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Fire Officials Meet At MSC April 24 - 27

Fire chiefs and inspectors from all over Michigan will gather for a Fire Inspection and Prevention Institute at Michigan State College April 24 - 27.

More than 75 officials are expected to hear lectures on new preventive techniques and fire dangers in buildings. A feature of the institute will be a lecture on chemicals by Dr. Clyde DeWitt.

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GIVES IDEAS FOR SEEDING LEGUMES IN WHEAT FIELDS

Seeding legumes in a wheat field started the fall before, often poses some problems, but Carter M. Harrison, Michigan State College forage authority, says it can be done.

Two methods are common. One is to scatter seed on top of the ground as the snow goes off, relying on frost action to cover the seed. The other is to wait until the field has dried off enough to drill the seed on the field.

Harrison likes the second plan best for alfalfa. Seeding of a mixture of red clover and timothy or sweet clover as the snow goes off gives fairly good results, however. That is, provided the wheat had enough fertilizer applied in the fall to furnish the little seeds their nutrition needs.

In southern Michigan, it is usually best to drill the field with alfalfa seed after it has dried sufficiently to do the job. Less hairy than the clover, alfalfa seed on top of the ground often freezes and swells and fails to germinate properly.

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"TWINCREDIBLE!"—Mama Guernsey cow, "Brownie," stares in what appears to be sheer astonishment at her newly-born twin calves, "Opie" and "Trapy." The double surprise was just as unexpected to farm owner William Kielman, of Melville, N. Y.

Sprayed Pasture Harmless To Stock

If you're one of those many farmers worrying about the effect of 2, 4-D and similar weed killers on pasture consumed by livestock, you need not be too concerned. Tests by Dr. B. H. Grigsby and E. D. Farwell, Michigan State College researchers, show that even when herbicides were used in strengths two to four times normal application, the sprayed pasture had no harmful effect upon livestock it carried.

For the tests, the botanist and animal husbandryman selected a pasture on the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station that had a good stand of alfalfa and bromegrass. This pasture was divided into nine 3-acre lots and applications of eight common weed-killers were made. Each lot was divided into two parts, and only half of each was sprayed at the start. Stock was put in each part and the remaining half was sprayed at the end of the first week.

Horses, dairy and beef cattle, sheep, swine and chickens were used.

Animals were weighed throughout the tests and showed no appreciable changes. Milk production records were kept on the dairy cattle and those on sprayed plots showed no drop in production.

Analysis of the forage after it was sprayed, to determine the amount of chemical it carried was made by the Dow Chemical Company, Midland, which cooperated in financing the tests.

Grigsby's and Farwell's report, in the February issue of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station Quarterly, says: "Under the conditions of this experiment, none of the herbicides seemed toxic to the types of livestock used. Under average farm usage, animals would not be exposed to quantities of chemical as large as were present in these trials."

The experiment will be continued to determine if products from livestock, such as milk and eggs, show any contamination from the chemicals. Grigsby said stock showed no preference for the spray.

Offer Walnut Seeds For Timber Planting

Black walnuts to plant for game and timber production can still be obtained from the forestry department of Michigan State College, reports W. Ira Bull, who supervises the college tree nursery.

The forester advises early orders on the nuts can be planted before the end of April. The nuts have been stratified over winter in moist sand to keep them in good growing condition until spring. They are sold in peck or bushel lots. A peck holds about 225 nuts.

Walnuts should be planted in fairly fertile farm soil in order to get best results. Old corners not large enough to farm or openings in the farm woodlots are excellent places to plant these nuts. They grow better mixed with other hardwoods than in a pine plantation.

Orders for the regular forest tree seedling order blank that can be obtained from county agricultural agents' offices or by writing to the Forestry Department, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan. A nominal sum is charged for the walnuts to pay for the cost of handling and stratifying.

Walnuts are furnished by the walnut veneer industry in cooperation with the American Walnut Manufacturers' Association.

ed material, contrary to opinions by some people that livestock would choose sprayed vegetation over that not sprayed.

All common weed killers likely to be used in pasture improvement work were tried in the experiment. Herbicides used included: dinitrophenol, pentachlorophenol, TCA, 3 types of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T.

Grigsby thinks 2,4,5-T may be preferred over 2,4-D for pasture spraying since it has known superiority for the control of brush. Many pasture weed problems include some types of brush. Both of the chemicals damaged legume forage plants but neither had any damaging effects on any kind of livestock.

CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE GOOD—SO MANY PEOPLE USE THEM!

4-H Club News

JOHN TROCKE, 4-H Club Agent

The Oakland County Service Club is sponsoring a campaign to sell blocks to Oakland County residents. The idea behind the block drive is the erection of a new building on the 4-H fair grounds. This building would include toilet facilities, kitchen and dining facilities and office space. The dining hall would be converted into a girls' dormitory at night.

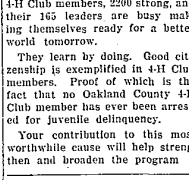
The proposed building is 36 x 70 feet in size and will be constructed of cement blocks. The Service Club has had tickets printed to represent these blocks. 4-H Club members and leaders will be selling these tickets through the month of May.

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors has appropriated \$7500 for the construction of toilet facilities and the 4-H members expect to raise an additional \$500 to complete the building.

Never has a better opportunity appeared for a chance to help the rural boys and girls of Oakland County in their 4-H work. These 4-H Club members, 2200 strong, and their 165 leaders are busy making themselves ready for a better world tomorrow.

They learn by doing. Good citizenship is exemplified in 4-H Club members. Proof of which is the fact that no Oakland County 4-H Club member has ever been arrested for juvenile delinquency.

Your contribution to this most worthwhile cause will help strengthen and broaden the program.



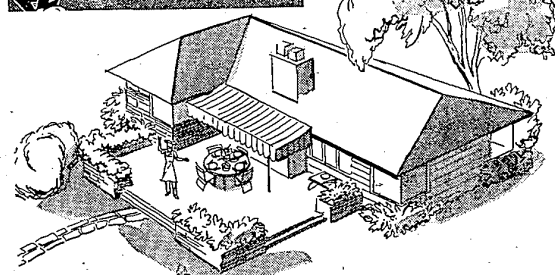
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