



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

"Talks Turkey" — Long Distance

Some people chuckled when Sonny Fisher rented a home recording machine to record the noise his flock of turkeys make.

"I sent the recording to a buyer for a super-market chain," Sonny said. "I told them, 'My turkeys speak for themselves—listen to this record!' They not only took my birds, but bought the record!"

"Why did they want the record?" I asked him. "Very simple," he says. "They're going to play it over the loud speakers in their stores—and then an announcer on another record reminds the cus-

tomers that turkeys are plentiful and a good buy."

From where I sit, it's not always smart to make fun of someone just because he does things a little differently. I think a glass of beer is the most refreshing beverage there is. You—or Sonny—may prefer something else. But who's to decide one's right and the other's wrong? Let's stay "on record" that everyone's entitled to his own tastes and opinion.

Joe Marsh

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MAKE PLANS NOW FOR SUCCESSFUL SPRING PIG CROP

H. W. Newland, Michigan State College swine authority, has some tips for farmers who are planning next spring's pig crop now.

Since sows and gilts will have to be bred before November 15 to have pigs before March 10, there are some important jobs coming up soon for the hog raiser.

"First of all, if you have to buy a boar you'll have to be looking for him soon. It won't pay to wait until the last minute because they may be scarce and prices probably will be no lower. Time and thought spent in selecting a good boar will pay dividends," Newland reminded farmers.

He advised that you look over your sows or gilts, figure out their weak points, then buy a boar which will improve these weaknesses. And of course any boar should have straight legs, plenty of length and depth of body, with full, bulging hams. Masculinity, freedom from Bangs disease, and vaccination against cholera are other important points to watch.

When picking either boars or gilts for your breeding herd, consider the size of the litter from which they came, and the weight at 56 days of age if that information is available. They should be out of litters of 10 to 12 pigs.

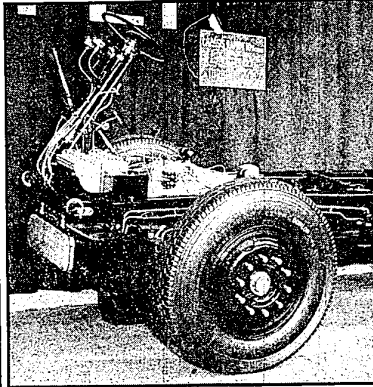
Proper feeding of boars and gilts during the breeding season is important, too. They should get a well-balanced, highly nutritious ration with a good supply of protein, minerals and vitamins. If possible they should be allowed to graze on good pasture.

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FARM NEWS



SOMETHING NEW UNDER THE HOOD—Exhibited among the heavy vehicles at the 1951 International Motor and Cycle Show in Paris, France, is this revolutionary turbo-jet truck. Equipped with a 180-200-horsepower motor, it has no gear box or speed changes—acceleration is built up automatically—and there is only a "forward" and "backward" clutch. Brakes are operated by compressed air.

Two New Hybrid Corns Available To Farmers For Spring Planting

Two new corn hybrids developed at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station will be available to Michigan farmers for planting next spring, according to E. C. Rossmann, who is in charge of corn breeding research at Michigan State College.

The two promising hybrids are called Michigan 250 and Michigan 350 (formerly Michigan experiment hybrids 331 and 267, respectively). Their development covers a period of about 20 years of inbreeding, selection and testing. Because of their superior performance in overstate tests during past years, they have been accepted by the Michigan Crop Improvement Association for certification.

Commercial double-cross seed of

the two varieties was produced for the first time this year and seed will be available for planting next spring. Demand for both is expected to be heavy.

Michigan 350 is about the same maturity as hybrids which are classified as 90-day corns. It silks a few days later than Michigan 51B, a certified hybrid well-known to Michigan growers, but at harvest time is as dry or drier than 51B. Tests have shown it to be well adapted to northern and north-central Michigan areas. However, it has also performed exceptionally well in areas where later hybrids are grown. In muck farm tests, it has proved well suited for grain production on muck soils in south-central and southern Michigan.

Michigan 350 out-yielded 51B by more than 15 per cent over a three-year period, picks clean and has good resistance to root and stalk lodging.

Michigan 250 has a relative maturity of about 85 days and is adapted to corn growing areas in northern Michigan and extreme east-central Michigan. On three years of testing, Michigan 250 has proved a good producer of grain. It has outyielded Michigan 11A in 27 of 34 tests in which the two were compared.

Farmers interested in obtaining seed of either, or both, of these hybrids should talk with their local elevator manager or seed dealer. If they are unable to supply seed, write to the Farm Crops Department, Michigan State College, for the name of your nearest producer of seed of the two hybrids.

MSC To Send Ag Techs To South America

Michigan State College is preparing to start on its second international educational mission—this one to the South American nation of Colombia. A few months ago the East Lansing college sent a group to Okinawa to aid the program of the University of the Ryukyus.

Announce 400 Bushel Club Winner In County

The winner of the Oakland County 400 Bushel Club is David Mendham of Milford, reports Willard E. Bosserman, assistant county agricultural agent. His yield was 497.4 bushels of U. S. No. 1 potatoes per acre. His closest competitor was 372.5 bushels of U. S. No. 1 obtained by Keith Middleton of Lake Orion. All of the yields checked were over 300 bushels per acre.

The average yield of all potatoes in Michigan has nearly doubled in the last five years. This shows that farmers are doing a much more efficient job of growing potatoes than they did five years ago. The question may be raised, "Is it desirable to increase yields in face of surpluses?" Bosserman thinks it is always wise if you can grow on one acre what has taken two acres before, if the cost of production doesn't double along with it.

Farmers Warned Of Timber Buying Racket

Al Phillips, Conservation Forester at Lapeer, warns farmers to be on the look out for unscrupulous timber buyers who are recommending wholesale slaughter of timber lots because of disease, reports Ed Alchin, Oakland County Agricultural Agent.

Phillips says that such diseases as Oak Wilt and Dutch Elm Disease are being used as an excuse by some buyers for recommending complete slaughtering of timber lands. He says these diseases are so scattered that such techniques should be ignored by timber buyers and he would appreciate getting reports about people attempting this method of purchase.

Saving all pigs farrowed is important with the high prices for feeds and grains. Saving an extra pig or two per litter can often spell the difference between profit and loss from the hog enterprise.

Your child's fear of the dark may vanish if you paint a miniature candle with luminous paint on his bedside lamp. That will remind him the light is there when he wants to use it.

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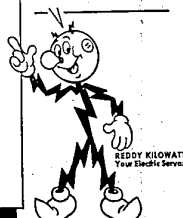
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