

FARM FEATURES

Warm Basement Is Too Dry For Eggs

Storing eggs in the basement may be all right in the summer but lowered quality and a smaller egg check can result if it's done in the winter, says J. M. Moore, extension poultryman at Michigan State College.

Dry air, caused by furnaces and heating stoves, are often more to blame than the temperature itself. The dry basement air draws moisture out of the eggs, resulting in lower grades. Additional moisture must be supplied in the egg-holding room when fires are lighted. Sprinkling floors and walls daily with water is helpful.

A fine mist, supplied by a spray nozzle such as used in low pressure spray outfits is also effective. Attached to the water system, the nozzle may be placed so it plays into the air about five or six feet above the floor. A few hours of spraying each day will supply enough moisture for egg quality.

Fit machinery to the needs of the farm business. Before investing in an expensive piece of new equipment, check to make sure that you really need it. Sometimes farmers go together to buy expensive machines and trade work during the season.



HOGGING THE SHOW—"Hot" Michels, right, helps Hal White entertain the pigs that White raised inside the city limits of Chicago. Billed as "city-bred" hogs, the porkers were featured at the International Livestock Show in Chicago.

Farm Courses Scheduled At MSC

Short courses at Michigan State College have long been recognized by rural people as time profitably spent in learning up-to-date agricultural practices.

According to Ralph W. Tenney, director of short courses, three courses of instruction which begin early in 1950 will be of interest to farm people.

A poultry short course during January and February is planned to offer training for the person who is now employed or plans to enter the poultry industry. Management, disease, housing, and brooding, make up part of the instruction. This is an opportunity for those interested in commercial poultry and egg sales, grading, poultry, feed supply business, and other phases of poultry work, to get practical training.

Muck farming is a specialized kind of work and requires adequate knowledge for success. Since one acre in every eight in Michigan is muck soil, many farmers find that a knowledge of muck farming is valuable. A four-weeks short course in muck farming beginning January 10 will feature special emphasis on soil factors affecting production of such special crops as celery, onions, mint, head lettuce, carrots, table beets, sweet corn, and cabbage. Machinery, disease and insect control, and farm economics will be a part of the course.

For those interested in farm building, a one-year training course is planned for rural carpenters. The great demand for remodeling and new construction on farms makes this course especially desirable. Part of the instruction time will be spent at Michigan State College and part in on-the-job training in the field.

For information on any of these short courses, write to the Director of Short Courses, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

Program Set For Farmers' Week

For many years, Michigan farmers and their families have looked to Michigan State College's Farmers' Week program to bring them new developments in farm living. The 1950 program, set for January 30 to February 3 has been planned with this tradition in mind.

According to Dean E. I. Anthony of the school of agriculture, each department has arranged a worthwhile and educational series of meetings. Special days to feature Michigan crops and farm enterprises are planned as has been customary in past years.

Monday, January 30, opening day of the week, will be designated as dairy day. Dried association members will meet for a general session and then hold individual meetings.

Farm crops and soils have designated feature days for sugar beets, beans and grain, potatoes and forage crops. Animal husbandry will devote sessions to horses, beef cattle, swine and sheep.

Special programs on forestry, horticulture, agricultural engineering, conservation and game management, poultry, and home economics will draw farmers and their families interested in these activities.

On the business side of farming, agricultural economics programs will emphasize the outlook for profits in 1950. Rural sociologists will discuss aspects of country life relating to schools, churches, and better health.

Afternoons at Farmers' Week are scheduled for general programs held in the MSC auditorium. Nationally-known speakers are booked for talks.

As in past years, many state farm organizations will hold annual meetings during the week.

Need Proper Piling For Native Timber

Much farm building is being done with home-grown timber, but unless it is piled and dried correctly, the results are sometimes unsatisfactory.

Lester Ball, Michigan State College forester, says that an open, well drained site is best for piling lumber. Weeds and grass cut down air circulation and present a fire hazard.

Lumber should be piled immediately after it is saved. Pine lumber will stain if not properly dried. All lumber will deteriorate rapidly if not well piled.

We look forward each year to sharing with our many friends the brightness and good will of the holiday season.

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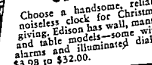


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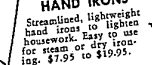
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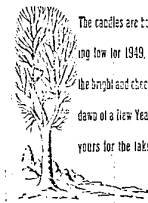
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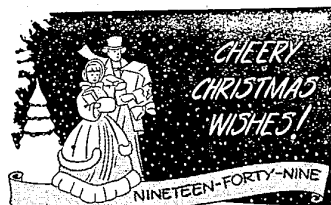
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