



MICHIGAN OUT-OF-DOORS

PLANTING OF YOUNG TROUT STARTS THIS WEEK

Large scale plantings of brook, brown and rainbow trout begin this week with stock from Paris district will release into natural waters more than half the year's supply of hatchery and pond reared trout, the fish division of the conservation department reported.

Plantings are completed as soon after the close of the trout season, on Labor Day, as possible, so the young fish may adapt themselves to their new homes before winter sets in.

Specially built large tank trucks take the planting stock from hatcheries and rearing stations along main roads to the district in which the fish are to be released. Using smaller trucks, and with the assistance of conservation officers, CCC workers and local sportsmen, the fish station men distribute the fingerlings as widely as possible over previously selected fishing grounds.

Besides brood stock kept for spawning production, some trout fingerlings are kept over the winter at several state hatcheries and rearing stations for planting next spring and summer.

Following distribution of the trout, the bass and bluegill rearing ponds are emptied, and inland lake waters are restocked with fish reared since the spring spawning. These plantings and transplantations of perch taken in the fall runs will carry the restocking operations beginning now well into November.

American Egret May Be Seen in Late Summer

That pure white bird with wingspread of more than four feet which you have seen flying about some lake or marsh in the southern part of the state recently is not a white heron. If you report your experience to the game division of the conservation department, as many persons do in late summer and early fall, you will be told that the bird you have seen was almost certainly an American egret.

Given federal protection many years ago after the species had been almost exterminated by hunters who sought the bird's plumed crest as decoration for millinery's hat, the American egret is coming back slowly. The bird rarely nests farther north than Virginia but it moves into the southern peninsula of Michigan for a comparatively brief visit in late summer, leaving in early autumn for its winter stay along the gulf coast and at points farther south.

CHEMICALS USED TO RID LAKES OF UNDESIRABLE FISH

Finding that chemical treatment of lakes to improve fishing can be used selectively to rid a lake of certain fish without harming others makes the chemical process much more useful, John Greenbank of the Michigan conservation department's institute for fisheries research told the American Fisheries society in session at Toronto recently.

As a tool of fish management, however, the process is necessarily still limited to operations closely supervised by conservation officials, he warned.

In a test made in August on six-acre Flint lake, 15-acre Berry lake, and an adjoining pond in Osego county near Vanderbilt, Greenbank found few trout in deeper and colder waters were affected by an application of powdered derris root. But in shallow warm water where the chemical penetrated, the lake's population of perch, rock bass, largemouth black bass, minnows and rough fish was largely or wholly removed. Both lakes are about 50 feet deep.

On lakes deep enough for definite segregation of warm-water and cold-water fishes, selective chemical killing of species which are "out of place" can be very useful, Greenbank said. Many northern Michigan lakes have such "out of place" warm-water fish which compete with trout, yet have poor growth themselves in cold water. They were introduced in the well meant but mistaken attempts to improve fishing, he reported.

Use of Conservation Land to Be Discussed

Whether certain tracts of land should be set aside exclusively for timber production while others are developed exclusively for wildlife, or whether multiple uses of a single area are more advantageous is the question L. A. Davol, part of the conservation department, made game management and wildlife experiments at Custer wildlife experiment station to determine the forage requirements of deer, and is now in charge of plantings for game food and cover in state game areas.

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TOO MANY FISH SPOIL FISHING EXPERTS CONTENT

Lakes in which fish are so abundant that few can grow to "keeper" size are better fishing in the past of the fish population is wiped out by chemical means, William C. Beckman of the Michigan conservation department's institute for fisheries research told men of the American Fisheries society at a meeting at Toronto, Canada, recently.

Beckman reported that drastic reduction of an overabundant population of runty rock bass in Stand and lake at the junction of Michigan's Cheboygan, Charlevoix and Osego counties has speeded the growth of the remaining fishes. Part of the lake was first treated with chemicals in 1937, and scales from fish taken in 1939 and 1940 were used for comparison.

Growth rings or annuli on the fish scales indicate the fish's age, making it possible to distinguish a small young fish from an old stunted one of the same size.

By predicting the numbers of too plentiful stunted fish, chemical killing of unwanted fish has been used to clean out small lakes completely, so they may be restocked with desirable species, and has been used to kill warm-water fishes without harming trout in deeper-colder waters. All chemical treatment of waters to improve fishing may be done only under strict supervision of conservation officials.

EWES RECORDS PROVE BETTER THAN EYESIGHT

An approach to efficient flock management in Michigan similar to that used in the state's dairy herd improvement association practices is advocated by a Michigan State College staff member who finds after seven years of study that the eye is no judge of an ewe's financial rating.

In fact, C. L. Cole of the college animal husbandry department now sorts out the college sheep by culling by sitting in his office with sets of figures.

From the wool clip, the lamb crop and the gains put on by the lambs the ewes get their ratings. Some of the best looking ewes in the college flock have come to market because they failed to prove equal to established ratings.

Cole is originator of the idea. Selection of breeding sheep in the past, he says, has been based on eye, as Michigan Cattle Club served more than her portion in research and classwork at Michigan State College in the past 12 months, yet topped all of the other 31 animals in the college herd of five breeds.

In 353 days of milking the animal produced 20,339 pounds of milk containing 760.3 pounds of butterfat. This is nearly 4½ times the average cow's production in the United States.

Short course and four-year regular agricultural division students frequently saw this topnotch animal in the livestock pavilion judging ring for class work. Boys in 4-H club work looked her over in judging competitions and she recently was on exhibit in a Holstein breeders' picnic on the college farms. Thousands of other visitors saw the animal during the year in the dairy farm, according to Russell Horwood, dairy department staff member who supervises the herd records.

Three of the animals calves, all bulls, have been purchased by Michigan dairymen to further distribute the excellent breeding which she represents. Purchasers have included W. D. Cox, Coldwater, Dwight Edwards at Grand Ledge, and Price and Rickert at Peck.

The sire of two of these bull calves is now in service in an artificial breeding circuit centered at Emily City.

"Perhaps the college animals get used to all the visitors that view the herd," says Horwood. "But at any rate we do have increased problems of sanitation and flies because of these visitors strolling through the dairy barn."

TEAL EARLY MIGRANT

The blue wing teal is one of the earliest fall migrants among waterfowl which frequent Michigan lakes and marshes. By October 1, most of the blue wing teal have left the northern peninsula. During the last three seasons, only eight teal have been recorded among wildfowl bagged near the state park on Munuscong bay.

After a study of the English sparrow which included examination of more than 8,000 stomachs, a federal Fish and Wildlife service biologist concludes: "It would have been better for the treatment of American agriculture as well as for the welfare of the native birds, had the English sparrow never been introduced."

will be able to enjoy their sport nearer home.

Indications are that wildfowl success will be at least as good during the approaching season as it was last year, a season that was generally regarded as the best in several years.

Duck hunters will enjoy a 60-day season this year, ending November 25.

GAME CO-OPS CUT HUNTER TRESPASS IN MICHIGAN

More than 750,000 acres of Michigan farm land will be regulated for hunting this year under supervision of rural game management cooperatives operating under the now nationally known Williamson plan.

This is the estimate of R. G. Hill, game management specialist of the extension staff of Michigan State College.

Trespass control is one of the major achievements of the cooperatives. On more than 7,000 farms within the state the trespass headache will be reduced through the plans of the farmers with the assistance of the college and of the State Department of Conservation.

General conservation on these farms as well as greater appreciation by hunters of the farmer's problems are other dividends credited to the cooperative permit hunting system.

Farm members report that entire communities are now more aware of the need for better wildlife conditions and of reducing game law violations. Controlled "harvest" of the game crop appears to provide consistently better hunting.

Farmers control operations and regulations of their cooperatives. Assistance from the college consists of explanations of details to groups interested in forming or continuing a cooperative. County agricultural agents are making arrangements for such sessions. Free posting material can be obtained from the State Department of Conservation if application is submitted before September 20. Present co-ops vary from 640 acres to more than 10,000 acres, the most successful ranging between 640 and 5,000 acres, according to Hill.

LABORATORY COW SETS RECORD AT MICHIGAN STATE

Clara, four-year-old known on the Holstein-Friesian purebred registration books at Brattleboro, Vt., as Michigan Cattle Club, served more than her portion in research and classwork at Michigan State College in the past 12 months, yet topped all of the other 31 animals in the college herd of five breeds.

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WEST POINT PARK

Miss Loraine Donovan was the guest last week of relatives and friends in Detroit.

Miss Anna Thayer accompanied by her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Thayer, daughter Edith, left Saturday morning for a two weeks' motor trip, and expect to spend a day or two at Washington, D. C.

The Ladies' Community Club will meet next Wednesday, September 18, at the home of Mrs. Albert Heichman, all members are requested to be present for election of officers.

Mr. Gus Burger of Detroit, was the guest Sunday afternoon of her mother, Mrs. Albert Heichman. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hoffman and family of Detroit, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ault Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Redding, daughter Susan, were visitors at Catawba Island, Ohio, Sunday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turner of Toledo.

Miss Florence Gillan of Detroit, was a visitor at the Sunshine Bible school Sunday afternoon. This Sunday school is continuing to meet each Sunday afternoon at 3:45 in and around the home of "Grandma" Ault, under the capable direction of Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Cameron. Lessons are well taught and persons of all ages and all creeds are welcome.

Dale Sheets, of near Roanoke, Indiana, is visiting his aunts, Mrs. Homer Coolman, and Mrs. Russell Ault.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Eggelburger, who recently sold their property on Mayfield avenue are rushing work on their new home on Hubbard avenue, hoping to occupy it soon after the fifteenth of this month.

Marion, Jerry and "Boots" Royard, were quite ill the early part of the week with a form of food poisoning.

Miss Joyce Chawey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Chawey, who recently moved to Mayfield avenue, in Folker subdivision, was welcomed into the Wonder Book Club Tuesday night.

Miss Laura Hind is ill with flu. Mrs. John Mercer and relatives in Highland Park, Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Johnson and family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Woods, near Inkster, Saturday.

Ernest Furst is recovering nicely from injuries sustained in traffic accident ten days ago.

MODERN FLOOR CARE HAS NO USE FOR BENDED KNEE

Cupl may still find use for the bended knee, but the modern housewife can begin to forget some of the aches that result from patient care of the floor in a home. Shortcuts to more beautiful floors with less drudgery dot the pages of a new bulletin published by the agricultural experiment station of Michigan State College.

"Floor Finishes," circular bulletin 172, is the publication. Actual research by C. H. Jefferson, on the staff of the agricultural engineering department, preceded writing of the bulletin. Even the history of former types of finishes and their care is included.

Modern phases of floor care include initial preparation of the surface so that subsequent repair and upkeep is held down to a minimum and even that is not the actual "down on the knees" labor that it used to be.

Research proved that use of a suitable type of penetrating floor seal for wood floors makes a foundation job that is more permanent. Sections of the bulletin are de-

voted to proper finishing of a new floor, refinishing old floors on a modern plan and the maintenance of sealed and waxed floors. In an appendix, the author reveals his testing methods and describes the equipment used. These methods, in part, can be used on trial pieces of wood to enable a homeowner to test applications before they actually go on the floor surfaces. Copies of the bulletin are available by writing the bulletin room, Michigan State College, East Lansing.

FATHER'S VOICE BY PHONE RALLIES SON FROM DEATH

In the Manchester Royal Infirmary, in England, a forty-year-old medical student, Hamid Bay Shaker, was so ill that doctors thought his case hopeless. The young man's last wish was to speak with his father, 2,000 miles away in Egypt. Hospital authorities arranged for the telephone call, and at the sound of his father's voice, Shaker rallied amazingly. The call cost ten pounds, but it saved the young man's life.

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