



# FARM NEWS



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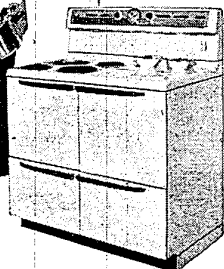
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## MILK FEVER HITS TOP DAIRY COWS, SPECIALIST SAYS

Milk fever is loaded with bad features and the safest thing to do is call the veterinarian when you first discover it, Glen Reed, Michigan State College extension veterinarian, advised dairy farmers this week.

Among the worst features of the disease are that it has a tendency to strike well-fed cows that are usually less apt to get other diseases, and it usually attacks cows between the third and seventh calving—the best period in a cow's life.

Dr. Reed said that the disease most often strikes the best milkers and told how to recognize it. A cow coming down with milk fever will stop eating, and become listless and slow moving. She gets weak and has trouble standing. A coma often follows, and death will result in a few hours or a few days unless the cow is treated. It usually shows up within two days of calving. As the cow starts producing heavily she draws a lot of calcium from the blood. A calcium salt injected into the veins will usually cause cows to get well in a hurry. Sometimes several treatments will be needed.

Some cases are different and require additional salts such as magnesium or cobalt. Another method of treating is to pump air into the udder, but unless great care is taken, this can damage the udder and introduce infection causing mastitis.

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## AUCTION

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## More Money From Fertilized Grass



The plant food requirements of the better grass crops are high. This statement runs counter to the mistaken belief that grasses, because they have certain desirable effects on the soil, find their best use in soils of low fertility. True, some grasses will survive and grow on poor soils, but they respond markedly to the application of fertilizer, and greater profits are obtained from rather liberal use of fertilizer on pastures and haylands. Field experiments where heavy applications of phosphate and potash were made to bring the soil up to a productive state show the multiple benefits of adequate fertilization. A rotation of corn, grain, and two years of hay—alfalfa, clover or timothy—has been followed since 1942. Hay yields were nearly doubled and the quality of the hay was greatly improved. Winter killing of the legumes was much less severe at the higher levels of fertility.

## WILLIAMSTON PLAN FOR HUNTING CO-OPS NOW AVAILABLE

The southern Michigan farmer interested in organizing a Williamston hunting co-operative is urged to advise the conservation department now.

Any farmer unfamiliar with the Williamston plan of controlled hunting can get information by writing to the department's game division, Lansing.

This is the basic plan. Farmers on two or more square miles of land, handling together in a co-operative, may decide the maximum number of hunters they wish to permit on their lands. This number is apportioned among the members, who in hunting season will then issue two, three or four tickets per day allotted them. Since the hunter must ask for his ticket at the farmhouse and leave his car there, the farmer has an opportunity to look over the hunters who go onto his farm.

The plan is regarded by some farmers as a suitable compromise between restricted hunting, with a trespass problem, and a complete ban on hunting, with the waste of the wildlife crop, and in the case of the deer, the threat of crop damage by the growing southern herd.

State game men are available to explain the plan to farmer groups. Costs of printing tickets and boundary, gate and safety zone signs are borne by the department. In consideration of the opening of the legume a chance to recover before farmhands to some hunting.

## Tells Advantages Of Washing Udders

Washing the cow's udder with a chlorine-water solution before milking has double-barreled advantages according to George Parsons, extension dairy specialist at Michigan State College.

For one thing, the massage before milking helps the cow let down her milk so the job is easier. And washing with warm chlorine water will aid in destroying bacteria on the udder which otherwise might get into the milk.

Parsons advises washing the udder about 1 minute before you start milking for best results.

Some Michigan dairymen have started using paper towels for the operation. This saves washing individual cloth rags for each cow. After the paper towels have been used they are put into a container to dry. Then they can be burned or otherwise disposed of easily.

## Legume In Stubble May Need Help Now

If the straw from your grain fields looks too heavy or bunched for the legume seedling underneath, the stubble can be clipped high, then raked and put up for use as bedding next winter.

That's the suggestion from Michigan State College farm crops specialists. They emphasize that if you cut the legume seedling you should do it early. That will give in consideration of the opening of the legume a chance to recover before cold weather hits it.

## Fertilizer Supply Tight For 1952

Michigan farmers are again facing a tight fertilizer situation for the coming year. The supply of superphosphate is short because of the shortage of sulfuric acid.

Suggestions for meeting the situation came this week from Michigan State College soil scientists. The first thing to do is to take soil samples and have them tested now ahead of the winter rush. Armed with an accurate analysis of your soil you can order your fertilizer needs immediately. If you wait until next spring it may be too late to get the most desirable analysis.

You'll also be helping fertilizer manufacturers make room for more supplies, the soil specialists point out.

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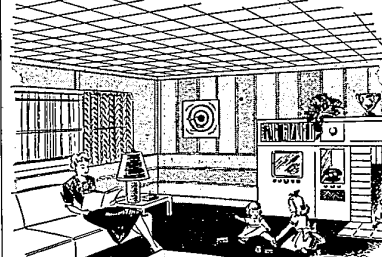
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