 were substantially above the average for the past 10 years. Mueller points out that 10 percent higher milk prices in 1960 over 1959 helped account for these improved earnings.

On northern Illinois beef farms, the records show higher earnings due to improved crop yields, higher hog prices and lower purchase costs for feeder cattle.

Farm and family earnings include returns to the farm family for all unpaid labor, interest on invested capital and management. Changes in the value of farm inventories and value of farm products consumed are also counted as income. Landlord and tenant earnings were combined on rented farms.

The University of Illinois farm business record summary is prepared annually from the actual farm account records kept by 5,500 Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Service cooperators.

Mueller points out that the income changes reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture are inconsistent with the trends reported by the farm business record summary. Preliminary USDA figures for Illinois show a 11 percent increase in realized net income and a 6 percent decrease in total net income in 1960. Accounting and estimating methods used by the USDA do not reflect the income changes experienced by individual farmers. The USDA farm income data, however, are reasonable indicators of the over-all agricultural income situation, Mueller concludes.

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5/21/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 26, 1961

25-Year Look Ahead Required To
Assure Adequate Timber Supply

While grain and livestock farmers can plan their production a year or two ahead, timber producers must look ahead for 25 years. They can't plant trees today and harvest this year, next year or even in 10 years.

University of Illinois extension forester R. E. Nelson points out that at the present rate of use and present timber growth rates, we will be forced to do without some of the wood products we have been accustomed to. At the present time, each of us uses 66 cubic feet of wood in a year's time. The growth from 2 1/2 acres of timberland is required to satisfy this need.

Nelson points out that privately owned woodlands could be improved to make them contribute to farm income. But to do so, owners must stop grazing their timberland, practice improvement cutting and protect the area from fire.

Selling all the trees in a stand at one time is a wasteful method of harvesting. Cattlemen sort and sell their animals as they are ready for market. Timber owners should do the same, Nelson concludes.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 3, 1961

Thinking Man Waters Trees And Shrubs

Thoughtful homeowners will give their trees and shrubs plenty of water this summer during dry weather.

Trees and shrubs planted this spring especially need water, emphasizes W. R. Nelson, Jr., University of Illinois landscape specialist. He suggests soaking the soil at least one foot deep every 10 days.

Ingenious gardeners often use mulches to help conserve moisture. A 4- to 6-inch layer of ground corncobs keeps the soil mellow and in good condition to absorb moisture.

Mulches also help to control weeds that compete for moisture and nutrients. If, however, mulches do not prevent weeds, use a hoe to chop out the weeds. But do not chop too deeply. You might injure the small, fibrous feeder roots of the trees and shrubs.

Insects and diseases will cause a lot of damage this summer. Red spider mites will especially damage evergreens. To control them, wash the evergreens down with a forceful jet of water once a week. Or use sprays of aramite, orthomite or ovatran.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 3, 1961

Sidedressed Nitrogen Proves Effective

Research at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station shows that sidedressed nitrogen pays dividends when applied for corn.

Compared with nitrogen plowed down before planting, one-half to two-thirds the amount applied as sidedress will produce equally high yields of corn. When corn followed fescue sod with 167 pounds of nitrogen plowed down, it yielded 84 bushels. With 100 pounds of sidedress nitrogen, yields averaged 81 bushels. When corn followed corn, yields for both plow down and sidedressing were 72 bushels.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 10, 1961

Economist Lists General Guides
On Soybean Price Patterns

Farmers or anyone else seldom have the detailed knowledge to predict all the changes in soybean prices, a University of Illinois agricultural economist points out in a new publication just released.

T. A. Hieronymus points out that the factors affecting soybean prices are very complex and it is difficult to set up definite rules about seasonal soybean price patterns. He does list these general observations, however, based on a study of soybean price movements since World War II:

It is difficult to overestimate the demand expansion rate for soybeans. Substantially more can be used each year at a constant price. Exports and domestic use have shown remarkable expansion in the last 10 years.

When the soybean crop is short, the price usually peaks early in the marketing year following harvest.

Oil prices are sensitive to the world supply and demand and tend to move in long cycles. Other things being equal, soybean prices move in the direction of oil prices.

Meal prices are sensitive to changes in livestock numbers, particularly hogs. Farmers have profited from holding soybeans when an increase in the spring pig crop is anticipated.

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Meal consumption responds to price. High prices in the fall and winter often result in a falling price in the spring and summer. Low fall and winter prices may also be followed by rising prices in spring and summer.

Soybean prices respond to the general inflation-deflation conditions and move in the general trend with other commodity prices.

Speculative activity in both cash and futures markets by farmers and others is very important in determining the seasonal pattern of prices, Hieronymus points out. There is a tendency to put the price either too high or too low at harvest and remember only last year. This produces an every other year trend to soybean holding. So the most profitable procedure might well be to do what would have been unprofitable the year before, he concludes.

These guides are published as part of Circular 833, "When to Sell Corn, Soybeans, Oats, and Wheat." Copies may be obtained from any county farm adviser or the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, at Urbana.

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7/5/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 10, 1961

Southern Illinois Offers
Cattle Raising Opportunity

Southern Illinois with its relatively high rainfall and reasonable land prices is potential cattle country, reports H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

This area is favored with mild winters, year around grazing and reasonable land prices, Cate points out. The cost of improved land needed to carry one beef cow the year around and raise a calf to weaning will be no more than most range areas. And it is about half the amount required in the renowned cattle areas, the "reputation cattle country."

The land needed here to carry a beef cow for a year will run from three to four acres. This means a land investment cost of $300 to $400 per cow. This is not out of line for cattle range costs.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 17, 1961

Pick Tomatoes Before They Ripen

During the summer, home gardeners should pick tomatoes when they start turning pink, advises a University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist, Joe Vandemark.

The only exception to this rule occurs when daytime temperatures average above 80 degrees. Then pick when the tomatoes first begin to color. Otherwise they will become soft and color development will be poor.

Contrary to popular belief, tomatoes picked before they are ripe are firmer and have a better flavor than vine-ripened tomatoes.

After picking, store at 68 degrees F. This temperature causes further ripening without spoiling the fruit. If temperatures are any lower, the fruits take longer to ripen.

Never refrigerate tomatoes before they ripen.

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PAC:mfb
7/12/61
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 17, 1961

School Milk Program Promotes
Good Health, Study Shows

Milk consumption in Illinois schools has more than doubled in the past seven years since the Special School Milk Program started, a University of Illinois study shows.

In a report just published, Robert E. Jacobson and R. W. Bartlett point out that in 1953-54 the state average for milk consumed in schools was 12.3 quarts per student per year. After five years under the Special Milk Program, the state average consumption per student has risen to 30.3 quarts.

The report also shows differences in consumption among schools. Schools with fewer than 125 students had a higher average than the larger ones. Consumption per student was highest in schools participating in both the Special Milk Program and the National School Lunch Program.

When students were charged from one to three cents for each half-pint of milk, there were no outstanding differences in consumption. But if the school milk program were not operating, students would frequently have to pay as much as 10 cents per half-pint and school milk consumption would likely suffer a major decrease, the report concludes.

The detailed report has been published as Circular 831, The School Milk Program in Illinois. Copies may be obtained from the office of any county farm adviser or directly from the College of Agriculture at Urbana.

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7/12/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 24, 1961

Illinois Farm Real Estate Taxes Hit New High

Illinois farm land owners paid a new record amount in real estate taxes in 1960, a University of Illinois professor of agricultural law reported this week.

According to N. G. P. Krausz, the total farm real estate tax bill was $123.1 million, 3.7 percent above 1959 and nearly double the 1950 figure. Illinois farm land owners pay the second highest land tax bill in the United States. Only California land owners pay more.

On the basis of preliminary estimates, Krausz figures that land taxes took 17 percent of the net farm income.

The average 1960 Illinois land tax levy of $4.07 per acre was the highest of the corn-belt states. The average levy for all other corn-belt states was $2.18. The U. S. average was $1.20. Only four northeastern states had a higher per acre levy than Illinois.

High value of Illinois farmland does not account for our higher taxes, Krausz points out. When taxes are computed on the basis of $100 full value, the Illinois tax remains the highest in the corn-belt and far above the U. S. average.

Besides the real estate tax, Illinois farmers paid an estimated $22 million in personal property taxes in 1960. Adding personal and realty taxes together makes the per acre tax $4.80. This average is very high considering that on some poor land in the state taxes are below $1.00 per acre.

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Public schools receive the largest portion of real estate and property tax revenues, Krausz reports. Rising school enrollment continues to create demands for new schools, additional staff and larger operating costs. Spending for roads and welfare, however, is also increasing.

More increases in real property taxes can be expected as long as the Illinois tax structure remains basically the same, Krausz believes. There has been a leveling-off trend, however, in the past two years. In 1959 and 1960, the percentage increase was not so large in Illinois as in neighboring states.

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7/19/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 24, 1961

Harvest Sweet Corn At Proper Time

For you connoisseurs of sweet corn who grow your own, here are two tips for harvesting: Pick at the proper time, and handle carefully after picking.

The "proper time" no doubt puzzles some home gardeners. So here are some tips from University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist Joe Vandemark:

1. Dry silks indicate that corn is reaching maturity.

2. Feel the ears to make sure they are full, including the tips.

3. Pull the tip of the husk and peek inside. Kernels should be yellow and plump. Whiteness indicates immaturity unless, of course, the corn is a white variety.

4. Using a fingernail, puncture several kernels. If they are properly matured, milk will leak out. If water oozes out, they are too young and will lack a full flavor. If a doughy substance appears, they are too old.

The time to pick actually depends on how you like your corn. Some people prefer young corn, while others like more mature corn.

After harvesting corn, place it in a cool storage area. Tests show that at 32 degrees F. it loses only 8 percent of its sugar content in 24 hours. Of course, corn always tastes best when eaten immediately after harvest.

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7/19/61
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For Release Week of July 24, 1961

Announce State Fair Milking Derby

Junior dairy exhibitors can compete for premiums in milk production as well as in the show ring when they enter this year's Milking Derby at the Illinois State Fair.

Derby judge G. W. Harpestad from the University of Illinois says the derby is designed to emphasize the importance of high production and its correlation with good dairy cow type. The derby starts at 6:15 a.m. Sunday, August 13, with a preliminary dry milking in the Junior Livestock Building area.

Junior exhibitors milk their entries for five consecutive days, and winners are selected on a high butterfat yield basis. All yields are corrected for age and stage of lactation.

Each exhibitor must bring proof of his cow's age and stage of lactation. Registration papers will prove the cow's age, and DHIA or HIR production reports will prove the stage of lactation. Registration papers of offspring born at last calving also will be accepted.

The Milking Derby has been one of the most popular classes in the Junior Department for the last five years. Last year 44 exhibitors entered the class. This year the number of prizes has been increased to 35 to encourage still more entries.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE AFTER AUGUST 7, 1961

U. of I. Reduces Protein Level Of
Chick Ration Without Slowing Growth

URBANA--University of Illinois experiments reveal that it is possible to reduce the amount of expensive protein in chick rations without slowing gains.

H. M. Scott and colleagues, Department of Animal Science, reported this finding at the Poultry Science Association meeting August 7-11 at Pennsylvania State University.

The surplus amino acids present in all intact proteins are normally wasted in so far as protein synthesis (growth) is concerned. Furthermore, they may sometimes place a stress on the bird. And they may even increase the needs for certain other amino acids.

It was reasoned that if these surplus amino acids were balanced out by three or four that would become limiting when the level of protein was reduced, chicks would grow just as well with less protein. If this were true, it would mean that, in addition to the formulation of rations to meet the minimal requirements for each of the amino acids, the excess amino acids should be balanced so that they too could be utilized for growth. Then total protein could be reduced.

Recent tests have confirmed this hunch. They demonstrate that balancing the excess amino acids makes it possible to reduce the total protein in the ration without slowing growth. The researchers were able to reduce the protein from 30 to 15 percent in a purified diet without impairing growth.

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PAC:mfb
7/31/61

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lambs In Cornfields Are Effective Cultivators

URBANA--Ever tried letting lambs keep the weeds down in cornfields when you can no longer cultivate?

The University of Illinois did and found that lambs were effective four-legged cultivators and gained $10 worth of weight to boot.

Sheep researcher E. E. Hatfield and his colleagues carried out the preharvest gleaning study for six years. The lambs gained an average of 54 pounds each. Valued at 20 cents a pound, this average preharvest gain was worth more than $10.

In general, gleaning did not lower grain yields. Several fields yielded more than 100 bushels of 15 percent moisture corn during the six years. During dry seasons, preharvest gleaning can actually increase yields, as lambs eat grass and weeds that compete for moisture.

Preharvest gleaning can, however, reduce yields, especially if fields are overstocked.

Hatfield recommends stocking cornfields with two to four lambs per acre. Fewer lambs will increase the gain per lamb but decrease the gain per acre.

Since lambs munch lower corn leaves as well as weeds, turn them in before the corn becomes too mature and loses its nutritive value. But wait until the corn is mature enough to withstand damage by the lambs.

The University generally turns its lambs in when the silks are dry and the corn is in the dough stage. This is usually between August 10 and 23.

Make sure that lambs have plenty of water.

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PAC:mfb
7/31/61

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cancer In Animals, Man
Quite Similar: Watrach

URBANA--Cancer in animals is similar to cancer in human beings, according to Dr. A. M. Watrach, University of Illinois veterinarian.

Malignant tumors, or neoplasms, found in man and animal have a similar structure and behavior--they infiltrate surrounding normal tissue, destroy it and spread to other organs by blood or lymphatic vessels. Fortunately, these tumors are seldom transmitted from animal to animal or animal to man.

The clinical signs are the same, Dr. Watrach said. There may be an ulcer that refuses to heal, an abnormal and chronic enlargement, a loss of weight. If one of these signs appears, the animal should be examined by veterinarian at once.

"The greatest difference in cancer in people and animals is the frequency of certain kinds of cancer," Dr. Watrach explained. "For instance, fewer than 20 cases of stomach cancer in dogs are on record, but stomach cancer in people is quite common."

As with man, malignant tumors usually strike animals during middle and old age. Most dogs are over seven years old, and horses over 10. Pigs, cattle and sheep, which are usually slaughtered early in life, do not often become cancer victims.

U. of I. veterinarians have been studying cancer cases sent to the state diagnostic laboratory. According to Dr. Watrach, 20 percent of all cases submitted to the laboratory last year were tumors. However, some of them were benign or localized tumors, which are not cancerous.

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CP:mfb
7/31/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 1961

Illinois Dairymen Use Hay
Conditioners At Record Rate

Illinois dairy herd improvement cooperators are using hay conditioners at a record rate.

University of Illinois dairy scientist Gary Harpestad says a recent study of 1,547 member records showed that 55 percent of the dairymen were using hay conditioners. This compares with 33 percent last year and 20 percent in 1959.

University of Illinois studies show that hay crushers will cut hay-drying time in half, reducing the chances of rain damage.

Harpestad says fast curing isn't the only advantage of crushing. It can save up to 10 percent more hay by preventing loss of leaves caused by extra drying and handling after rains.

Crushing also saves vitamin A, since hay is exposed to sun and rain for a shorter time. In addition, rapid curing saves protein that otherwise could be lost in shattered leaves.

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HDN:dl
8/2/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 7,1961

Loblolly Pine Produces More Total Pulp

Both loblolly and shortleaf pine are well adapted to southern Illinois soils and climate, reports Bob Gilmore, University of Illinois forester at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Loblolly grows faster than shortleaf and will produce more total pulp. The shortleaf pine weighs about 100 pounds more per cord, however.

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8/2/61

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 1961

Take Liver Samples To Spot Vitamin A Deficiency

Research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station are taking liver samples from yearling cattle to determine the amount of vitamin A storage. Samples taken in April and in mid-July will help them measure the vitamin A efficiency of wintering rations as well as of different kinds of pastures, some of which are supplemented with vitamin A.

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HAC:HDG:dl
8/2/61
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 14, 1961

Renovation Produces A Healthy, Weed-Free Lawn

If your lawn needs a "shot in the arm," renovating will do the trick, says W. R. Nelson, Jr., landscape specialist at the University of Illinois.

Nelson advises renovating, or rejuvenating, lawns in August and seeding them in September. The fall growth, plus next spring's growth, produces a sod that resists crabgrass and other weeds.

To renovate, follow these steps:

1. Kill the weeds first. The type and quantity of weed killer to use depends on the weeds. For broadleaf weeds, use 2,4-D or 2,4,5-T.

2. Apply fertilizer and grub-proofing materials 10 days after the last treatment with weed killers. Also apply lime if the soil is acid.

3. Mow closely, and rake.

4. Smooth the lawn and fill in low places with fine topsoil.

5. Seed with a mixture that's adapted to your soil and area. Use half the rate recommended for a new lawn.

6. Roll after seeding to smooth the surface and firm the seed into the soil.

7. Water immediately after rolling. Moisten only the upper inch of soil. When the soil is dry, water once a day for two weeks. Then water less often, but use more water.

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8. Mow when the old grass reaches a height of 2½ inches, regardless of the height of the new grass.

For more information on lawn care, Illinois residents may get a free copy of Circular 729 from their county farm adviser or write to the College of Agriculture, 110 Mumford Hall, Urbana, for a copy. The circular is entitled "How to Have an Attractive Lawn."

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PAC:dl
8/9/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 14,1961

Close-Row Corn Planting Success Depends On The Season

Success with narrow-row corn planting varies from year to year, according to a report from research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Spring Experiment Station.

In 1960, corn yields increased nearly 40 percent when rows were narrowed from 40 to 20 inches. Corn planted in 20-inch rows at the rate of 24,000 plants per acre yielded 130 bushels. When planted at a rate of 16,000 plants per acre in a 40-inch row spacing, the corn produced 102 bushels.

In 1959, little or no yield increase occurred with close-row planting. Much of the corn fell over, especially with the higher plant populations.

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Cobalt Adequate In Livestock Rations

Research at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station shows that the fields, forages and pastures are adequate in cobalt, a trace mineral needed in very small amounts.

Special cobalt bullets were placed in the stomachs of cattle and sheep last summer. These are very slowly soluble. Research workers report that in no instance did the treatment increase gains or performance over those of the untreated control animals.

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HAC:HDG:dl
8/9/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 21, 1961

Home Owners Often Confuse Flying
Ants With Flying Termites

"Termites!" exclaims Mr. Home Owner as he watches them scurrying along the woodwork.

But wait just a minute. What he thinks are termites may actually be flying ants. Except for two or three differences, these two insects closely resemble each other, observes H. B. Petty, entomologist with the University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey.

A difference in wing size is the easiest way to tell them apart. The termite's front and back wings are the same size. But the ant's front wings are larger than its back wings.

Termites also swarm from February until June or July. But ants swarm from February until November. So it's a good bet that insects swarming now are not termites.

Worker termites are always white. But worker ants may be black, yellow, tan or almost red. White objects seen in ant colonies are larvae and eggs.

The body structure of termites also distinguishes them from ants. Petty explains that both insects have three main segments--a head, thorax or middle section and abdomen. Because the thorax and abdomen are bluntly joined together, termites are often called blunt-waisted insects.

Ants, however, have the thorax and abdomen joined together with a slight restriction, giving them a thin-waisted appearance.

So next time you think termites are invading your home, grab one of the little fellers and examine him closely. Chances are he's simply a flying ant--you hope.

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PAC:mfb
8/14/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 21, 1961

Study Kentucky Rural Development Program

Representatives from eight southern Illinois counties will visit Morgantown, Kentucky, August 29 and 30 to study the Kentucky rural development program.

L. B. Broom, area resource development adviser, says people in the Morgantown area have had about five years' experience in rural development and should have helpful pointers for the Illinois visitors.

Going on the two-day tour will be a farm man and woman, a city man and woman and the farm and home adviser from each of the eight counties.

Broom says the Kentucky rural development group has been working on a two-phase program set up on a countywide as well as a community basis.

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8/16/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 1961

Take Care Of Raspberries And Strawberries This Fall

To insure large and tasty strawberries and raspberries next summer, give the plants a little extra care this fall, advises Frank W. Owen, University of Illinois fruit crops specialist.

He recommends removing and burning all the old raspberry canes that bore fruit this season. They may already be dying, but if they haven't, they soon will. These canes carry diseases. Therefore burning them protects the younger plants.

Keep raspberries free from weeds until the ground freezes and weeds stop growing. Also keep rows three to four feet wide by removing suckers between rows. Either cultivate or pull them out by hand.

Owen advises keeping strawberry rows about 18 to 24 inches wide. Remove all runners and plants beyond these limits. As the runner plants form, space and set them six to eight inches apart.

Also keep strawberries free from weeds. Then apply a mulch later this fall, using good clean straw. To insure a clean patch next spring, make sure the straw is free of weed seed.

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PAC:dl
8/23/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 1961

Close-Drilled Corn For Silage Disappointing

Efforts to boost silage production by drilling corn in 7-inch rows and fertilizing heavily with nitrogen hasn't worked out, report research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Regular corn silage produced from 40-inch rows and 16,000 plants per acre put more than 1 2/3 pounds of daily gain on beef calves. This corn had well-filled ears when made into silage.

Silage from the close-drilled 7-inch row corn put less than a pound of daily gain on similar calves. The close-drilled corn also produced lower silage yields than corn planted in the usual way.

Further tests are being conducted this year. But considering both yield of silage and gains on the calves, the old way looks better, research workers conclude.

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8/23/61
NO

Floor Laying Increasing; Cuts Profits

A University of Illinois poultry specialist reports this week that floor laying seems to be increasing in poultry flocks around the state.

S. F. Ridlen warns that floor laying, compared with nest laying, means lower profits for poultrymen.

Floor laying also means extra time and labor to collect the eggs. Most of the eggs are dirty, too, requiring more cleaning time. And some are so badly stained that they can't be completely cleaned. These eggs are worth little money.

Floor laying also increases cracking and breaking. This often leads to egg eating, a hard-to-stop habit among hens.

Here are some reasons for floor laying:

1. Failing to house pullets before they begin laying.

2. Providing too few nests. Allow one nest for every four or five hens. If using community nests, provide one square foot of nesting space for four or five birds.

3. Placing the nests in too much light or too high. Keep nests in darker areas of the hen house and at reasonable heights.

4. Letting the nesting material get dirty.

5. Letting automatic egg-gathering belts frighten young pullets. To avoid this problem, let pullets use the nests several weeks before starting the belts.

If floor laying does start, Ridlen advises stopping it as soon as possible. Putting wire netting over the favorite floor nesting areas may help. Moving the nests to new locations also has helped in some flocks.

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8/23/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1961

4-H Peace Corps Project Under Way

A special 4-H Peace Corps project which will send qualified 4-H'ers on two-year assignments to Latin American countries is fast becoming a reality.

Under the program, 50 high school graduates with strong backgrounds in 4-H Club work will receive Peace Corps assignments starting about December 1.

These young people will work as two-person teams and help to develop 4-H-type rural youth programs in the project countries. They will be accompanied to their assignments and guided in their work by a project director and three regional supervisers representing the National 4-H Foundation.

Basically the Peace Corps teams will be responsible for recruiting and training local 4-H Club leaders, helping to establish and carry out club and "county"-level 4-H project exhibits and visiting members' projects to provide technical assistance with their project work.

Selected candidates will receive two months of training at the National 4-H Club Center in Washington, D. C., all expenses paid. From these trainees, volunteers will be selected for further training and assignment to the 4-H Peace Corps project.

Trainees not selected will return home with no further obligations, but will be classified as "Standby Reserves" in case they are needed for this or other Peace Corps projects.

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HDN:dl
8/30/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1961

Tractor Can Be Dangerous On Public Highway

Driving a tractor on a public highway is one of the most dangerous situations a farmer can get into, according to O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois farm safety specialist.

The farm tractor spends only four percent of its working time on the road. Yet that's when more than one-third of all tractor accidents occur.

Hogsett says farmers often drive too fast to handle a tractor well in a highway emergency. However, even at top speed the tractor is barely moving in comparison with high-speed autos. This speed difference is the cause of most highway tractor accidents.

Hogsett says the best way for a farmer to protect himself on the highway is to obey the law and attach a red flag to the rear of trailing implements. And for further protection he can equip his tractor and equipment with flashing red lights.

Flashing lights get the attention of even the most careless motorist. And their expense is low compared with the cost of a tragic collision.

Farmers might also remember that courtesy makes friends and prevents accidents. It takes only minutes to pull off the highway and let faster moving traffic pass if a number of cars are trailing the tractor.

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8/30/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1961

Store Garden Vegetables For Use Next Winter

Many tasty vegetables growing in Illinois home gardens this summer can be stored and used as a special treat next winter, suggests Joe Vandemark, University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist.

Here are several vegetables that store well: beets, carrots, cabbage, onions, pumpkins, squash, sweet potatoes and turnips.

Since storage does not improve quality, store vegetables that are in good condition and have good eating quality. Make sure they are mature but not over-ripe, and free from disease and injuries.

Vandemark says that keeping vegetables as close to 32 degrees F. as possible is the key to successfully storing most vegetables. Humidity is also important. Keep it at the highest level possible before condensation occurs on the vegetables. There are, however, some notable exceptions to these two rules:

Keep Irish potatoes at 40 to 50 degrees F., green tomatoes at 65 to 70 degrees, ripe tomatoes at 50 degrees and cucumbers and eggplant at 45 to 50 degrees. All require a high humidity.

The following vegetables require a low relative humidity and higher temperatures: sweet potatoes, 55 to 60 degrees; squash or pumpkin, 50 to 55 degrees; and onions, 32 degrees.

Vandemark adds that basements, garages and attics make good storage places. Many home owners also use outdoor pits, sunken barrels and similar facilities. They find these places are superior for vegetables requiring a higher humidity with lower temperature.

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PAC:dl
8/30/61
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1961

Hitch Implements To Tractor Drawbar

Always hitch trailing implements to your tractor drawbar to prevent the machine from tipping backward, warns University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Modern tractors are designed to stall or lose traction before they tip backward when implements are hitched to the drawbar. But that safety feature doesn't apply when the equipment is hitched to the axle, around the power lift or at any point above the drawbar.

Hogsett points out that an improper hitch may not cause trouble until you get into a tough pull or head up hill. However, when a tractor does tip, things happen so fast that the driver seldom has a chance to reach the clutch or to jump.

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HDN:dl
9/6/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1961

Nightshade, White Snakeroot Dangerous In Fall

Nightshade and white snakeroot often poison dairy and beef cattle on late summer pastures.

Dr. Roger Link, University of Illinois veterinarian, says cows may eat nightshade even on good pastures. On the other hand, they eat snakeroot only when pastures are short.

Link says the poison from white snakeroot is secreted in the milk. Use of contaminated milk and milk products causes people to become ill.

Clipping will control nightshade. White snakeroot is hard to control because it is often in wooded areas. Check your herd closely to find depressed, slow-moving cattle, and report to your local veterinarian. Quick diagnosis may save a cow.

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JJF:dl
9/6/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1961

Research Under Way To
Shorten Lambing Periods

Research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station hope to shorten the lambing period in sheep flocks. Instead of having lambing spread over several weeks or a month, they hope to reduce it to three to five days.

To do this, they are feeding the ewes a female hormone, progesterone. When they stop feeding it, most ewes come into heat in a short period. Last year when this treatment was used, 86 percent of the ewes lambed within nine days. Further tests are under way this year.

This recycling process might make artificial breeding practical, the researchers point out. Closely grouped lambs would also be easier to handle, and sheep production could be made more profitable.

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HAC:HDG:dl
9/13/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1961

Higher Feed Grain Prices Affect Livestock Profits

Reduced corn production and higher supports could mean higher average corn prices for the 1961 corn crop than a year ago. University of Illinois agricultural economist A. G. Mueller has figured the effect of a 15 cents a bushel higher corn price on livestock profits.

To provide the same profit margin for hogs that a producer had this past year, he would have to get 96 cents a hundred pounds more for hogs. Protein feeds are now selling for $10 a ton more than a year ago. If carried over to next year, this $10 a ton rise would add another 30 cents a hundred pounds to the costs of producing 100 pounds of pork.

Higher feed grain prices also affect cattle feeding margins. To keep the same margins earned this past year, a farmer would have to receive 90 cents a hundred more for steer calves, 80 cents a hundred more for yearlings fed on pasture, 70 cents more for heifer calves or yearling steers fed in drylot and 65 cents more for short-fed yearlings or heavy steers.

Or, if the selling price remained the same, a cattle feeder would have to offset his higher corn price by paying $2.05 a hundred less for steer calves, $1.65 less for heifer calves, $1.40 less for yearlings fed on pasture, $1.25 less for yearlings fed in drylot, $1.05 less for short-fed yearlings or 90 cents less for heavy steers.

It is not certain that the free market price for the 1961 corn crop will be 15 cents higher, Mueller points out. But it seems likely that corn prices will approach the effective loan rate after harvest. Unless livestock prices and feeding margins rise, any increase in the price of corn will reduce the comparative advantage that livestock farms may now have over grain farms, he concludes.

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HDG:dl
9/13/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1961

Pasture Best For Newly
Purchased Feeder Cattle

Experience has provided University of Illinois animal scientists with a practical answer to the question of how best to handle new feeder cattle when they reach the farm.

In 1958 the University bought 70 calves. Twenty of them were put on new legume seeding as soon as they reached the farm. The other 50 received legume-grass silage in drylot.

The calves turned onto pasture had no shipping fever that required treatment, while those in drylot had to be treated. In 63 days the pasture calves gained 70 pounds over pay weight, while those in drylot gained only 42 pounds.

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HDN:dl
9/13/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1961

Wheat Sedimentation Test Will Not Affect Illinois Growers

Illinois farmers and grain dealers are not likely to be affected by the recently announced quality premiums for hard wheat under the 1962 price support program, a University of Illinois grain marketing economist pointed out this week.

L. F. Stice points out that the premiums will be based on the quality of gluten in the wheat as determined by sedimentation tests. The wheats with strong gluten have high sedimentation values, while those with weak gluten have low sedimentation values.

Past price support programs have provided for premiums on hard wheats based on the protein content of the wheat. But protein content is not always an accurate measure of bread wheat quality, because some high protein wheats have a weak gluten. High-quality bread wheats should have a strong gluten as well as a high protein content.

Stice reports that the sedimentation test is considered the best single measure of bread wheat quality, and this test can be made outside quality testing laboratories. It is made by adding water and lactic acid to flour ground from a small quantity of wheat and after a short time making sedimentation readings.

The sedimentation values range from 3 for very weak wheat up to about 70 for the strongest wheat. Although detailed tests have not been recorded for Illinois-grown hard wheat, the USDA samples have ranged from 20 to 30. Variety and climate determine the gluten strength, but in Illinois climate is the determining factor. Premiums under the 1962 price support program are likely to be for wheat that has sedimentation values of 40 or above.

Illinois hard wheats are not likely to be strong enough to command quality premiums. Since there will be no discounts for low-quality wheat, the program is not likely to affect Illinois farmers and grain dealers, Stice concludes.

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HDG:cm
9/20/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1961

Harvest Time--Accident Time?

URBANA--Farm people suffer more accidents during harvest than at any other time.

That's why University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett urges farm workers to heed the advice, "Harvest time must be a careful time."

Be especially careful during the rush of harvest, when the chances for accidents mount rapidly. Too many farmers get into such a big hurry during harvest that they fail to take the necessary caution. And caution could save your life.

First step in safe operation of harvesting machinery is to put it into good mechanical condition before harvest begins. Be sure shields and other safety guards are in place before you take the machine to the field.

Save yourself and your pocketbook by following these few safety rules:

1. Always be alert--never take a chance.

2. Keep all shields and safety guards in place.

3. Stop all machines before unclogging, greasing or adjusting them.

4. Don't wear loose or ragged clothing around machines.

5. Always operate your tractor at a safe speed, and be extra careful in driving tractors and other machines on highways.

6. Keep small children away from harvesting equipment.

7. Do not jump off equipment while it is moving.

8. Obey traffic rules and signs, and use headlights and taillights at night.

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JJF:cm
9/20/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1961

Christmas Trees Get "New Look"

Many Illinois Christmas tree growers are giving their trees that new, vitalized look these days.

Scotch and jack pine foliage often fades to a yellow-green during the winter, reports Ted Curtin, University of Illinois extension forester. Materials are now available that will disguise this seasonal discoloration.

Buyers of Illinois Christmas trees can expect properly treated trees to have a natural appearance. The color won't wash off, reports Curtin, and pines will retain their excellent needle-holding qualities. This improvement can be made at low cost to the grower, he adds.

Seasonal variations and varieties within a species will determine the need for color treatment, says Curtin. Plantations that have shown off-color tendencies in early years will need attention before harvesting. According to Curtin, experienced Christmas tree growers find that spraying standing trees before color change requires only about half as much material as later spraying. Freezing weather and poor drying conditions during the late fall also make early spraying desirable, he adds.

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JJF:cm
9/20/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 2, 1961

Economist Gives Suggestions To 1962 Wheat Producers

W. N. Thompson, University of Illinois agricultural economist makes these recommendations to wheat growers as they plan their 1962 cropping programs:

Evaluate the government wheat program as it affects your farm. For most farmers who meet the marketing quota provisions, the dollars-and-cents differences in diverting acres from wheat will probably be small. But the wheat surplus is so great that needs to reduce stocks may be the most important consideration.

If wheat is an important crop on the farm, protect your future rights to produce wheat.

Remember that next year's feed grain program will be similar to this year's. Most wheat farmers will have a choice of diverting land under either the wheat or feed grain program or both.

Be sure to stay out of marketing quota penalty status. Without an allotment or marketing quota exemption, the only wheat you can grow without penalty is under the feed wheat exemption. You must make such arrangements before planting.

See that the wheat productivity index on your farm is fair compared with other wheat farms near you.

If you have questions about allotments, marketing quota exemption acres, yield indexes or payment rates, see your county ASCS office.

Your farm adviser can suggest how to figure income prospects from diverting different amounts of land from wheat.

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HDG:dl
9/27/61
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 2, 1961

New Booklet Contains Mechanized Feeding Sketches

A booklet containing sketches of 26 Illinois mechanized feeding installations is now available in offices of farm advisers.

University of Illinois agricultural engineer Harold Beaty says the booklet illustrates some of Illinois' finest mechanized dairy, beef, swine and poultry feeding systems. It is designed to show examples of working feeding systems to farmers interested in building mechanized feeding installations of their own.

The booklet, entitled "Illinois Farmers' Feeding Installations," was prepared by the Materials Handling Committee of the Illinois Farm Electrification Council in cooperation with the U. of I. Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Beaty says additional sketches will be prepared from time to time as other outstanding new mechanized installations come to the attention of the committee.

Farmers who would like to see a copy of "Illinois Farmers' Feeding Installations" should contact their county farm adviser.

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HDN:dl
9/27/61
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9, 1961

Set New Termination Notice Period For Farm Tenants

Illinois farm owners and tenants must now observe a new termination period for certain kinds of farm leases, a University of Illinois professor of agricultural law pointed out this week.

N. G. P. Krausz reports that, for cash-rent and crop-share leases not in writing, the landlord must deliver a written notice to quit not less than four months before the end of the lease year. So, for a lease beginning March 1, the notice to terminate must be given on or before the last day of October.

The new provision in the law apparently does not apply to livestock-share leases, Krausz points out. So the old law still stands for these leases and only a 60-day notice is required to terminate the lease.

The law provides for the following form by which landowners will notify tenants: "To A. B.: You are hereby notified that I have elected to terminate your lease of the farm premises now occupied by you, being (here describe the premises), and you are hereby further notified to quit and deliver up possession of the same to me at the end of the lease year, the last day of such year being (here insert the last day of the lease year.)"

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HDG:dl
10/4/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9, 1961

Type Of Barn Won't Affect Dairy Production

Dairy science research indicates that type of dairy barn does not affect either the amount of feed eaten or the pounds of milk produced in the dairy herd.

University of Illinois dairy scientist Leo Fryman says Ohio State University research shows that cows in stanchions, with free access to roughage, eat about as much as cows in loose housing.

However, the Ohio researchers did find more teat injuries in the stanchion barns. This meant additional mastitis treatments. Cows housed in stanchions also had almost twice as many cases of foot rot.

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HDN:dl
10/4/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9, 1961

Pastures Only One Cause
Of Calf Weight Differences

The heaviest calves usually come from farms where pasture forage is plentiful and where the operator has fertilized a grass-legume mixture.

But workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station point out that individual cows in a herd also vary greatly in their production. Some cows wean 330-pound calves, while some wean 500-pound calves--yet the pastures and the birth dates of the calves are nearly the same.

A difference of 170 pounds in weaning weight is worth over $40. And the heavier calves are not necessarily lower in quality. Farm advisers can help herd owners set up a performance-testing program that will spot the top- and low-producing cows.

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10/4/61
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16, 1961

Growing Market For Medium-Finish Beef; Prime Beef Demand Limited

Mass merchandising by food retailers has created the broadest market for beef with medium finish, a University of Illinois livestock marketing economist reports.

M. B. Kirtley points out that nearly 90 percent of all retail food sales are handled by chain and independent stores with centralized buying and merchandising programs. These firms look for a product that carries consistent quality from week to week and will be the same in all stores under the same management.

Most consumers prefer beef from cattle with only a moderate amount of finish. So the broadest market has developed for cattle grading high good to low choice and weighing from 1,000 to 1,100 pounds.

Kirtley believes these mass merchandising programs have benefited the entire beef cattle industry by expanding the market for beef. Consumption per person is near an all-time record high.

The market for highly finished prime beef has become more specialized. The main outlets are hotels and restaurants, Kirtley reports. But these outlets also tend to be moving toward the pattern of the retail trade.

A survey made by University of Illinois marketing economists in Chicago showed that less than 10 percent of the hotels and restaurant used only prime beef. Only about one-third used any prime beef. About 90 percent used some choice beef. Restaurant and hotel meat buyers are also concerned with waste from excessive finish.

Producers of heavy cattle with high finish face a market that can easily be oversupplied, Kirtley points out. The cattle feeder looking for the broadest, most dependable market will market cattle with moderate weight and finish that satisfies the demand of the most buyers.

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10/11/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16, 1961

Ag Winter Short Course Dates Set

February 5 to March 16, 1962, are the dates for the University of Illinois College of Agriculture's Winter Short Course, according to Warren Wessels, assistant to the dean.

The winter short course, to be held on the Urbana campus, offers young farmers an opportunity to attend college classes for six weeks of study, Wessels said. The courses present up-to-date information on farm problems and techniques in a fast-changing agriculture.

Most of the students are young farmers who wish to expand their knowledge about agriculture. Anyone 18 years old or older may apply; ages have ranged up to 65 years. Women also may attend.

Besides attending discussion and laboratory sessions, short course students take part in many campus activities.

Short course costs range from $198 to $238, including tuition, fees, books and supplies, housing and meals.

A number of $100 scholarships are provided by the Illinois Future Farmers of America Foundation and member banks of the Illinois Bankers Association.

Dean Louis B. Howard, College of Agriculture, says: "Our Winter Short Course provides a fine opportunity for young farmers to keep abreast of recent developments in agriculture through 21 interesting and helpful courses."

Last year's enrollment of 102 was a sharp increase from 84 in 1960 and 76 in 1959. Forty-four Illinois counties and the state of Pennsylvania were represented at the 1961 Short Course.

For more information, write Warren Wessels, Assistant to the Dean, 104 Mumford Hall, College of Agriculture, Urbana, Illinois.

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EEW:dl
10/11/61
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16, 1961

Dixon Springs Feeder
Cattle Sale Successful

More than 100 southern Illinois cattle producers sold 2,000 feeders for over $250,000 at the 12th annual feeder cattle sale last week at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

A small pen of 300-pound Angus steers topped the sale at $29.50 a hundred. Choice 400-pound steers brought $27 to $29. A lot of 15 Hereford heifers weighing 318 pounds topped at $27.75. Most choice 400-pound heifers sold from $24 to $26.

Heaviers steers weighing 500 to 600 pounds sold from $25 to $26. Steers over 600 pounds brought $23 to $25. Heifers over 500 pounds sold from $23 to $24.

Some local buyers bought cattle, but northern Illinois feeders also trucked out loads of 100 to 200 head.

All cattle sold were screened for quality and freshness and sorted into uniform lots by qualified judges.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23, 1961

Flies A Fall Pest Also

Flies are a problem this fall on many Illinois farms, reports Steve Moore, University of Illinois extension entomologist.

As fall creeps into the air, houseflies and face flies move indoors. The houseflies plan to bother you all winter. However, the face fly is looking for a place to hibernate.

Flies cluster around support post tops and windows, on ceilings and in warm, sunny spots. In homes, attics are a favorite fly hangout.

Moore emphasizes that there'll be fewer face flies next spring if the flies are controlled now.

For barns, Moore recommends using a residual spray of Diazinon or Ronnel on the ceiling and walls. You can also brush a 0.2% DDVO sirup bait on places where the flies light. If you use a fogger, Moore suggests fogging the barn once a week for the next three weeks.

For attics, smear the 0.2% DDVP sirup bait on small pieces of cardboard, tin can lids or bottle tops. To fog attics, use an aerosol bomb containing at least 0.1% pyrethrin. Fog several times because the flies keep coming in.

As with all insecticides, read the directions before using, Moore warns.

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EEW:dl
10/18/61

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23, 1961

Stored-Grain Insects Ready For Harvest

While Illinois farmers are busy picking corn, stored-grain insects patiently wait for their share--one out of every ten ears of corn cribbed.

University of Illinois extension entomologist Steve Moore says it's a safe bet that every Illinois corn crib hosts two or more different species of stored-grain insects.

Actually these insects are smooth operators. All they do is live and eat in the cribs. Right now they are just sitting around waiting for farmers to bring them a fresh food supply. To tide them over, many farmers leave old corn in the crib cracks and crevices.

Here's how Moore suggests cutting the insects' harvest tax:

1. Sweep out all old grain and other debris inside and under the crib.

2. Spray ceiling, walls and floor. Use a 2.5% methoxychlor or 1.5% malathion solution.

3. If you're storing shelled corn for several months, treat the grain as you store it with either a premium-grade malathion spray or a dust. Do not apply before drying.

Moore cautions farmers to carefully read all directions on the insecticides before using them.

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10/18/61

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCES

Urbana, Illinois

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE and the
DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30, 1961

UI Farm Structures Day
Set For Nov. 16

Reports on experimental precast concrete buildings and slatted floors for livestock shelters highlight this year's University of Illinois Farm Structures Day program Thursday, Nov. 16, in Urbana.

Other high-interest features of the program include discussions on long-span wood construction, lumber rigid frames, coated fiber-board lining for wet corn storage and applications of concrete for livestock buildings.

Registration for Farm Structures Day begins at 8:30 a.m. The program starts at 9:10. A registration fee of $5.00 will cover the cost of lunch and program proceedings.

All lumber and building dealers and others interested in farm buildings are invited to attend.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30, 1961

Twenty Illinois 4-H'ers Tour Chicago

Twenty top Illinois 4-H'ers in electricity will tour Chicago November 7, 8 and 9 as guests of the Illinois Farm Electrification Council.

Club members earned the trip because of outstanding 4-H electricity project work plus leadership and achievement, according to F. H. Mynard, state 4-H specialist.

On Tuesday, November 7, winners will tour the Prudential Building and the Chicago Lighting Institute. The Museum of Science and Industry, the annual awards banquet and "My Fair Lady" stage show are highlights for Wednesday, November 8. Thursday morning the group visits WBBM-TV studios, the Board of Trade and the First National Bank.

Area club members selected for this tour are:

(Editor: Please see attached list.)

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10/25/61

Delegates to the Illinois Farm Electrification Council Chicago Trip

Address	County	Name
Belle Rive	Jefferson	Michael Kiefer
Bethalto, 54 W. Central	Madison	Donna Best
Butler, RFD 1	Montgomery	William Eichoff
Cary	McHenry	Delores Wenzel
Colchester, RFD 1	McDonough	Joyce Steiner
Cooksville	McLean	Elaine Wright
DeKalb, RFD 2	DeKalb	Robert Johnson
Hanna City, Farmington Rd.	Peoria	Ray Perisho
Harvel, RFD 1	Montgomery	Patricia Clickener
Jerseyville, RFD 2	Madison	Richard Brooks
Kings	Ogle	Roger Hayenga
Laura, RFD 1	Knox	Royce Coe
Loami	Sangamon	Robert E. Shepherd, Jr.
Mason City, RFD 3	Mason	Wayne Patterson
McLeansboro, RFD 5	Hamilton	Verna Periman
Metropolis, RFD 2	Massac	Paul Somer
Richton Park, 22107 Ridgeway	Cook	Linda Johnson
Sesser, RFD 1	Franklin	LaDonna Galloway
Tallula	Menard	Marilyn Whisnant
Winchester	Scott	Linda Norman

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10/25/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 1961

Rules For Safe Hunting

That nip in the air ushers in the hunting season. But unless all hunters practice careful use of firearms, fall also ushers in the usual toll of hunting accidents, warns University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Hunting accidents aren't limited to the field either. Over half of the firearm accidents occur in the home.

For your own protection while hunting, Hogsett suggest wearing bright colors--blaze orange, yellow or red-to distinguish you from prospective targets. And since animals are supposedly color blind, such colors won't scare them away.

For all-round gun safety, Hogsett has these tips:

Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun.

Never carry a loaded gun into your camp, home, car or boat.

Make sure the barrel is free of obstructions.

Carry a gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle even if you stumble.

Be sure of your target and what's behind your target before you pull the trigger.

Never point a gun at anything you don't want to shoot.

Never leave an unattended gun loaded.

Never climb a tree, crawl through a fence or jum a ditch with a loaded gun.

Never shoot at hard, flat surfaces, such as water, ice, frozen ground, etc.

Never mix gunpowder and alcohol--it's an explosive combination.

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NO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UI Dairy Research Shows Equal Feeding
Value For Haylage, Silage, Hay

URBANA--University of Illinois dairy research comparing haylage, silage and hay showed no significant difference in either dry matter consumption or milk production for the three forages in tests with dairy cows this summer.

U. of I. dairy researcher John Byers says the three forages also produced nearly the same amount of dry matter per acre in the field.

Byers points out, however, that the forages were all excellent quality. None of the hay in the tests was hurt by rain before researchers put it in the barn. Any untimely rain might have put the hay at a disadvantage.

Byers says the research answered another question that has been bothering dairymen since haylage first hit the forage spotlight in 1957. It showed that the new forage can be stored in conventional tower silos.

U. of I. researchers stored haylage averaging 50 percent dry matter in a 10 x 22 foot conventional tile silo. They noticed little spoilage, and cows ate the forage well.

For best storage results in conventional silos, Byers recommends that the haylage be finely chopped and tramped well in the silo. He also suggests that dairymen pack high-moisture forage in the top of the silo to insure a good seal.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13, 1961

Many Jobs Open To Ag College Graduates

Many opportunities are open to a college graduate with an agricultural background. A recent survey showed that University of Illinois College of Agriculture graduates were working in more than 175 different fields.

About 20 percent were employed as educational workers--school and college teachers, university agricultural extension workers, etc.; almost 10 percent could be classed as professional workers--chemists, economists, engineers, inspectors, landscape architects, etc.; 23 percent were farmers and farm managers; about 33 percent were employed in business and industry--accountants, advertising work, bankers, grain and livestock buyers, sales managers, florists, research directors, etc.; and nearly 14 percent reported miscellaneous professions--physicians, clergymen, public officials, commercial airline pilots, lawyers, servicemen, etc.

Reported incomes ranged from $4,000 a year to over $75,000. The average salary was $9,205.

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11/8/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20, 1961

Treated Posts Stay Sound For Years

Results of last year's inspection of experimental fence posts show how chemical treatment helps to keep them in service for many years.

Out of 445 test posts at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station, 48 percent of the treated posts were still sound, 44 percent showed some decay and eight percent had failed.

This compares with no sound posts in the untreated group, 11 percent showed some decay and 89 percent failed, according to C. S. Walters and K. R. Peterson, forest products researchers at the U. of I. College of Agriculture.

Comparable figures on 1,097 test posts at the Sinnissippi Forest near Oregon, Illinois, showed 47 percent of the treated posts sound, 45 percent showed some decay and eight percent failed. Of the untreated posts, one percent remained sound, 32 percent showed some decay and 67 percent had failed.

Best performance was shown by 18 black oak posts that had been cold-soaked for 48 hours in an oil solution containing five percent of pentachlorophenol, the test results indicate. Seventeen of these posts remained sound after 17 years in the ground. The other post was decayed but still serviceable.

Poorest record of the treated posts was for white pine soaked only six hours in a five-percent solution. Only five percent of these posts remained sound after 11 years in the ground, 23 percent were partly decayed and 72 percent had failed. Longer soaking times increased service life by many years.

Average service age of treated posts still in service at Sinnissippi Forest was about 15 years, as compared with about 5½ years for untreated posts that failed. At Dixon Springs, average service age of 11 years for treated posts was more than three times as long as for the untreated posts that had failed.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 1961

Steady Income Usually
Means Less Income Tax

As the end of the year approaches, many farmers will benefit from estimating their taxable income for 1961.

Fay Sims, University of Illinois farm management specialist, points out that during years when tax rates remain about the same, the less a farmer's net income fluctuates from year to year, the less income tax he will pay over the period of years.

Before the end of the year, many farmers can take certain steps to level out their net income positions. If 1961 income appears unusually high compared with that of most recent years, they can buy needed supplies, equipment or machinery and take the additional 20 percent depreciation; consider making advance payments for contributions, medical expenses, interest, and taxes; or delay some sales of livestock or grain until 1962.

If 1961 income looks unusually low, Sims suggests that a farmer may want to make additional sales before the end of the year, cull out breeding stock, sell unneeded equipment on which he can realize a capital gain, or delay certain expenditures until next year.

Good tax management and complete records will often make it possible to reduce tax costs. But be sure that your tax management does not interfere with sound farm business management, Sims concludes.

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11/21/61
NO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Order Trees Now For 1962
Conservation Needs

Right now is none too soon to order the trees you'll need for 1962 conservation planting.

Lawson B. Culver, extension farm forester at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you visit your county ASC office right away. There you can get details of the conservation program and fill out an application form for the technical help and trees you will need next spring.

About 10 million tree seedlings are available from the two Illinois state nurseries at Topeka and Jonesboro, Culver says. These trees are for forest production purposes and will be eligible for cost-sharing assistance under the 1962 Agricultural Conservation Program.

Soil erosion control and field shelterbelts are two of the other purposes for which trees can be bought from the state nurseries. State-grown stock must not be used for ornamental or landscaping purposes and must not be moved or resold with the roots attached.

Minimum orders from the state nurseries are for 500 trees of any one species. See your county farm adviser, farm forester or county ASC office for an application blank and full details.

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RAJ:dl
11/21/61

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCES
Urbana, Illinois

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 1961

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE and the
DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Urea-Form Fertilizers Provide Nitrogen When Needed

Golf course superintendents and othe turfgrass men as well as home owners now have a fertilizer that feeds nitrogen as the plant needs it. But there are at least a couple of "ifs."

Research with urea-formaldehyde nitrogen fertilizers shows that they perform most effectively at about 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Ample rainfall is also necessary, says S. R. Aldrich University of Illinois agronomist.

Aldrich reports that urea-form fertilizers fit well into situations requiring heavy nitrogen applications. The low solubility of this kind of fertilizer greatly reduces the burning that may occur when dry types are used. Urea-form fertilizers release nitrogen more rapidly when the soil is slightly acid than when it is slightly alkaline or moderately acid, says Aldrich.

Since nitrogen from urea-form fertilizers is slowly available, Aldrich advises turfmen or home owners to fortify this fertilizer with readlily available nitrogen fertilizers. In this way lawn grasses may draw their initial nitrogen supply from readily available nitrogen fertilizer. Then, as urea-form fertilizers have time to react to the soil and release nitrogen, this form supplies the grasses' needs.

Aldrich will report on "Urea-Formaldehyde Nitrogenous Fertilizers" at the Second Illinois Turfgrass Conference December 4 and 5 at the University of Illinois. Turfmen interested in attending the conference should contact the Conference Supervisor, 116E Illini Hall, Champaign, Illinois, for more information.

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11/21/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 1961

Price And Production Policies:
Key To Long-Run Farm Outlook

Price and production policy, price support levels and storage programs are crucial factors in the long-term agricultural outlook, according to Harold G. Halcrow, head of the University of Illinois agricultural economics department.

He expects that farm costs and prices will continue about the same as in recent years and that the terms of trade for farm products will be similar to those of 1958 to 1960. He sees little evidence that farm prices will return to the high levels of the early 1950's. On the other hand, they do not seem likely to fall below 1958-60 levels.

Halcrow makes these observations on the farm situation:

Adjustments must take place if agriculture is to be free and prosperous on a family farm basis. Young people in rural areas need a broader education so that they will not be solely dependent on farming as a future occupation. Only about one-fourth of those who grow up on farms will be able to find room in farming.

Off-farm employment opportunities must be developed for farmers who find themselves in low-income situations and who have an interest in other employment. Ways should be found to provide job training so that those who take nonfarm jobs won't have to start so far down the income ladder.

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A significant shift in national farm policy has occurred. An administrative policy of getting government out of agriculture has been replaced by a philosophy of government regulation of both production and marketing.

There is a need to develop a long-run national defense food policy. Policies that may be appropriate for peacetime are not sufficient to provide adequate food reserves for war and to serve as a maximum deterrent against attack. Such policy should consider size, location and form of storage stocks. The temptation to view food reserves as a surplus disposal program should be avoided.

More emphasis should be placed on long-range policies aimed at fundamental adjustments rather than year-to-year emergency programs.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 1961

Show No Advantage For Stilbestrol
In Dairy Ration

Recent research shows no advantage for stilbestrol in the dairy herd ration.

University of Illinois dairy scientists say experiments indicate that neither feeding stilbestrol nor using stilbestrol pellet implants has any advantage in promoting more efficient milk production in mature cows or in stimulating more rapid growth in dairy heifers.

The scientists say stilbestrol should be used in dairy herds only when it is called for by a veterinarian.

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12/13/61

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 1961

Tomatoes Harvested From
Plastic Greenhouse

Research at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station may lead to a new winter crop for some Illinois farmers. William Courter, extension horticulturist, has 11 varieties of tomatoes growing in a plastic greenhouse. He is comparing yields from leaf-mold-resistant and non-resistant varieties.

Harvest of the crop planted in the fall is about finished. Early in January the spring crop will go in. Greenhouse tomatoes are a valuable crop, being worth 25 to 30 cents a pound. Fall production should run 6 to 8 pounds per plant, and the spring crop should produce 12 to 18 pounds per plant.

Besides leaf mold, mosaic virus diseases are common in commercial greenhouse tomato production. Losses can be large. But with a careful sanitation program, Courter reports no evidence of virus diseases in the Dixon Springs Station tomatoes.

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12/19/61
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 1961

Lack Of Water Forces Livestock
To Go Off Feed

A farmer, puzzled by the bawling and hollow-eyed look of his 20 feeder cattle, stood with the veterinarian in the feed lot. "They've been off feed for two days now," he said while pulling the collar of his winter jacket up around his neck. "I just can't understand it."

"Been off feed two days," the veterinarian thought; "this cold spell started just two days ago." Half aloud he mumbled, "Maybe it's the water supply."

A glance into the water tank proved his point. The water was frozen.

An inadequate water supply will force feeder cattle or sheep to go off feed, reports Dr. R. D. Hatch, University of Illinois ambulatory veterinarian.

Without water, the digestive system stops and the animal loses its appetite. Weight slips away. "And," Dr. Hatch added, "it takes a long time to put that weight back on."

The amount of water animals need depends upon their weight, diet and the weather, according to Dr. Hatch. Cattle and sheep consume larger amounts than other livestock because their diet is bulky.

A 600-pound feeder steer probably drinks 7 to 10 gallons of water a day, Dr. Hatch estimated. The amount may be slightly lower on winter days.

Because cattle and sheep need so much water, it should be available at all times, not just twice a day, Dr. Hatch said. Animals will drink more when water is always available.

In addition to being available constantly, water should be heated to 50 degrees. Colder water causes a temporary paralysis of the digestive tract. Again the animal loses its appetite, but for a shorter period than the animal suffering from a lack of water.

Heating water electrically is the ideal way--provided the water tank is insulated so that the animals will not get electrical shocks, Dr. Hatch said.

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12/19/61