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FARM FEATURES

Offer New Dairy Testing Program

The Oakland County Extension Service is offering a new plan for testing the production of dairy cows in this area. At present there are five Dairy Herd Improvement Associations testing cattle in the county under a plan set up by Michigan State college. In the present association official records of production are kept by the extension dairy tester. The tester is hired by local farmers and the records in their cattle are used by the college to develop their program for Dairy Herd Improvement. Under the new plan called Owner-Sampler testing program is designed to supplement the Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.

Records under the Owner-Sampler testing system will be of value to farmers in that they will tell him how much his cows are producing and which are not profitable to retain in the herd. This factor may be doubly important in the light of the poor crop in this area. It may be found necessary in some herds to reduce their size to cut down feed consumption. Over longer periods it will give the herdsmen indications as to the effectiveness of their breeding and an opportunity to build up their herds for official DHI.

Information about this program can be obtained from your local extension dairy herd tester or E. W. Alchin, Oakland County Assistant Agricultural Agent. The cost of the program will be distributed as follows:

\$100 Membership fee and \$200 Testing Fee for from 1 to 10 cows with an additional \$20 fee for each cow tested over ten in the herd.

FARM SPECIALIST

EVERETT M. ELWOOD
New Farm Management Specialist

Everett M. Elwood, a native of Lenawee county, Michigan, has joined the staff at Michigan State college as extension specialist in farm management. In this position Elwood will work with farmers and farm groups throughout Michigan. Elwood is a graduate of Michigan State college and received his master's degree in 1932. He served in the U. S. Army Air Corps. He served as farm management specialist with the Farm Security administration from 1935 to 1942.

Millionth Bushel of Peaches Delivered to State Capitol

Again this year the officials at the Benign Harbor market purchased the millionth bushel of peaches sold over that market. This picture shows Honorable Harry F. Kelly, Governor of Michigan, receiving greetings from Stanley Lee, Market Master, of the world's largest fruit market, Charles Figg, Director of the State Department of Agriculture, is observing the presentation.

The millionth bushel arrived at the market nearly a week earlier this year than in other years when a crop of similar size was produced.

ALFALFA KEY TO PRODUCTIVE ROTATION CYCLE

If any additional proof is needed to show that alfalfa is an excellent soil builder, experiments at the Lee Perden farm near Chesaning offer such assurance. For 20 years Michigan State college soils specialists have conducted experiments on this farm. Dr. R. L. Cook, of the M. S. C. soil science department, has been in charge for the past 17 years.

Recent tests of different five-year rotation programs show without exception that the crop following alfalfa in the rotation produces the highest yield. In other words, if corn is ahead of alfalfa in the rotation, it will not yield as well as it does following alfalfa. The same is true of barley, oats, beans and beans.

One experiment showed that a one-year stand of alfalfa is just as beneficial to the soil as two- or three-year stands. Corn following a one-year stand of alfalfa, produced 45.6 bushels per acre and following a two-year stand of alfalfa yielded only 41.9 bushels per acre. Beans following a two-year stand of alfalfa, produced 10.9 tons per acre. In a rotation which included one-year of alfalfa followed by corn and then beans, the best yield was 10.5 tons. This was nearly equal to the crop immediately following alfalfa in the rotation.

High fertilization is more profitable than low fertilization, experiments revealed. Part of the plots were fertilized with 1,000 pounds of commercial fertilizer, and others with 400 pounds. The high fertilization produced an average of \$25.00 more cash returns per acre or \$16.00 above the cost of the extra 600 pounds of fertilizer.

Plan Work
Homemakers will find it pays to set aside 15 minutes each day to organize work plans for the day—the meals, the cleaning activities, some time to guide the children's play, a period for relaxation.

Makes Soil Safe
Soil, contaminated with pests and germs of plant disease, can be made safe for plant growth by fumigation with "DDT," a chemical relative of the powerful insecticide "D.D.T."

Local Guernsey Sets Record

Pittsboro, N. H. — A daughter of the registered Guernsey sire, Bourdelle Noble, owned by Charles E. Sorenson, Farmington, Michigan, has completed an official Advanced Register record. She is three and one-half year old Cesar Noble's Maribel which produced 14,994 pounds of milk and 753.6 pounds of butterfat.

Dorinda Noble has thirty-one sons and daughters in the Performance Register of the American Guernsey Cattle Club. A two-year old registered Guernsey cow, Beau Fleurette, owned by Bruce L. Beaudette, Birmingham, Michigan, has also completed a creditable Herd Improvement record of 3443.3 pounds of milk and 270 pounds of butterfat. She was milked 724 times while on test.

Beau Fleurette is the first daughter of the registered Guernsey sire, Cesar Bon-Ton's Premium.

This record was supervised by the Michigan State college and reported to The American Guernsey Cattle Club for approval and publication.

Local Artificial Breeders Group To Be Formed

Karl Bailey, Oakland County Agricultural Agent announces that a meeting to form the first Local Artificial Breeders' Association for Dairy Cattle will be held at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 9, at the Wixom town hall. E. W. Alchin, Assistant County Agent, will be in charge of the meeting and will assist in the organization work.

Enough cattle have been signed in to the Artificial Breeders' Association to make available the facilities to farmers in this area and many more indicated interest in the work. Arrangements have been provided for farmers who haven't signed up to do so at this meeting. A board of directors consisting of seven members will be elected and a discussion covering "By-laws and Practices" will precede the election. All farmers who are at all interested in the work are urged to attend.

SMOKERS CAUSE MANY FIRES ON RURAL PROPERTY

Matches and smoking cause a greater number of fires than any other known cause according to Fred Roth, Michigan State college fire prevention specialist. The annual loss in the United States from this cause alone is 43 million dollars.

Many farm fires result from carelessly discarded cigars, cigarettes, matches or pipe contents. Roth says the house should have plenty of ash trays to encourage proper disposition of smokers. It's a good idea to fasten tin cans partly filled with water or sand near the entrances of the barn and other buildings for discarding the smokes before entering the building. "No Smoking" signs should be posted near the cans, and smoking in the buildings should be prohibited.

Safety-type matches should be used and kept in metal, or other incombustible containers. Children are fascinated by matches and must not be allowed access to them.

On the farm, it is especially important to put out all cigar and cigarette butts because sparrows and other birds have been known to start fires by carrying these lighted firebrands into their nests in buildings.

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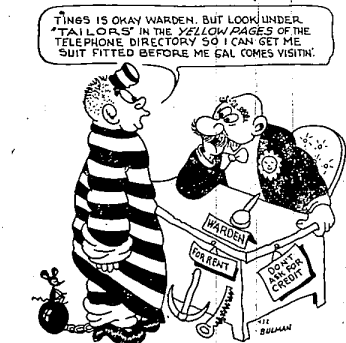
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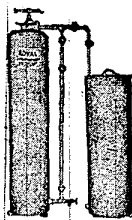
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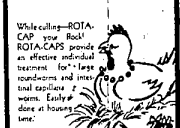
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