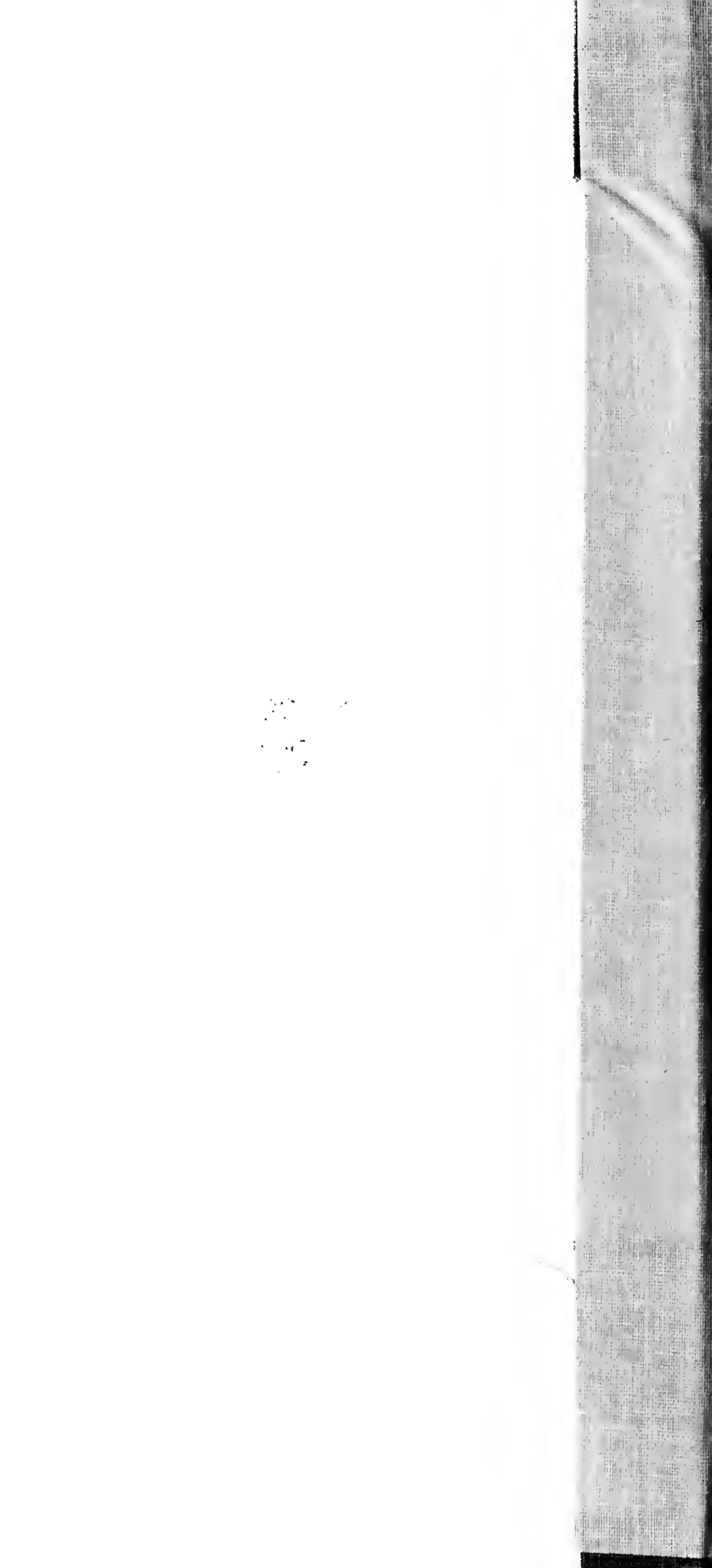


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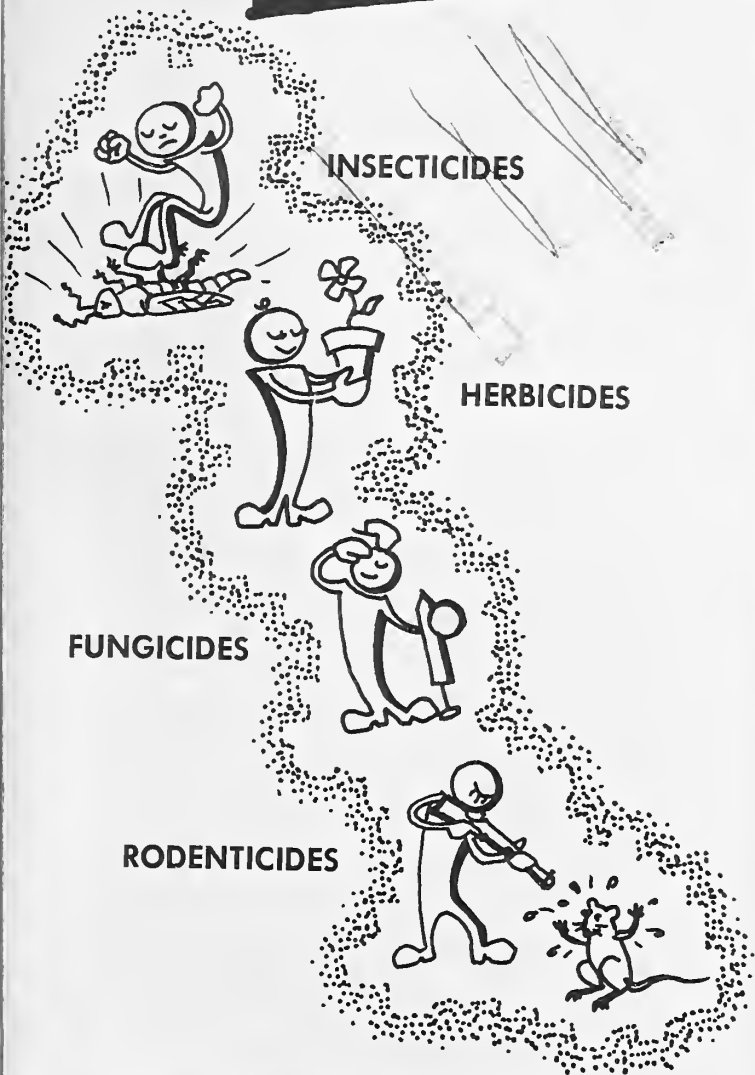


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# Make Pesticides work **FOR** you

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**A PESTICIDE SAFETY PROGRAM**  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE  
CIRCULAR 906

## Pesticides Can Work FOR You

● Pesticides combined with good cultural practices, good sanitation, and good housekeeping mean better pest control.

● You are healthier and will live longer because pesticides help control insects that carry human diseases — flies, mosquitoes, fleas, human lice, and ticks. For example, malaria, mosquito-borne, is no longer an important disease in the United States. Typhus fever, carried by lice, has been greatly reduced. Yellow fever, another mosquito-borne disease, is practically unheard of in this country today. Encephalitis is also carried from human to human by mosquitoes and can be reduced by better mosquito control.

● Pesticides help control pests that could eat you out of house and home — termites, powder post beetles, clothes moths, silverfish, and carpet beetles.

● They help you control insects that not only annoy you but make your life miserable — cluster flies, chiggers, clover mites, boxelder bugs, ants, and roaches.

● They help you control insects and diseases of your lawn, trees, shrubs, and flowers — mildews, leaf spots, blights, bagworms, scales, grubs, sod webworms, and many others.

● You can buy more food and buy it cheaper because of pesticides. Farmers produce better-quality food in greater quantities at lower prices because they can control rodents, insects, weeds, and plant diseases economically. In many countries 30 to 50 percent of the family's income is spent on food. In 1920 in this country it took 120 hours of work to earn enough to feed a family of five for a month; now it takes only 39 hours, or about 19 percent of your income. Better varieties, fertilizers, mechanization, and many other technological changes have made this possible, but part is the result of safe and wise use of pesticides.

**READ THE LABEL and**



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## Pesticides Can Work AGAINST You

● The acute pesticide poisoning problem is in the home, not on the farm. From 1960 through 1963, 11 people lost their lives in Illinois because they accidentally swallowed pesticides or were otherwise contaminated by them. All but one of these accidents were in and around the home. While 11 died from pesticides in the four years, 47 died of accidental aspirin poisoning, 409 died from accidental discharge of firearms, 21 died from venomous stings and accidents involving other animals, and 15 were killed by lightning. But even though pesticides are a minor cause of accidental death in Illinois, those 11 deaths are too many, and they could have been prevented.

● Each year more than 750 children need medical advice or are rushed to a doctor because of suspected swallowing of pesticides or other contamination. At the same time, more than 6,000 children are treated for accidentally swallowing drugs and medicines, and over 1,700 are treated because they drank some household preparation. Even so, those 750 pesticide cases are too many and could have been prevented.

● Sometimes homeowners and home gardeners have to discard the fruits and vegetables they have grown. This happens because they apply the insecticide first and read the label later only to find there is a residue hazard.

● Occasionally a farmer does not follow directions or read the label and then finds his crops have to be discarded.

● Once in a while excessive amounts of certain insecticides are applied accidentally to streams and fish are killed, and occasionally wildlife is killed by too high dosages of certain insecticides in concentrated wildlife areas.



## FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

## SCORE YOUR HOME FOR PESTICIDE SAFETY

Only a Perfect Score Is Acceptable!

When you have to use baits to control pests, do you place them out of reach of children? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

We should avoid use of baits whenever possible by using such things as foundation sprays. If everyone could answer *Yes* to this question, instead of 750 cases of accidental pesticide swallowing, there would be only 350 each year.

If you use mothballs when storing woolens, do you store the woolens in a sealed box where small children cannot find and eat the mothballs? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

If you and everyone else does this, the 350 cases will be down to 215 each year.

Do you store pesticides out of reach of children and irresponsible persons and in a locked cabinet (keeping them out of the medicine cabinet and off a kitchen shelf)? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

If you do, we can reduce that 215 annually to 125.

Do you wash out and then burn, bury, or haul to the garbage dump empty pesticide containers? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

By carefully disposing of old pesticides and empty containers, we can reduce the 125 to 90.

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### Our 1965 Pesticide Safety Goal

*No accidental pesticide deaths in Illinois in 1965. Emergency cases from 750 to less than 90, eventually even to zero.*

Prepared by the Chemical Safety Committee of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in cooperation with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

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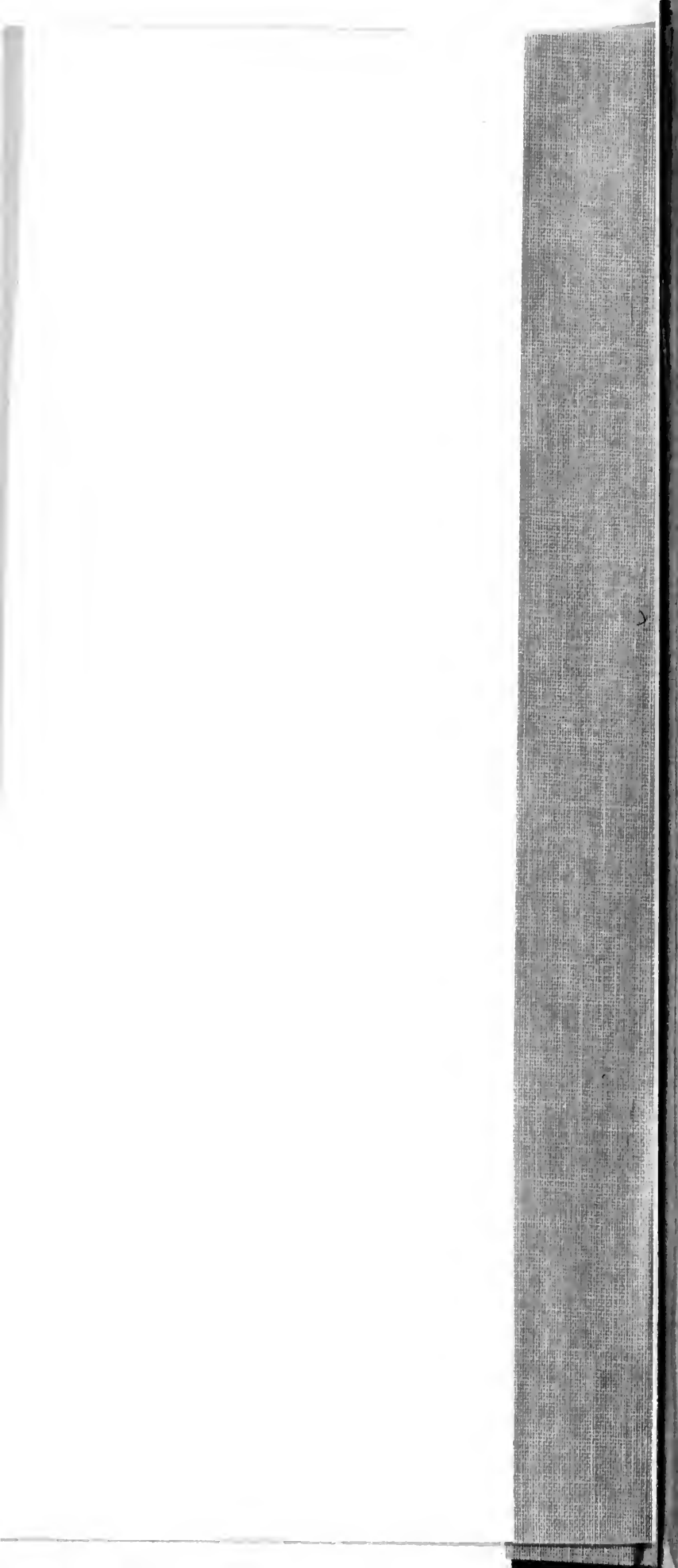
Urbana, Illinois

March, 1965

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics: University of Illinois, College of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. L. B. HOWARD, Director. Acts approved by Congress May 8 and June 30, 1914.









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