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Wool Production Vital To Nation

Recent price advances and the unsettled international situation have made wool, both a valuable farm product and a raw material vitally needed in our defense program.

Michigan State College sheep specialist Graydon Blank says farmers who keep sheep will want to make every effort to produce quality wool. This means keeping it free from chaff and other objectionable foreign material so the wool will bring the top price and be of most use for military requirements.

Hay and other roughage should be fed from a rack with sides which will not let chaff get into the wool. Another method is to feed hay and other roughage on the ground, some distance from the barn. This helps to keep chaff from the wool and also helps the flock to get needed exercise. Under no circumstances should hay be carried over the backs of the sheep, Blank cautions.

Sheep should be housed only in well ventilated sheds. When housed too close or under poorly ventilated conditions, the tips of the fleeces are stained and the sale value reduced.

Plans for a hay rack which will help to keep chaff out of wool, along with other sheep management suggestions, are contained in the recently revised extension bulletin 242, "Selection and Care of the Farm Sheep Flock."

A copy of this bulletin may be obtained at the county agricultural agent's office or by writing to the Bulletin Office, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

Baloo rye is steadily gaining in favor as the earliest spring and the latest fall cow pasture. Thirty-five out of 41 DRAI westerns recently reported that many of their members are using Baloo rye.



CORDUROY ROAD—Ray Parker of Wayland, Mich., is proving that corduroy roads still have their place in the rural scene by building one. Equipped with modern tools, Parker is constructing an 1800-foot road through a swamp to serve his resort on Gun Lake. He cuts logs, knits them together over a base of small brush, adds a top layer of poles and covers it all with gravel.

PLAN PEN BARN OPERATION FOR FARMERS' WEEK

A pen-type barn operation, complete with a 14-cow milking herd, will be one of the new features for the Michigan State College Farmers' Week, January 23 through February 2, 1951.

The educational exhibit will be located on Farm Lane between the agricultural engineering building and the livestock judging pavilion. Through assistance from commercial concerns, the exhibit will include modern conveniences of a pen-type dairy business that are within financial reach of the average dairyman.

The exhibit is being sponsored by the agricultural engineering department and will include the four essential areas of a pen barn. They are: (1) the milking area with elevated milking stalls, a combine milker, and metering grain feeders; (2) feeding area with ground level storage of chopped hay and push-back feeders; (3) protected barn lot; (4) lounge area secluded from traffic of cows seeking feed or water.

Cows will be from the herd of Hewitt Van Velsor, young farmer living near Lansing. These cows are being handled under house housing conditions on the Van Velsor farm, and will be housed under simulated conditions in a 60 x 90 foot tent during Farmers' Week.

Daily milkings at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday noon of Farmers' Week will demonstrate managed milking in this type of a dairy program. Dairy department personnel will aid agricultural engineers discussing this part of the program. At each milking, the complete story of the pen barn will be explained.

Victories that are easy are cheap. Those only are worth having which come as the result of hard fighting.

Organic Matter Needed By Soil

Organic matter is a valuable ingredient in soil fertility and Dr. L. M. Turk, Michigan State College soil scientist, says those who advocate the use of compost or manure to increase soil organic content are performing a definite service. But in condemning the use of chemical fertilizers, some people are doing a distinct disservice to the nation, he believes.

In recent years, the idea that food produced from soil fertilized with chemicals causes many diseases in man has gained many converts. The MSC soil science department head agrees that organic matter plays its part in soil fertility, but maintains chemical fertilizers are necessary in building up organic matter for large land areas.

"For efficient production of agricultural crops, lime, fertilizers and organic matter go hand in hand. Organic matter is dependent upon plants, plants are dependent, among other things, upon an adequate supply of soil minerals," Dr. Turk explains.

The most effective means of adding organic matter to the soil is by an intelligent use of purely organic fertilizers. Growing a cover crop through the use of commercial fertilizers and plowing it under adds greatly to the organic matter in the soil.

While the small home gardener may be able to substitute the compost pile for commercial fertilizer in a vegetable patch, it is economically unsound for a commercial farmer to attempt to do likewise on a large scale, Turk contends.

The soils specialist says there has been no proof offered that crops grown without chemical fertilizer are more free from disease and insects.

Among the things to consider in producing clean milk are: the health of the cow, care of utensils, handling of the milk, water supply for cleaning equipment, and sanitary processing methods.

Barn Check Helps Reduce Mastitis

Want a tip on reducing mastitis in your dairy herd? It's simple and it's easy.

Check the barn for high deer stalls, protruding nails or any objects which may injure teats and udders, say Michigan State College veterinarians.

They also advise that milking equipment be well cared for.

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Report of Condition of**THE FARMINGTON STATE BANK**

of Farmington, Michigan, at the close of business December 30, 1950, a State banking institution organized and operating under the banking laws of this State and a member of the Federal Reserve System. Published in accordance with a call made by the State Banking Authorities and by the Federal Reserve Bank of this District.

ASSETS

Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve balance, and cash items in process of collection	1,334,472.52
United States Government obligation, direct and guaranteed	2,623,702.93
Obligations of States and political subdivisions	231,108.79
Other bonds, notes and debentures	97,812.00
Stock of Federal Reserve Bank	6,000.00
Loans and discounts (including \$5.91 overdrafts)	2,586,446.04
Furniture and fixtures	32,265.00
Other assets	6,067.22
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,217,574.50

LIABILITIES

Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships and corporations	2,952,976.09
Time deposits of individuals, partnerships and corporations	3,093,347.63
Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings)	36,474.46
Deposits of States and political subdivisions	492,490.26
Other deposits (certified and officers' checks, etc)	134,822.26
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$6,740,110.70
Other liabilities	105,157.61
TOTAL LIABILITIES (not including subordinated obligations shown below)	\$6,845,068.31

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Common stock	100,000.00
Surplus	150,000.00
Undivided profits	114,806.19
Reserves (and retirement account for preferred capital)	7,000.00
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	371,806.19
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	\$7,217,574.50

MEMORANDA

Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes 125,000.00
Deposits of the State of Michigan (included in Item 16) 50,000.00

I, H. W. Avery, Cashier of the above-named bank, hereby certify that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

H. W. AVERY

Correct Attest:

Byron E. Lapham
Emory O. Hatton
Floyd H. Nichols, Directors

State of Michigan, County of Oakland, as:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of January, 1951.

Joyce Habernicht, Notary Public
Oakland County, Michigan.

My Commission expires November 6, 1951.

OFFICERS

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Byron E. Lapham, Executive Vice-President

Vice-Presidents

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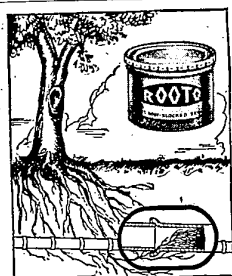
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