

Only 19 Acres Burned In Forest Fires Last Week

Only four forest fires, burning 19 acres, were reported in Michigan last week, conservation department workers say.

To date this year, 2010 acres have been swept by fire, well below the total burned to this date in 1951, a year of record low damage for Michigan.

We cannot be just unless we are kind hearted.

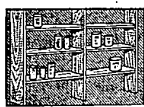
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The Grist Mill

By ED ALCHIN
County Agricultural Agent

Farmers in Oakland County were warned this week that they must apply for and obtain wheat marketing cards from the Oakland County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Committee (A.S.C.) before the 1954 crop can be sold.

Farmers who are eligible can obtain their marketing cards either by applying directly to the A.S.C. office in person in the Hubbard Building in Pontiac, or writing a letter under their full signature requesting their marketing card from the A.S.C. Committee. Only eligible farmers will receive marketing cards.

Those who have been informed that they have excessive acreage and have not reduced said acreage or anyone not aware of the need for marketing cards should contact Walter Cook, A.S.C. office manager, immediately.

For this area, farmers may obtain marketing cards on Friday, July 2, at the Lyon Township Hall at New Hudson. This includes farmers from Lyon, Novi, Commerce, Milford, Farmington and West Bloomfield Townships.

Walter Cook further stated that in regards to the 1954 wheat acreage allotments, farmers who have been producing wheat for the last three years will need to contact his office if they wish to raise wheat for harvest in 1955. For further detailed information as to eligibility, farmers are urged to seek information from the county office in Pontiac.

Marketing cards will be made available at the local meetings from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Urges Use Of More Farm Products In State

Michigan State College officials have announced that a leader in consumer information work will be on the job this week directing Michigan's new program to direct more farm products on the table. Mrs. Miriam J. Kelley, a home demonstration agent for 14 years, will direct special consumer information agents at the local meetings in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Marquette, Saginaw, and Traverse City. For the past six years she operated the state - federal educational program in food buying at Louisville, Kentucky.

The agents, now being employed, will be trained and put to work to carry out this portion of a program authorized in May in a \$294,000 appropriation of the Michigan Legislature to aid farm marketing.

State Scientists Start Research To Cut Food Waste, Improve Quality

Scientists at Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station are turning their guns this week on anything that wastes food — on the farm, in storage, in transport, in display and in sales.

The research and education program in farm marketing authorized in May by the legislature, with funds available July 1, is starting. Coupled with research will be a Cooperative Extension Service program to carry the marketing and consumer information into the field.

The \$150,000 authorized for marketing research will be dovetailed in existing projects at Michigan State College to add to results. The hope is to give Michigan better diets at lower costs and give fairer returns all down the line — for farmers, processors, wholesalers, and retailers.

If everything turns out perfect, here are some things that will

Wheat Quota May Hurt Next Year

Marketing quotas are on their way for wheat again next year and farmers are caught in a two-way pincer this time, advises Burnell Held, Michigan State College agricultural economist.

This year it was relatively easy to divert acres from wheat — under allotment and quota — to other crops. But next year there will be acreage allotments on corn, and possibly on oats, barley and soybeans.

There is a good chance that a "cross compliance" rule also will apply. This means that unless you follow acreage allotments in all covered crops you will get no supports, even for wheat within quotas.

Marketing quotas are put on only in the event that supplies build up to a point 20 per cent above normal. They are there now for wheat. Normal supply is enough wheat to take care of domestic consumption, exports, and a 15 per cent carryover.

Farmers vote on any quotas proclaimed by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson. A vote for 90 per cent of parity on wheat, or \$2.20 per bushel, would mean marketing with penalties for overplanting. Free marketing provides farmers acreage or penalties, but a farmer may stay within acreage allotments to qualify for a government loan or sell at 50 per cent of parity price support — \$1.22 per bushel.

Held warns farmers not to let the higher support price hide the fact that drastic acreage cuts almost always follow high supports because of surpluses.

ILLITERATE DEER PRESENT PROBLEM FOR CROP GROWERS

If deer could read, it would sure help lessen a problem bothering a lot of people in Michigan. Signs such as "Whitetails Keep Out", or "No Deer Browsing Allowed", would be posted around cherry orchards, strawberry patches and other farm areas. As complete illiterates, however, deer have long caused buckets of trouble in many areas. They eat young cherry trees and seem to thrive on strawberries. They will gobble down farm crops, apples and other useful products if given a chance.

The state conservation department is currently carrying on experiments to try and cut the problem down to size through use of chemical deer repellents. Working with the Dow Chemical Company of Midland, game workers are testing various chemical sprays that, for deer, will take the fun out of eating farm and fruit crops.



INTERIOR DECORATORS



Many Not Prepared For Farm Fire, Specialist Says

What would you do if fire struck your farm home, barns, or other buildings right now? Are you prepared?

Many people do not know how to meet a fire threat efficiently, cautions David G. Steinleke, Michigan State College extension safety specialist. They do not know how to call the firemen quickly, how to give them the best directions for reaching the farm quickly, nor what to do while waiting. He suggests a few things worth having on hand — a tall ladder, fire extinguishers that have been re-charged recently, an adequate supply of water, garden hoses, pails of water, wet burlap bags.

Farmers will send leaner meat to the table; and better flowers for the centerpiece will come from florists. Good fruits will come in the spring from Michigan instead of just a glut of them for a few weeks at harvest-time. You will pay less for shipping and save backaches on handling evergreens for your yard. You will have tender frozen blueberries; lower-priced beans and grains because of less waste; better potatoes and better chips and dairy products that keep longer. If you are a farmer, you will find better markets for your farm woodlot cuttings.

FARM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 3 - 5, Manistee National Forest Festival, Manistee.

July 7, Crops and Soils Field Day, Michigan State College Farms.

July 7 - 9, National Cherry Festival, Traverse City.



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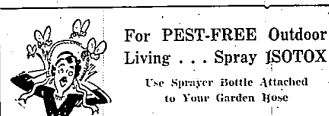
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