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FARM FEATURES

Bailey Gives Tips On Hessian Fly

A warning about the Hessian fly, the insect that attacks wheat in the fall and spring, was given this week by Karl D. Bailey, county agricultural agent.

In this area, planting wheat before September 20 is dangerous. This date was established as best for this area by Michigan State college specialists who set wheat seeding dates which avoid damage by the Hessian fly.

Wheat plants attacked by the fly become stunted and may turn dark bluish-green in color. Infested plants finally die back from the leaf tips. The injury is done by the larvae (maggots) of this insect which feed beneath the leaf sheath usually next to the ground.

The only satisfactory control for the Hessian fly at this time is to plant wheat in the fall after most of the danger from the insect is past. Hessian fly does not live to lay eggs after late summer.

Some farmers claim to have planted earlier and escaped damage but the fly is not so prevalent every year. The agent adds that this may be a year when the larvae of the Hessian fly are around to damage the wheat in the seedling stage.

Agent Bailey also advises farmers to plant certified seed. Grain elevators ordinarily have a supply but if not, the agent has a list of available sources at the county extension office.

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4-H Chicken Champ



BRUCE W. BERG, 10, of Alto, is pictured with flock of White Rock fryers which won for him Kent County 4-H Club Chicken-Tomorrow contest, first Michigan youth version of the recent national competition to develop fowl with improved eating quality. Bruce's 252 cockerles averaged 4.35 pounds, live weight, at 14 weeks. His production costs, including rent and depreciation charges, were 24.65 cents a pound; his profit, or labor return, \$172. The 21 young contestants numbered 3,654 fryers, which were dressed at the Farm Bureau Co-operative in Hamilton and sold by A & P Food Stores, sponsor of the national Chicken-of-Tomorrow Contest. Second place was won by Tom Cornell, Alto, and third by Jim Marvin, Grand Rapids.

Karl Bailey Issues New Spray Report

Brown rot is already showing up, according to county peach growers, and this disease can be a serious problem, Karl D. Bailey, Oakland County agricultural agent, announced this week. Here is a new recommendation from Michigan State College Experiment Station.

It is suggested that liquid lime sulphur, 2 quarts to 100 gallons, be used now in place of milder fungicides. This material applied 5 to 7 days before harvest is claimed to be most effective in controlling Brown Rot on peaches. No injury should be incurred from the use of liquid lime sulphur on peaches if the material is used in the strength suggested above and the trees are sprayed with a fog rather than a coarse stream.

Late blight has been found on potatoes and tomatoes in some southeastern counties in Michigan. From now until harvest, it can normally be expected that weather will be increasingly favorable for the development and spread of late blight.

The following recommendations are designed to prevent infection of late blight:

Potatoes: Spray once a week until harvest with Bordeaux (3-3-100), or fixed copper (2 pounds metallic copper per 100 gallons water), or with one of the carbamates like Parzate or Dithane according to manufacturer's recommendations. If late blight occurs in the field, spray every 4 to 5 days.

Tomatoes: Spray once a week with one of the fixed coppers at a rate of 2 pounds metallic copper per 100 gallons of water or with carbamate like Parzate or Dithane according to manufacturer's recommendations. If late blight appears in the field, spray every 4 to 5 days.

Copper dusts should contain 7 per cent copper and carbamate dusts 10 per cent active ingredient.

Tree Pollens:

Some people are sensitive to the pollens of grasses and trees just as others react to certain foods, molds, flowers and dusts. Airborne pollens of such trees as birch, poplar, ash and oak have been known to cause running noses, itching eyes and even skin rashes.

Encourages 4-H Activities
Forty awards and recognitions are being offered in North Dakota in 1949 for various 4-H club activities and achievements.

Large Wool Exhibit Planned For State Fair

A large exhibit of wool for the state wool show at the Michigan State Fair is predicted by Graydon Blank, extension animal husbandry specialist at Michigan State college. He estimates that nearly 100 fleeces will be shown.

Classes are offered for ewe and ram fleeces of each of the purebred breeds, and also classes for each of the six market grades of wool. Special prizes are offered for a county exhibit made up of eight fleeces from at least four different flocks from a county.

Blank reports that top fleeces from the Michigan show will be selected for the International Wool Show at Chicago.

An educational exhibit of wool and woolen materials is also planned.

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Specialists Urges Check Of Fire Extinguishers

A reminder to check your fire extinguisher in September is given by Fred Roth, farm safety specialist at Michigan State College.

Fire hazards increase during the winter months, Roth points out. The weather following Labor Day is still generally favorable enough for overhauling heating plants and for making sure that all fire protection equipment is in good order.

The specialist lists three basic rules to keep in mind in checking extinguishers. First, be sure is an approved extinguisher, which means a unit that comes up to standards endorsed by Underwriters' Laboratories or Factory Mutual Laboratories. Second, be sure you have the right extinguisher for various hazards on your property. And third, be sure the extinguisher is in good operating condition at all times.

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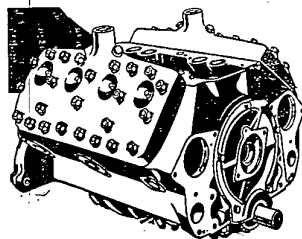
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