

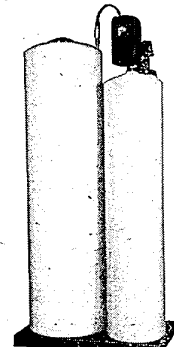
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Cherry Commission Ends First Year

Established by Legislative Act in 1947, the Michigan Cherry Commission has just completed its first year of activities, reports Lawrence O'Neill, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Industry of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Acting Secretary of the Commission; and it appears to have been a most successful one.

Cherry production in Michigan in 1948 was the greatest ever recorded, and it was the Commission's task to contact all processors and shipping stations and arrange for collection of one-tenth of one cent per pound on all cherries produced in Michigan, when sold or shipped for processing by the growers or growers' agent.

Nearly \$105,000 was collected, and \$16,435.72 was spent; and of every dollar expended, \$9.7 cents was spent for direct advertising to make the phrase "Michigan Cherries" famous all over our United States. The National program included three distinct points — Cherry Christmas, that placed cherries before the consumers of the entire nation; — National Cherry Week, in connection with the State and nationwide Cherry-Pie-Baking Contest; — also four of Chicago's most powerful radio stations carried during March and April the story of Michigan cherries.

Nails, glass, and other sharp objects should be removed so they cannot be swallowed by livestock.

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FARM FEATURES

Outline Controls For Grasshoppers

With the predicted grasshopper problem this summer, Ray L. Janes, extension entomologist at Michigan State College, has prepared a few hints to help Michigan farmers combat the pests.

The insects have been on the increase in the state for the past three years and last year were found on some farms in every county.

The specialist advises that farmers find out what their own grasshopper problem may be by observing the conditions on their farm. Numbers of grasshopper eggs hatching in the egg beds, numbers of young grasshoppers that are surviving during late spring and summer months, and what crops adult grasshoppers attack, are factors which will help to reveal the extent of the problem.

Grasshoppers can be controlled by plowing or disking to a depth of four inches in the fall or before the eggs hatch in the spring. This is a practical means of control in places where egg laying has been heavy. It is not always worthwhile in Michigan due to the wide areas where eggs may be laid. Baits, sprays, and dusts can be used just after eggs have hatched.

Nagging Headache



Whinnying his appreciation, Mizzen Mast accepts Mrs. Robert N. Wetzel's offer of a couple of aspirins crushed in sugar. The two-year-old isn't suffering from a hangover, but from occupational worry. Strictly a youngster in the racing business, having made only a couple of starts at Golden Gate Fields in Albany, Calif., the horse got a headache just wondering how he will do against those "veterans" next time out.

PHOSPHORUS LACK REASON FOR SLOW TOMATO GROWTH

Slow growth in early set tomatoes often comes from the lack of the mineral phosphorus, according to S. H. Wittwer, of the Michigan state College department of horticulture.

He points out that cold and wet soils early in the season are often responsible for the phosphorus and nitrogen not being available. Plants make less root growth and are unable to take up what phosphorus and nitrogen may be available. Under these conditions it is important to apply a high concentration of soluble phosphorus and some nitrogen in the immediate area of the roots.

A number of high analysis, soluble fertilizers have been placed on the market. Analysis will run from 13 per cent nitrogen, 25 per cent phosphate and 13 per cent potash up to 10 per cent nitrogen, 52 per cent phosphate and 17 per cent potash. The latter materials — high in phosphate — are the most desirable to use. Plants treated with these fertilizers make fast growth in spite of cool weather.

The high analysis fertilizers may be dissolved at the rate of six to eight pounds to 100 gallons of water or one ounce to one gallon. One fourth to one-half pint of the solution is applied to each plant when the plants are transplanted to the field.

Wittwer suggests that an easier method is to water the plants with the solution before field setting. He recommends watering plants 24 to 48 hours before transplanting and again immediately before field setting. The solution used should be at the rate of one ounce to one gallon of water.

When treated this way, the plant roots and soil are abundantly supplied with phosphate and nitrogen in a readily available form. Good growth and earlier crops are advantages of such treatment.

Slugs and good legume hay will go a long way toward filling the gap in the dairy feeding program when pastures dry up.

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Start Early Weed Control With 2,4-D

While your lawn is getting a good start this spring, don't let the weeds do the same thing. Dr. DuFord H. Grigsby, weed control specialist in the Michigan State College botany department, advises spraying lawns with 2,4-D for weed control.

When the weather is generally warm is a good time to make a thorough application of the spray. Young weed seedlings will be susceptible to the spray.

Although spraying with 2,4-D will not kill crab grass, it may reduce the stand.

A few words of advice include following manufacturers' directions, avoiding spray drift into shrubbery and flowering plants, thorough washing sprayer and hose after use, and not spraying young seedlings of grass.

Fresh Air Needed By Turkey Poults

Turkey poults need fresh air, advises J. M. Moore, extension poultryman at Michigan State College. Windows should be arranged so they can be tilted slightly in to allow fresh air to enter and circulate in the house.

If laying hens or pullets start to rasp and cough, and suddenly go out of production, it's possible they have Newcastle disease. A veterinarian should be called for a complete diagnosis.

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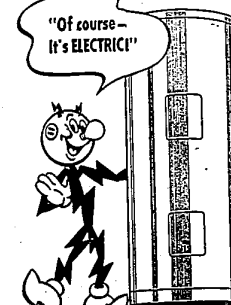


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