

# FARM FEATURES



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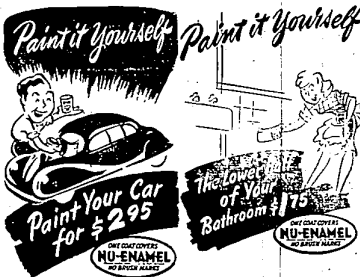
### BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable to assessment roll of the Township of Farmington, that said roll will be subject to inspection at the Township Offices in the Farmington Town Hall on Tuesday, June 4, and on Tuesday, June 18, 1946, from 9 o'clock a.m. to 5 o'clock p.m.

The Board of Review will be in session and upon request of any person who is assessed on said roll or his agent, and upon sufficient cause being shown, correct assessment on such property in such manner as will in their judgment make the value relatively just and equal. Such assessment roll received by said Board of Review shall be the assessment roll of said Township of Farmington for the year 1946.

H. N. McCracken, Township Clerk

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## HOUSEHOLD CLEANING SUPPLIES

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## Dairy Cows Need Abundant Pasture

Cows naturally take to grass. Grass is bottled sunshine and gives heat and bloom to both animal and milk she produces. A. C. Baltzer, extension dairy specialist, Michigan State college says a cow will eat from 125 to 150 pounds of grass daily if she can get it. And this, he says, is adequate dry matter to supply requirements for maintenance and milk production.

In urging that dairy farmers provide adequate pasture for their herds, Baltzer points out that records of Michigan dairy herd improvement association show that cows on abundant pasture make more money than those getting large quantities of grain.

Dairy cows want thick pasture, so they will not have to graze so fast. If it is nutritious and tasty, and they have plenty of water and salt and bone meal before them, little grain is necessary. The dairy specialist urges the planting of plenty of ryegrass for fall pasture for dairy herds. He also suggests the planting of an extra acre of field corn. If this is harvested and chopped up by an ensilage cutter, fresh each day during August, it will produce more milk than any other practice that can be followed in a dairy feeding program, Baltzer says.

## Bonus Plan Results In Higher Feed Costs

Whether the farmer realized it or not, some of the feed that is going into his livestock jumped in price from 17 to 25 per cent recently. N. L. Smith, farm management specialist at Michigan State college, says that happened when the government offered a 30-cent bushel bonus for wheat and corn. Grain, of course, is needed in the emergency famine program and the offer was made to bring it off the farm.

The farmer, using these grains to feed livestock, however, will have to compete with that price to continue his program. If he has the feed, it is not an "out of the pocket" cost, Smith says, but it must be considered in the feed cost.

Since Michigan is a feed-deficient state many have to buy their grains. If they do not have feed available, they are going to be competing with the government program to get feed to continue feeding operations.

## POULTRY EXPERT



HOWARD C. ZINDEL  
New Poultry Specialist

Howard C. Zindel, former lieutenant colonel in the Army Air Force, recently joined the extension staff of the poultry department at Michigan State college. Mr. Zindel received his B. S. degree in agriculture in 1937 and his M. S. degree in poultry husbandry in 1941 from Michigan State college. Shortly after receiving his degree in 1941, Mr. Zindel was called into service. He spent one year in Panama with the 6th Air Force, one year on the Galapagos Islands and seven months as a staff officer of the 10th Air Force in India. He was then returned to the United States and assigned as an instructor at the army's Command and General Staff School of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

## "Goop" Found Valuable To The Orchardist

Another war-time discovery has been found useful on the farm. "Goop," a magnesium dust, incorporated with a combination of asphalt and tar and used in incendiary bombs, is the latest of a long list of war products which may prove of agricultural value. The burning of orchard brush has always been a problem to the orchardist. When trees are trimmed, much of the cut-away brush is green and does not burn well. Some incentive is needed.

Minard Pater of the Michigan Apple commission got the idea and talked it over with Dr. H. B. Tuckey, head of the department of horticulture and Robert C. Johnson of the department of forestry at Michigan State college. A government agency was contacted, and three drums of "goop" were sent to the college for experimental purposes.

The consistency of the product is like heavy clay, and it was difficult to ignite. After once started the burning substance was thrown on the brush with shovels. It did an excellent job of keeping the fire going at a high temperature.

The idea of using the product to heat orchards during low temperature nights is being considered for further exploration into the value of "goop" to the orchardist.

Improperly grounded lightning rods on farm structures are more hazardous than no lightning rods, according to Michigan State college agricultural engineers.

## Home-Made Fence Chargers Dangerous

A good electric fence saves time, labor and materials — all of which are scarce. But homemade fence controllers are dangerous and at times even deadly. D. E. Wiant, of the department of agricultural engineering at Michigan State college, warns against the use of untested and unauthorized ideas.

Some manufacturers have spent as long as six years making their electric fences "fool-proof." The use of an approved electric fence gives the farmer and stockman an opportunity to fence in certain areas of pasture hastily and temporarily or for a permanent fence. It is known that in Michigan hundreds of head of livestock and several persons die each year as the result of home-made fence chargers.

Farmers should make certain the apparatus they use is approved by the underwriters or other approving bodies or make certain there will be no death to livestock or persons.

## Alfalfa Seed Crop Possible This Year

If the farmer does not particularly need hay, this season offers a good opportunity to try for an alfalfa seed crop, believes Dr. S. T. Dexter, farm crops research worker at Michigan State college.

The price for alfalfa seed stays around 50 cents a pound and there is a great shortage. In fact, there would be more alfalfa grown in Michigan today if an adequate supply of good seed were available.

Dr. Dexter, however, believes that if the farmer can make good use of the hay, the gamble of trying for a seed crop might be too risky. He points out, however, that this stands are usually worth the gamble. "There is no rule to follow. The farmer must just let it go well past the bloom stage and see if any pods form. If not, he has lost, and can cut the crop for a rather poor grade of tough hay. If the pods form and weather permits harvesting and threshing, a seed crop will pay great dividends," Dr. Dexter added.

To those who definitely plan to use the first crop of the alfalfa field for hay, he suggests they avoid letting the field getting too far in bloom before starting — especially if there is a large acreage. A tenth-bloom is best for cutting, but too often June weather does not cooperate with the haymaker in Michigan. He suggests that newly seeded acreage be left until last and that the fields the farmer expects to plow under after this season, be the first cut.

Cutting alfalfa hay too early, however, is detrimental to the plants and will eventually kill them, Dr. Dexter warns.

Veterans are entitled to training in Agriculture under the G. I. Bill. By arrangement with a qualified farm operator, the veteran can receive training pay while working on a release who is operating a farm can receive instruction pay under certain conditions. Your Veterans' Affairs office or county agricultural agent can give you the details.

## Lime And Fertilizer Is Paying Investment

The purchase of lime and commercial fertilizer is a good investment for the farmers of Michigan. E. D. Longuecker of the department of soils, Michigan State college, thinks immediate returns from money invested in these should be greater today than prior to the war.

The prices of beans, potatoes and wheat today average 89 per cent higher than in 1940. The cost of such recommended and widely used fertilizers as 2-16-8 and 3-12-12 average only 25 per cent higher than in 1940. The initial cost of lime is approximately the same today as in 1940 although the cost of trucking and spreading has increased.

Lime is not a cure-all for soil fertility problems, Longuecker assures. It should be used intelligently and only when an accurate soil test indicates its need. When need is shown, its application is the first step in a soil fertility improvement program. Long time experimental work at Michigan State college shows increased yield of crops following a lime spreading program. The gains are from \$3.10 to \$27.01 for each dollar expended for lime. Cheaper forms of lime give the largest dollar return.

Commercial fertilizers are most effective when used on soils having the correct lime content. Crops such as wheat; oats; barley; beans; sugar beets; potatoes; clover and alfalfa make profitable returns from application of commercial fertilizer under most Michigan conditions. Although the net return from money invested in fertilizer may not be so great as from lime, experiments show that an effective program should include the use of commercial fertilizer at one or more places in the rotation.

A three hundred pound hog has 14 per cent more lard than a 200 pound hog, say Michigan State college livestock men.

Plant a good garden and help the food shortage.

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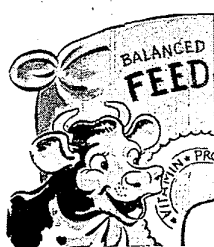
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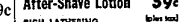
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lowering the quality of service, every telephone, every line, every piece of equipment we use, is being employed to take care of as many of your friends and neighbors as possible. This policy will be continued until we can give everyone pre-war standards of service or better.

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