

Don't Prune Grapes Yet, Says Assistant Agent

It's all right to prune your apples now, but grapes and peaches should not be pruned until February or March.

Some years grapes may be pruned at an earlier date and escape injury. However, in winters like we had in 1950 and '51 there will be some winter injury. Of course, grapes may be injured whether pruned or not. But the big difference is that if they are pruned in early spring the live buds can be left unpruned and you may still get a full crop of grapes.

The story is about the same for pruning peaches, only more so. The peach tree is more tender than grapes. It is even more important that they not be pruned until the danger of real cold weather is over.

Expect Deer Hunt Army To Make New Record

Though 475,000 deer hunting licenses were mailed before the November 15-30 season got under way, the conservation department reports hundreds of dealers have called for more to sell, saying they have been swamped with hunters.

This does not mean hunter numbers will exceed 475,000, because of the shift in buying pressure, some dealers sell more than their first allotment, others do not sell even original quotas.

But the heavy call for more licenses, coupled with the heavier than normal first mailing, points to a deer hunting army almost certain to be the largest in Michigan history.

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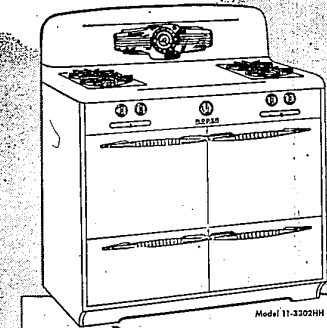
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FARM NEWS



BOSSERMAN GIVES HINTS CONCERNING CHRISTMAS TREES

Are some of you folks a "two-tree family" at Christmas time—one indoors and one on the lawn? Home owners would do well to work a live yule tree into their landscape design to use year after year.

Be cautious in your evergreen selection. For spacious grounds, there are Englemann spruce, Colorado green spruce, white spruce or fir grown in a nursery that are appropriate. They should not be used within 20 feet of buildings; their mature size is too large for use near your house.

Avoid a "lone wolf" location. Work the living yule tree into a group of other plants for year-around appeal. Attractive shrubs for medium height and pfitzer junipers or Japanese spreading yews for low growth will round out the picture. Your tree should be scaled to surroundings. On a city lot, a foundation evergreen—cedar, arbutus, Camellia, cedar, upright Japanese yew or other evergreen shrubs—may serve the purpose with the aid of a floodlight or a nestled spotlight. Snow, colored lights—and you have your Christmas scene.

Expert Advises Pre-Calving Care

Dry your old cows up early, and break your heifers into the milking herd gently, before calving time for best dairy herd results, advises James G. Hays, Michigan State College extension dairyman.

Michigan farmers generally feed the same ration to dry cows that milking cows receive. If the roughage is at least 50 per cent legumes, no high protein supplement is necessary, according to the MSC dairy department. High protein feed supplement like soybean oil meal is necessary with grass roughage.

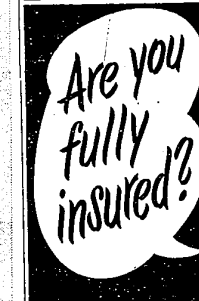
Cows cannot eat enough to cover body and milk needs for about a month after calving and therefore should have a rest before calving to get in top condition. Thus cows and heavy milkers need about eight weeks dry period before calving; fleshy cows and low producers require about six weeks of rest. They rest then build up minerals as well as flesh burned up in milk production.

Heifers about to join the milking herd should go in a month early, get used to bars and handling, and have careful attention to their bedding and udders. Massaging udders and teats is helpful and bedding should be deep enough to keep them from hurting backs and udders while learning to lie down.

Graining of heifers also should start about a month before freshening, Hays reminds. If they have been raised economically, they have not had grain. Good roughage, including pasture, is sufficient for a growing heifer that is in calf.

FEEDER LAMBS

Feeder lambs should be profitable business this fall and winter if properly fed. Start slow on feed to avoid losses, feeding good legume hay or one-tenth pound of soybean oil meal daily with farm grains to balance the ration. Silage needs protein and calcium supplements and care is needed in corn field feeding or self feeding.



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Seed Producers, Dealers To Confer With MSC Experts December 9-10

Better seeds for better crops will bring seed producers and dealers and Michigan State College and other specialists into conference Tuesday, December 9, and Wednesday, December 10, at the Kellogg Center on the campus at MSC.

Annual meetings of Michigan Crop Improvement Association and Michigan Foundation Seed Association and meetings of Michigan Seed Dealers and Farm Bureau Seedmen are scheduled at 3:45 p.m. and the annual banquet will be at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 9.

Foundation seed, elevator operator training, alfalfa and red clover variety results, forage improvement, seed law revisions and other items will be on the first day's program. K. T. Payne, new head of the MSC farm crops department, will be morning chairman and C. M. Harrison, farm crops department, afternoon chairman. Speakers will include Assistant Extension Director H. A. Borge, welcoming the group; George F. Weaver, MFSA manager; A. E. Oliver, short courses; S. T. Dexter and M. B. Tesar, farm crops department; E. A. Hollowell, principal agronomist, USDA division of forage crops and diseases, and Seed Analyst Charles Stahl of Michigan Department of Agriculture.

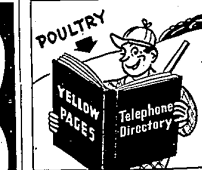
The Wednesday morning program will be divided into crops and potato sessions. In the afternoon, there will be a producer, dealer and agricultural agent seed panel.

President G. O. Johnson of Michigan Seed Dealers will be chairman of the Wednesday morning crops session, with talks by B. R. Churchill, farm crops seed control specialist; Roy Hays, extension Farm Crops Specialist K. J. Frey on oats and barley, E. C. Rossman on corn and H. B. Brown on wheat; a seed producing and marketing film by Richard Shantz of Farm Bureau Services; a report on price supports by George W. Parker, Production and Marketing Administration, and quality studies, by H. R. Pettigrove, farm crops.

William Carco, farm crops extension specialist in the Upper Peninsula, will be chairman of the Wednesday morning potato program. Topics are a nitrogen talk by James Tyson, soil science, diseases and sprays, by J. H. Muncie, botany, storage; by E. J. Wheeler, farm crops; Foundation

SANITATION NECESSARY

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George Ripley Buys Registered Ayrshire

George M. Ripley of Farmington has recently made an initial purchase of one registered Ayrshire, according to the Ayrshire Breeders' Association Executive Secretary, Chester C. Putney of Brandon, Vermont.

The transaction was recorded in the National Office of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association in Brandon where complete records on all registered Ayrshires in the United States have been maintained since 1876.

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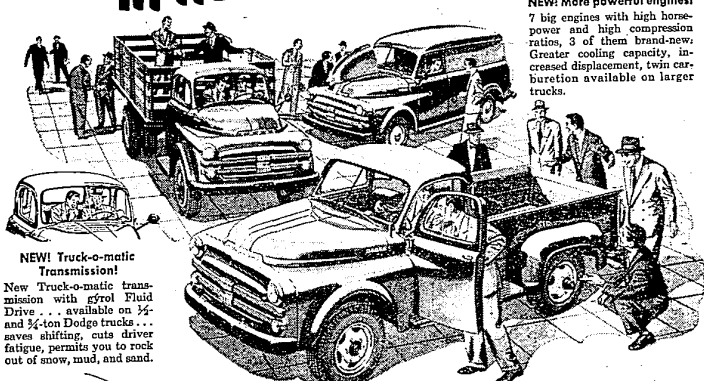


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