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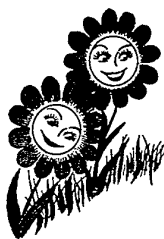
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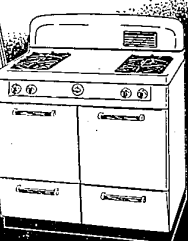


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## MSC Farm Land Used In Research

The "proving ground for Michigan's agriculture" is the term often applied to the farms of Michigan State College at East Lansing where scientists of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station carry on their research.

Byron H. Good, assistant supervisor of the MSC department of the college farm, states that 3,694 acres of land are now owned by the college, making it one of the most ideal college farms in the corn belt.

He explains that as land is acquired, it is cleaned, cleared, drained, fenced, and conditioned by the department of the college farm. It is then allotted to departments for research. At present, 2,656 acres are assigned to this work and 1,038 acres are used as the college campus.

Citing a brief history of the East Lansing land, Good states that the original purchase was 676 acres of land in 1855. From 1890 to 1923, the college added 377 acres which made a total of 1,053 acres owned by the college. Additions of land have brought it to the present total of 3,694 acres.

The college farm land now includes 453 acres in permanent pasture and 375 acres in rotation pasture. Several departments cooperate in conducting pasture experiments. Many of the 1,025 animals owned by the animal husbandry and dairy departments are used in connection with pasture demonstrations.

Harvested crops occupy 1,183 acres and are used to help maintain the college herds. Woodlots take up 230 acres and are under the direction of the forestry department.

Tracts comprising 395 acres are devoted to research work in crops, soils, botany, entomology, forestry and horticulture.

## REDUCE SMALL GRAIN WEEDS WITH SPRAYS

Heavy infestations of ragweed and wild mustard should not be tolerated in small grain fields any longer, says E. R. Churchill, farm crops research scientist at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

Chemical weed killers can eradicate both of these pests, he maintains. If there is no legume seedling in the small grain, 2,4-D at the rate of one-quarter to one-half pound acid equivalent per acre can be used.

If the ester form is used, the lower rate is advised. The best time to spray is 7 to 10 days when grain is about 6 to 8 inches high. This applies to both winter and spring grains. Winter grains should not be full sprayed.

Mustard and ragweed plants will have 4 to 6 leaves at this time and are very susceptible to the spray. The 2,4-D can be applied in water, using about 5 gallons of water per acre. Spraying small grain with 2,4-D is very risky if a legume seedling is present.

If seedlings are made, it is safer to use a dinitro spray, carefully following manufacturer's instructions. Spraying should be done when the small grain is 6 to 8 inches high. Spraying at the proper time is important. Alfalfa tolerates this chemical better than true clovers, Churchill points out, but when sprayed at the proper time, stands of red, alsike, and white clover are not seriously hurt. Straws and clovers should not be sprayed with 2,4-D or dinitro sprays unless you are willing to sacrifice the seedling, he states.

Plots of grain over-run with bindweed can be sprayed with 2,4-D when the grain is about knee-high, using one-half pound acid equivalent per acre. Some grain injury should be expected and legume seedlings will be seriously injured.

TCA is more expensive but can be used as a spot spray to keep weeds from spreading. Directions should be followed closely.

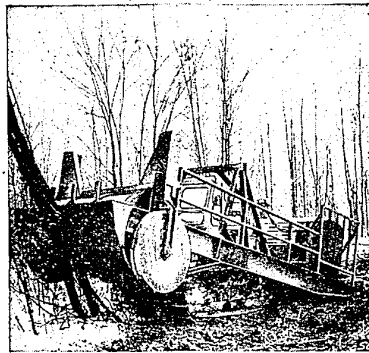
## Advise Repeat For Bang's Vaccination

Dr. F. F. Huddleson, who perfected the "Brucella M" vaccine for prevention of Bang's disease in cattle, recommends re-vaccination after two years. The Michigan State College brucellosis authority advises farmers who used the vaccine on animals more than two years ago to contact veterinarians for another inoculation.

When the vaccine, now widely used in Michigan, was first announced, Dr. Huddleson expressed a belief that its life would possibly be a period of two years.

Many veterinarians throughout the state report most farmers to be highly pleased with results of the vaccine developed in the Brucella Laboratory on the Michigan State College campus. It is available throughout most Michigan veterinarians who have been given a permit by the Michigan Department of Agriculture to use it.

## Mighty Mower Reduces Saplings to Sawdust



The "Brushwacker," a mighty mower which can completely obliterate all traces of vegetation, including trees up to eight inches in diameter. It is the newest method for clearing airports, firebreaks, dam sites, highways, railroad and canal right-of-ways, grazing land, and access lanes to utility lines. This "mighty mower," powered by a General Motors 2-cycle Diesel engine, does for \$40 a clearing job that would cost \$250 by former methods.

## Keep Alert For Peach Brown Rot

Be on guard for brown rot infection of peaches, cautions E. A. Andrews, extension plant pathologist at Michigan State College.

Peach trees are most vulnerable to brown rot infection when in bloom, he states. The delicate tissues of the flower parts provide an easy entrance for the brown rot fungus. Once established in flowers, the fungus travels rapidly into the twigs where it causes cankers. These blighted blossoms hang in the trees for the rest of the season, producing the spores that infect the fruit.

Blossom blight control is as important as it is difficult, Andrews maintains. Spores that infect blossoms can come from mummies on the ground, mummies in the tree, or from twig cankers.

For protection, Andrews advises use of a fungicide whenever rains occur during bloom. Wettable sprays of four to six pounds per 100 gallons, lime sulfur at the rate of two gallons per 100 gallons of spray or sulfur dust are effective in controlling blossom blight.

## Cook Spuds For Poultry Feed

J. M. Moore, Michigan State College poultryman, says boiled or steamed potatoes are satisfactory as a substitute for about half the normal weight of grain given poultry for growth, fattening or egg production.

Raw potatoes are not suitable as chickens do not like the taste and are unable to digest them.

Feeding of boiled potatoes, made into a mash with the grain mixture and oil or vitamin concentrate added, gives satisfactory results. About 6 to 8 pounds of potatoes daily for each 100 layers is the maximum that can be fed. Moore suggests that the mash made of cut or blue potatoes be prepared fresh daily.



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## SEES FURTHER DROPS IN FARM PRICES LIKELY

Major drops in Michigan farm products are past, but there will likely be another 10 to 15 per cent dip before we reach that "solid post-war level" around which prices may fluctuate for several years.

That's the way L. H. Brown, Michigan State College agricultural economist sees the price situation at this time. His article, "More Price Decline?" appears in the April issue of Michigan Farm Economics, MSC's monthly publication of timely farm economics and management topics for farmers.

The average decline so far, has been 25 per cent from the early 1948 peak. Although a further 10 to 15 per cent decline would leave farm prices 75 to 90 per cent above pre-war level, the parity ratio would drop to range between 75 and 85, the economist says. The ratio for March, 1950, was 85.

These predictions assume that present indications of high non-farm employment and income are correct, that the cold war stays cool, and that a price support program will be operating about as effectively as the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Efficient farmers will still prosper following this shakedown and adjustment period, Brown predicts. But they will have to keep "on their toes." It will mean keeping finances on a sound basis, use of capital to take advantage of opportunities to buy stock when low priced.

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## Ask for IVY-DRY

The sodium hydroxide was used in a two per cent solution, the sodium orthophosphate in one per cent solution and the ammonium in 0.1 per cent strength. Both chicken eggs and turkey eggs were dipped in the solution and the turkey eggs were treated also in sodium orthophosphate solution. All eggs were immersed for five minutes. In none of these tests was there noticeable effect in the hatchability of the eggs.

Dr. Stafseth states that this method should prevent transmission of the virus on egg shells, but since the virus is contained in the eggs, broken eggs would still transmit the disease.

The way to help insure quality milk is to remember the three "C's"—clean, cool, and covered, say MSC dairymen.

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