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# FARM FEATURES

## Allot Acreage For Dry Beans

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that price support loans and purchase agreements on the 1950 crop of dry edible beans will be made available only to those growers who plant within assigned farm acreage allotments next spring.

At the same time, it was announced that the price support rate for the 1950 dry bean crop will be about 25 cents per hundredweight less than the 1949 rate. Price support will apply to Navy beans, red kidney beans, and cranberry beans in Michigan and only these three varieties will be assigned allotments in Michigan. There will be no support nor acreage allotments on yellow beans.

Mr. Cook, chairman of the Oakland County PMA Committee, said that individual farm acreage allotments for beans would be established and farmers notified in the early spring, well in advance of planting time.

Cooperation in the allotment program is entirely voluntary. Mr. Cook said. Farmers who desire to plant beans in excess of their allotments may do so, but in so doing they declare themselves ineligible for price support next fall on their 1950 crop.

Mr. Cook said that the acreage allotment program, combined with the price support program, is designed to affect production adjustments that will maintain supplies and prices at fair levels to both producers and consumers. Because of the large crops of beans nationally in the past two harvests, and because foreign outlets for beans have fallen off sharply, it is expected that more than 3½ million bags (100 pounds each) of the 1948 and 1949 crops will still be in storage next fall when the 1950 harvest gets under way. This carryover will represent almost two-thirds of a normal year's requirements.

Sod waterways help to hold land in place. They save topsoil and plant food that the rain would otherwise carry away. Other advantages include greater feed output for the increased grass area.

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## 142.97 BUSHELS WINS 1949 CORN CROWN FOR MICHIGAN FARMER



## County PMA Releases Price Support Schedule On 1950 Potato Crop

The schedule of prices, by months, at which 1950 crop potatoes produced in Oakland County will be supported was released this week by the county office of the Production and Marketing Administration. The prices, which are based on 60 per cent of parity on January 1, 1950, range from \$1.45 per hundred in September, 1950, to \$1.90 per hundred in March, 1951, for potatoes grading U. S. No. 1, U. S. Commercial, and U. S. No. 2. Potatoes grading U. S. No. 1 size B will be supported at \$1.00 per hundred throughout the fall and winter months of 1950 and 1951.

To be eligible for support, growers must stay within their acreage allotments, pay a nominal service fee, comply with marketing regulations issued under the marketing agreement and order for the producing area, and enter into an agreement with the Department of Agriculture under which, among other things, limits may be set on the rate at which potatoes may be sold to the Department, and the growers may be required to withhold specified low grades and sizes of potatoes from commercial markets. Eligibility requirements will be in line with those required of growers, the committee explains.

With certain exceptions, all potatoes produced by eligible growers will be eligible for price support, says the committee. They list these exceptions: (1) Potatoes failing to meet the quality requirements of the various grades; (2) Potatoes whose distribution is restricted or limited by State or Federal Quarantine regulations; (3) Potatoes harvested from land designated by a State or Federal agency before harvest time as infested with golden nematode; (4) Potatoes not in suitable shipping condition under regulations of the Perishable Agriculture Commodities Act, or potatoes found objectionable because of odor, flavor, internal discoloration, or other visible damage, whether or not this damage is apparent at time of shipment of subject to determination by customary shipping point inspection procedure; (5) Potatoes less than fairly well matured, as defined in applicable program or purchase announcement.

A two inch minimum diameter is required for 1950 for the No. 1, Commercial, and No. 2 grades, thereby removing the overlap in size requirements between Standard No. 1's and size B potatoes (1½ to 2 inches in diameter) which has existed in previous years, the committee points out.

The announced prices are for potatoes segregated by grades, packed in new hushup or cotton bags, and loaded (a) through carrier in carlots, or trucklots at country shipping points.

## CERTIFIED SEED OFFERS FARMERS MANY ADVANTAGES

Each year more farmers are using certified seed of field crops according to R. E. Decker, head of the farm crops department at Michigan State College.

Reasons he cites for this increase are that certified seed has proven that given equal conditions of moisture and plant food, it will produce thrifter plants, more disease-free plants, and better quality in the harvested crop. The difference in cost per acre of certified seed as compared with ordinary seed is small considering the benefits.

Decker advises that certified seed comes from field inspected crops and the seed must meet high standards of purity and germination. The certified tag that has been issued by the certifying agent insures varietal purity.

Much attention is being given to various methods of weed control. However, the farm crops authority points out that the start of any sound weed control program is with the seed to be sown. Certified seed is clean seed.

A report recently came to the MSC farm crops department from a wheat grower in Hillsdale county who used certified seed but lacked enough to plant the entire field. He finished the field with his own seed and stated that a difference was visible to the dividing line between the two kinds of seed and that the certified seed was more thrifty.

County agricultural agents can supply sources of certified seed and can help farmers choose the right variety for their location.

Michigan State College soil scientists advise using a lot of bedding that will absorb the liquid portion of manure in pen barns. If it is possible to wait until spring to remove the manure, haul it directly to the field and plow it under. There should be little nutrient loss.

Keeping barnyards well drained and free of sharp-edged stones helps to prevent foot rot in cattle and sheep.

"Are nails removed promptly from loose boards?" asks David Steinicke, Michigan State College rural safety specialist.

Figure fertilizer needs, place an order in advance with the dealer, and take delivery when it comes, say Michigan State College soil scientists.



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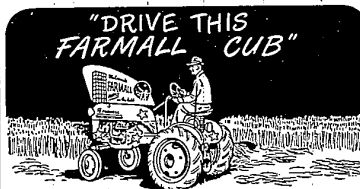
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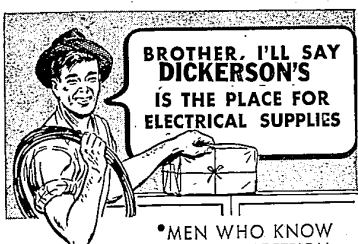
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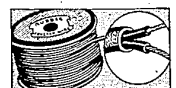
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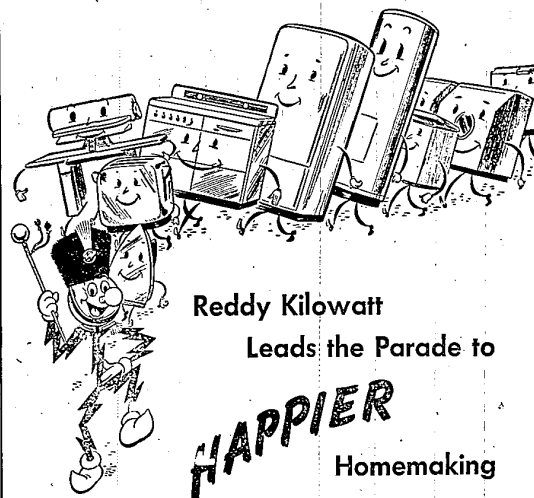


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