

Needs Of Farm Leases Listed

Farm leases are important in the rented farm business, yet many landlords and tenants neglect them. W. H. Vincent, Michigan State College agricultural economist lists three characteristics of a good working agreement.

First, it should be written so that it may be referred to when needed. Second, the lease should provide

that the kind of rent be adapted to the type of farming to be followed and to the financial position of both parties.

Providing for a system of farming that will maintain the productivity of the farm at a high level is the remaining important point to be considered.

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12. Inspect generator brushes
13. Drain and flush cooling system
14. Tighten all hose connections to prevent leakage of antifreeze
15. Adjust foot pedal tension
16. Test battery—clean and treat terminals to prevent corrosion
17. Repack front wheel bearings and inspect brake linings for wear or exposed rivets
18. Check condition of oil filter element



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Advise 90-Pound Lambs For Profit

Scarcity of sheep in all producing areas this year makes it profitable to fatten lambs to 90 pounds before marketing, advises L. H. Blakeslee, Michigan State College animal husbandry specialist.

With lambs consuming about 400 pounds of corn and 450 pounds of legume hay, feed costs should not exceed \$15.00 per 100 pounds of gain, leaving an unusually wide margin between feed costs and fat lamb prices, Blakeslee thinks. Careful hand feeding or self-feeding of corn and good quality legume hay should make the lamb gain one-third pound or more daily.

Slowly increasing the daily ration from one-tenth to one pound during a two-week period is desirable when hand feeding a flock of lambs with corn and hay. Mixing cracked corn and ground or cut hay when self-feeding may prevent overfeeding troubles and death losses. Vaccination also helps prevent overfeeding losses. When mixing cracked corn and cut hay, start with a mixture of 30 per cent corn the first two weeks, Blakeslee advises. The next two to three weeks, change to 40 per cent cracked corn. After this, 50 per cent cracked corn or more, up to 50 per cent, can be used if desirable to make lambs gain faster and reach market early.

Drenching unthrifty and wormy lambs with phenothiazine will save feed and hasten the lambs to market, the specialist concludes.

Fruit Short Course Scheduled At MSC

An eight-week short course, in fruit production, is to be held at Michigan State College during January and February, 1950, and applications are now being accepted. The intensive course makes use of laboratory and field instruction with courses designed to give practical instruction in fruit growing. Information on enrollment can be obtained from the Director of Short Courses, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

Proper tree spacing, proper pruning and spraying, and good sanitation practices are important in controlling peach brown rot.



CITY GIRL KNOWS HER WAY—Shirley Everett isn't just an ordinary farmette who makes a pretty picture with a pitchfork. She can handle any piece of machinery on her father's farm near Farmington, N. J., on the two days a week she spends there. The rest of the week she works in downtown New York. Shirley has won prizes with her own thoroughbred cattle which she has been raising since she was 10 years old.

Brucellosis Hits Cattle And Swine

Many people think only of cattle when brucellosis is discussed, but Dr. B. J. Killham, Michigan State College extension veterinarian, says the type that infects swine is important to farmers and consumers alike. The bovine type, commonly known as Bang's disease in cattle, most often produces the undulant fever in man, Dr. Killham reports. Some of the differences between the disease in cattle and hogs may throw some light on the common problem. Dr. Killham cites eight broad differences:

1. Hogs of all ages may be naturally infected with the swine type of brucellosis. With cattle, it is mainly seen in sexually mature animals.
2. Though infected sows and gilts are often involved in spreading brucellosis, the boar is probably a major means of infection at all times. Bulls are not considered nearly so guilty in spreading the disease.
3. There are some evidences of cross-infection in both species, but as a rule swine and cattle are each more susceptible to their own specific type of brucellosis.
4. Though both swine and bovine germs attack persons who are susceptible, the bovine type is more prevalent in man.
5. In small herds of swine with a large and frequent turn-over, brucellosis has been deemed a self-limiting disease, the infection dropping from an acute state and often being gradually eliminated. With cattle, where the life cycle is longer, there is seldom full recovery of badly infected cows, and the disease is usually chronic.
6. Abortion is a frequent and common symptom of brucellosis in both species. However, sows that have aborted once will usually farrow normal litters thereafter. Cows usually abort once when infected, produce normal calves for four or five years, and then may abort again without further exposure.
7. The blood serum test conducted with standard equipment has proved highly accurate and effective in diagnosing brucellosis in cattle. It has no such comparable value with swine, however.
8. The blood serum test is used to detect individual infection in cattle. With swine, the blood test has its most practical value as a herd test.

Advice of a veterinarian should be secured if brucellosis is suspected in either the swine or cattle herd, Dr. Killham advises.

Set Plans For 1950 Farmers Week At MSC

January 30 to February 2 are the dates set for the annual Michigan State College Farmers' Week program. At this time, the East Lansing college plays host to more than 35,000 farm and urban people who are interested in new developments in agriculture, home economics and related fields. E. L. Anthony, dean of the school of agriculture, is chairman of the general committee and has numerous special committees working out the program for the big event. Special entertainment is being planned in addition to the educational exhibits and meetings.

A cluster of bananas is called a hand.

Farmers Alert For X-Disease Symptoms

A total of 43 cases of X-Disease (Hyperkeratosis) have been reported in Michigan cattle herds in 1949. Only 16 were reported in 1948 and but one in 1947. Michigan veterinarians, however, think there is no reason to believe that there has been an actual increase of the disease. The fact that farmers and stockmen are more X-Disease conscious is believed to be the reason that more cases have been reported.

Veterinarians and chemists at Michigan State College have found the disease in many different herds in more than 20 different counties. A survey shows that it has not occurred on adjacent farms.

Early symptoms include a heavy flow of saliva from the mouth and a discharge from the nose. These are followed by thickening of the skin. Diarrhea has also been observed in the more complicated cases. In older cows the first symptom may be abortion.

Studds are being made at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station of diseased animals in an effort to determine the cause of the disease, how it is spread, or what may be done to bring about a cure.

Members of Michigan's 4-H Clubs attended the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago in late November, together with their leaders and state staff will be breakfast guests of The Michigan Farmer, state farm publication. The breakfast session is planned as an observation of the many 4-H Club activities and the contributions of the members to Michigan's agriculture and homemaking.

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