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**FARM FEATURES**

**PLOW OAT STUBBLE EARLY TO PREPARE WHEAT SEEDBED**

Early plowing of oat stubble for fall seedling of winter wheat is recommended by E. D. Longnecker, extension soil specialist at Michigan State college.

Preparation of wheat seedbeds differs from other soil preparation only in that the operation occurs at a season of the year when the moisture condition may not be most favorable.

The specialist points out that the first objective is to obtain a good seedbed pulverized to a point where the seed will make close contact with the soil. The soil must also contain adequate moisture in the surface layer to cause germination. Tillage should also be adequate to eliminate growing weeds and previous crop residues.

There has always been an argument whether to plow or disk for wheat, and Longnecker believes both have their good points. If you plow, experiments show the seven-inch depth is best.

**CAULIFLOWER CAN NOW BE STORED WITHOUT LEAF LOSS**

"Cauliflower may now be stored up to 60 days without change of color or loss of leaves," declares R. L. Carolus, vegetable crops specialist at Michigan State college.

Experiments conducted at the college have revealed one way to simplify the marketing problem, he says.

Tests have shown that when cauliflower heads are packed in shredded paper treated with the methyl ester of naphthalene acetic acid, commonly known as "sprout inhibitor," they may be kept in storage for 30 to 60 days without ill effect, the specialist explains.

The chemical was used at a concentration of 50 milligrams per head, the minimum concentration which appears to be just as effective as the maximum concentration of 200 milligrams per head.

The storage tests were conducted with cauliflower treated in Texas, and with Arizona and Michigan cauliflower purchased on the local market.

"The possibility of storing cauliflower and retaining its salable quantities should extend the marketing period in Michigan from mid-September until around Christmas time. And it should increase total sales of the vegetable by reducing losses caused by a glutted market," Dr. Carolus reports.

Although the tests were made on cauliflower wrapped in shredded paper, the naphthalene acetic acid can be sprayed on the heads after it is mixed with alcohol and diluted with water. One pound of acid would treat 9000 heads. It may also be possible to treat the liner of a crate or the ice in which cauliflower is packed for shipment.

Research on further aspects of the problem is being carried on by Shu Helen Leo of Kwongtung, China, a graduate student in horticulture at Michigan State College.

**TWIN GIRLS — TWIN CALVES**



WATSEKA, ILLINOIS — Thirsty, tired and sun-burned, two young girls from Sheldon, Illinois, Myra and Mary Long, 12 years old, worked in the corn fields detasseling seed corn during the 1946 season earning \$6 each. Today, they believe their work was well repaid, for Myra and Mary, now 13, are proud owners of Polly and Dolly, twin short-horn calves. According to the officials of the Milking Short-horn breeders association, they are the world's only twins who own milking Short-horn calves.

**Bailey Warns Wheat Growers**

Farmers in Oakland County were warned this week by county agricultural agent Karl D. Bailey, that the seeding of soft winter wheat before September 17 is dangerous.

This date was established as the best for this area by Michigan State college specialists who set what seeding dates which avoid damage by the Hessian fly.

Although some farmers claim to have planted earlier and escaped damage, it must be remembered that the fly is not prevalent every year. The agent adds that this may be a year when the larvae of the Hessian fly are around to damage the wheat in the seedling stage.

Mr. Bailey advised farmers to plant certified seed and add that tested and approved seed is available this year. Grain elevators ordinarily have a supply but if not, the agent has a list of available sources at the county extension office.

**SPECIALIST GIVES TIPS ON HOW TO KEEP EGGS CLEAN**

Prevent rather than cure is the watchword when it comes to producing clean eggs, says J. M. Moore, extension poultryman at Michigan State college.

Prevention means constant attention to possible causes and taking steps to eliminate or correct them. Among the causes of dirty eggs are wet or muddy ranges and unclean floors in henhouses. Infrequent change of litter on henhouse floors, unclean or insufficient nests, and overcrowding of henhouses. All of these causes may be kept under control.

Confined hens each day until noon or at least until the eggs are gathered usually answers the problem of dirty eggs which results from wet or muddy ranges.

Cloths having a 2-inch mesh, fixed under the perches and over drop plug boards will prevent hens from carrying dirt to the nests. The use of clean, dry litter and frequent renewal of the litter answers the problem of keeping henhouse floors clean.

**Second Cutting Of Alfalfa May Weaken Plant**

Farmers who allow the cutting of the second alfalfa hay crop of the year to extend into September are likely to harm the stand of the legume, reports Dr. S. T. Dexter, farm crops specialist at Michigan State college.

The alfalfa plant needs five or six weeks growing time after cutting to get back into proper condition for wintering. Cutting in September will not leave time for the plants to recover to stand freezing this fall. After frost, the plant cannot manufacture more food, so if the plants are not sufficiently strong, winter killing may result.

While pasturing or cutting of alfalfa during September is dangerous, Dr. Dexter advises a limited amount of pasturing later on in the fall may not do harm, especially if the plants have had adequate time to store food in the roots before frost.

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**Ten Little Servants**

- Ten little servants, waiting in a line, Call one to do the wash—and still you have nine!
- Nine little servants, working long and late, Ask one to cook your meals—and still you have eight!
- Eight little servants—working like eleven! Call on one to clean for you, and still you have seven!
- Seven little servants—you don't need candlesticks When this one lights the house for you—and still you have six!
- Six little servants, electrically-alive, This one sews a handy seam—and still you have five!
- Five little servants to help with every chore; One can iron all the shirts—and still you have four!
- Four little servants—such activity! One breathes a little breeze—and still you have three!
- Three little servants—if you're feeling blue, One will entertain you—and still you have two!
- Two little servants, whose work is never done! One keeps the food fresh, and thinks it's rather fun—
- One fills the proper time from sun to setting sun— (Dependable electric service makes these servants run— And saves you lots of elbow grease. Suppose you had none?)

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