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### SAYS PURCHASE PLAN BEST FOR WHEAT GROWERS

Farmers harvesting wheat and placing it in storage on their own farms should consider loan or purchase agreements with the Commodity Credit Corporation, Michigan State College agricultural economists advise.

Farmers needing ready cash may want to obtain a government loan after the wheat is in farm storage. However, if cash is not needed, economists believe the purchase agreement is less costly and does not prevent the farmer from selling or feeding his grain.

Clarence Prentice, MSC grain marketing specialist, says farmers may obtain the purchase agreement from county AAA offices. It costs the farmer one-half cent a bushel or a minimum of \$1.50. Under this agreement, the government simply promises to buy the grain next May 1 at the support price. The grain remains the property of the farmer and he can sell it or feed it at any time without even notifying the government. He can also borrow on the grain through regular agencies.

The farmer may wait until January 31, 1950, to complete either the loan or purchase agreement. Most farmers who want loans, however, are expected to make application as soon as possible, which is 30 days after the wheat has been placed in farm storage. If the farmer wants to make a purchase agreement, MSC economists see no need for immediate action as the farmer has until January 31, 1950 to place it under purchase agreement.

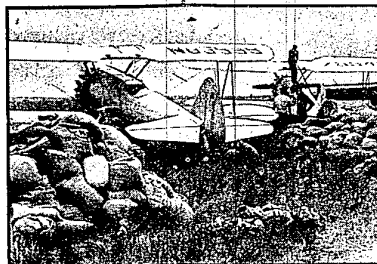
Prentice says his surveys show that very little space is available in commercial storage this year and that farmers would do well to contact their county AAA offices for information on loan or purchase agreements.

### Plan Muck Farmer Tours For August

Muck farmers are progressive and always interested in learning more about their specialized type of farming. Two events have been announced by Dr. Paul M. Harner, extension muck soil specialist at Michigan State College, to feature new muck farming techniques.

The annual Muck Farmers' Field Day will be held at the Michigan Muck Experimental Farms, 11 miles northwest of East Lansing on August 10. About 40 acres of plots will show effects of fertilizers and minor element treatment. Weed control and use of hormones. MSC faculty members will appear on the program.

On August 16, the onion and mint growers will make a tour covering farms near Stockbridge, Farmington and Menasha. It will begin at the Verti Baldwin farm northwest of Stockbridge at 9:30 a.m.



**STAMPING OUT 'HOPPER PLAGUE**—Department of Agriculture planes are loaded up with poison bait in Yellowstone County, Montana, where hordes of locusts have invaded the plains. The bait consists of poisoned bran which is sprayed over the grasshopper-infested area.

### Finish European Chafer Survey

A survey for European Chafer in the cities of Detroit and Grand Rapids has been made by the Michigan Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, reports C. A. Boyer, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

The European Chafer is a recently introduced pest, now found in the vicinity of Newark, New Jersey, and apparently doing considerable damage in some six counties there. Because of this, and to prevent the introduction of this serious pest into Michigan, European Chafer surveys will continue to be carried on.

Over fifty nurseries were surveyed in the two cities, and while no indications of this pest were found, the Department desires to caution buyers to be exceedingly careful and on the lookout when purchasing plant material from the areas where this pest is known to be prevalent.

### State High in 80% Completion On Projects

With more than 88 per cent of Michigan's 52,520 4-H Club members carrying projects through to completion in 1948 the state ranked highest of any in the north central section of the United States.

In the nation, only two states ranked higher, and both of these, Maryland and Rhode Island, have less than 5,000 4-H Club members enrolled.

A. G. Kettunen of Michigan State College, state leader for the 4-H Club program, cites local leaders of the 5,261 clubs for this record of achievement. "Michigan has 2,000 more 4-H Clubs than any other state in the nation and that means more leaders," Kettunen remarked. "We owe a great deal to these men and women who give of their time to help the rural youth of our state in this fine program."

Although a few states have more 4-H Club members than Michigan, the state has by far the largest number of clubs.

### Must Sign For Potato Parity

Oakland County potato growers who desire to participate in the government price support program for the 1949 crop, must apply for certificates of eligibility before harvest or September 1, whichever is earlier, according to Walter R. Cook, chairman of the Oakland County AAA Committee.

Only those growers who have planted within their assigned acreage or those who have planted 3 acres or less, will be eligible to sign a certificate of eligibility for price support.

The chairman said only growers issued certificates of eligibility will participate in the price support program.

Eligible growers who apply for the certificates will be required to pay a fee of .50 cents per goal acre.

The certificate of eligibility contains several provisions to which the grower must agree in order to participate in the price support program. Full details on these provisions may be obtained prior to signing by calling at the county AAA office. The certificates themselves may be obtained at that office.

In contrast to last year when a different price support rate was established for each grade of potatoes, the 1949 program will provide a single price as the base support for all eligible potatoes in order to encourage movement of the better grades of potatoes into consumption through regular commercial channels and to limit as far as possible government purchases to lower grades.

Listed below are the basic support prices per hundred pounds for Michigan 1949-crop Irish potatoes segregated by grades, packed in new burlap or cotton bags, and loaded (a) through carrier in car lots or truck lots at county shipping points:

All months July through November, 1949 — \$1.50; December, 1949 — \$1.55; January, 1950 — \$2.05;

### Lists Custom Rates For Silo Filling

Custom work these days is concerned with a large amount of silo filling by field chopping equipment and stationary silo filling equipment.

To find the most common charges for this work, B. R. Bookhout and R. W. Christian, Michigan State College agricultural economists, queried a group of Michigan farmers about prices charged.

The custom rates for filling silo with field chopping equipment were mostly on an hour basis, varying with the amount of equipment furnished by the custom operator. When the field chopper and blower, one tractor and two wagons were furnished, the usual charge was \$8 per hour. Addition of an other tractor, wagon and an extra man brought the usual charge to \$10 per hour. Farmers furnishing trucks and drivers for hauling charged from \$10 to \$12 per hour.

Some farmers with field choppers reported separate charges for the equipment used in the field and the equipment at the silo. Usual rates were \$6.50 per hour for the field work and \$1 to \$2 per foot of silage depending on silo diameter.

Common rates for cutting corn with a blower with or without the bundle loader was \$4 per acre. On an hourly basis, the usual charge without bundle loader was \$3.50 per hour. With a bundle loader, it was \$5 per hour.

Custom rates for silo filling with stationary equipment was reported commonly at \$1 per hour. On the basis of height of silage in the silo, farmers charged 75 cents per foot in 10 foot silos and \$1 per foot for 12 or 14 foot silos.

February, 1950 — \$2.10 and March, 1950 — \$2.15.

The prices above apply to potatoes which grade U. S. No. 1, U. S. Commercial, U. S. No. 2 Size B, and U. S. No. 2 1-7/8 inch minimum. The price support rates are based on the national season average of 60 per cent of parity.

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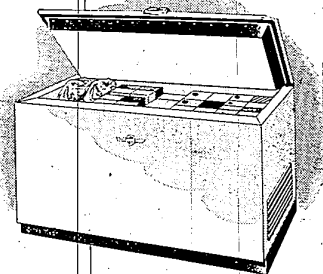
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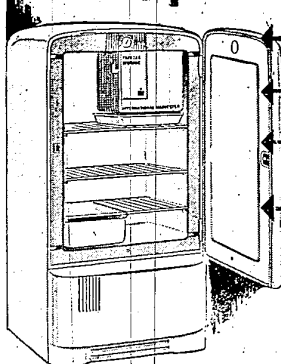
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