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# FARM FEATURES

## County's Leading Dairyman Gives Success Story

Oakland County's leading dairyman in the Dairy Herd Improvement Association testing work for the past three years gives his reasons for a successful dairy program.

Mr. Otto Symantek of Goodrich who has had the highest butterfat average with his herd of grade Guernsey and Holstein with an average production of 43 pounds of butterfat for the three years lays his success to two main factors.

Mr. Symantek says that in his estimation proper feeding, management, and the keeping of records on his herd are the reasons for his success. He says that through use of records he selects his best cows for breeding purposes and can watch his breeding program very closely. Also any cows that are not up to his standard are disposed of so that room is made in his barn for his most profitable animals. However, he emphasizes especially the feeding program and gives that as his main reason for his success, pointing out that 80 per cent of a cow's production comes from the pasture she eats, he told how he followed a pasture rotation program and emphasized high quality hay as an absolute necessity.

His pasture program consists of early spring alfalfa, followed by alfalfa to permanent alfalfa-brome pasture in early summer, Sudan grass late summer and early fall, and rye in late fall. He says that in getting high quality alfalfa he pastures his field in the spring and clips when about four or five inches high so that a fine, leafy, green alfalfa is put in the barn during the latter part of June and early July.

## INTEREST SHOWN IN STATE DHA PRODUCTION PLAN

Dairy Herd Improvement Association, which have much to improve the economy and efficiency of dairy production, have made outstanding gains in Michigan in the past year.

A. A. Johnson, Michigan State college dairy specialist and in charge of the 52 Michigan associations, reports a gain of 27 pounds in the past year. The number of herds has increased by 27 to reach 2,208 and the number of cows in these herds now total 25,180—a gain of nearly 10,000 in the last year.

On December 2 at Fremont, Michigan, a celebration was held commemorating the beginning of dairy herd improvement work in the United States. It was held in the same Grand hall where 40 years before the 31 dairy herd operators met to hear the first annual report. Attending this year's meeting of the Newway Association was George Dobbin, now of Muskegon, who was one of the founders of the group.

O. E. Reed, chief of the bureau of dairy industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture; E. L. Anthony, Dean of the school of agriculture at MSC; Clarence Mullett, county agricultural agent of Newaygo county and A. C. Bultner, MSC extension dairyman appeared on the program as did Johnson.

Interesting is a comparison of records of this association for the first year of operation, 1936, with the year of 1945. Back 40 years ago the average cow produced 5,336 pounds of milk and 215 pounds of butterfat. In 1945 the production per cow was 8,655 pounds of milk and 251.8 pounds of butterfat. That is an increase of 60 per cent in the 40 year period.

These associations are a cooperative arrangement between 25 or more dairy herd owners who agree to pay the wages of a DHA supervisor for accurate milk weight, butterfat test and feed data on all cows in herds owned by the farmers.

## Fruit Growers Conference To Open January 14

The annual Fruit Growers' Conference will be held at Michigan State college, January 14, 15 and 16, 1947. Announcement was made this week by C. A. Langer, extension horticultural specialist, who is chairman of the program committee.

## PAINTING

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## FFA Show Boosts Potato Quality



THE SECOND ANNUAL STATE FFA Potato Show and FFA Show at Greenville, Mich., attracted 400 FFA boys from high schools over the state for a day of potato exhibits, grading demonstrations and contests. The show is sponsored by the Michigan Association of FFA as part of its educational marketing program. Above: Harry Saultier, of Remus, explains to Joyce FFA, of Greenville, the potato grading process as the show to the state FFA by AAF Food Sales for the winter potato marketing educational work is expected by (left to right) Harry Saultier, state FFA adviser; Don Jack, Benton Harbor, of the food chain; Charles Hendrickson, Fremont, regional vice-president of the state FFA; Vern Mable, Greenville school superintendent; William Ables, Greenville vocational agriculture teacher; and Ronald Fuller, Greenville FFA president. Newman turned the grading equipment over to the Greenville chapter for use in a marketing campaign.

## Survey Made Of Grain Storage Situation

A committee of representatives of four mills, grain elevators, and the Michigan State college met at the office of Charles Figg, director of the State Department of Agriculture, Monday, November 25, to hear a report from G. N. Motts, Michigan State college on the progress of the research that he has been making on the grain storage situation in Michigan. Dr. Motts informed the committee of the procedure followed. Recommendations were made to him to include other matters concerning grain storage. Dr. Motts will complete the survey and submit his final report to the committee within the next few weeks. The final report will be published in bulletin form for distribution.

## NEW OAT VARIETY READY FOR GENERAL PLANTING

Eaton, the new oat variety developed by plant breeders at Michigan State college, will be available for general planting next spring. E. E. Down, farm crops research specialist at MSC, says that this new variety has proved outstanding because of its stiff straw and high yield. Over-state tests in southern and central Michigan showed its yield slightly higher than the new Clinton variety.

Since it is resistant to all forms of rust, has white grain and a test weight equal to any other Michigan variety except Huron, Eaton may prove highly satisfactory. Down said, however, it does not seem to be well adapted to the upper peninsula as it does to lower Michigan. Eaton oats grow about four inches shorter than Huron and 4 to 6 inches taller than Vieland. In the first field tests, George Moore of Etos produced 1,156 bushels of cleaned seed from 12 acres in 1945. In 1946 field tests, the lowest yield was 40 bushels to the acre and the highest 109 bushels per acre. The differences were largely due to weather conditions, Down believes.

The Michigan Crop Improvement association is preparing a list of growers of this new seed. After January 1, county agricultural agents will have information as to where seed may be purchased. Farmers interested may also write the Michigan Crop Improvement association, Farm Crops Department, Michigan State college, East Lansing, Michigan.

**Meat Flavor**  
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**What the Brown-out Means to You**

**Civilian Production Administration Prohibits Certain Uses of Electricity**

As a means of conserving coal during the work stoppage at the nation's bituminous coal mines, the Civilian Production Administration has issued an order, effective 6 p.m., Monday, November 25, which prohibits the use of electricity for the following purposes:

1. Refrigeration for air-conditioning except to the extent essential for industrial processes or for health and safety.
2. Outdoor and indoor advertising and promotional lighting.
3. Outdoor display and flood lighting except to the extent necessary for the conduct of outdoor business or services.
4. Outdoor or indoor decorative and ornamental lighting.
5. Show window or show case lighting.
6. Marquee lighting in excess of 60 watts for each marquee.
7. White street lighting in excess of the amount determined by local public authority to be necessary for public safety.
8. Outdoor or indoor sign lighting except for:
  - (a) Directional or identification signs required for fire and police protection, traffic control, transportation terminals, or hospitals, or directional or identification lighting for any similar essential public service.
  - (b) Directional or identification signs using not more than 60 watts per establishment, for doctors and for hotels and other public lodging establishments.
9. Outdoor entrance lighting, except the minimum essential for public health and safety and then not more than 60 watts per entrance.
10. Any other form of general outdoor or indoor illumination in or about any commercial, industrial or other non-essential establishment in excess of 75 per cent of the illumination normally used.
11. In excess of 75 per cent of the normal passenger elevator or escalator services in any building having more than one passenger elevator or escalator.

The Company supplying you with electricity is required to bring this order to the attention of all its customers.

Because almost all of the electricity Detroit Edison makes comes from soft coal, we have been ordered by the Civilian Production Administration and by the Michigan Public Service Commission to comply with all Federal, State and local ordinances restricting certain uses of electricity during this emergency.

In the event of persistent violation the

Civilian Production Administration may direct Detroit Edison to discontinue service to any customer who is in violation.

WE WILL BE GLAD TO ADVISE WITH CUSTOMERS IN MEETING THESE REGULATIONS, AND WE ASK ALL OUR CUSTOMERS TO HELP US IN MAKING THEM EFFECTIVE.

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