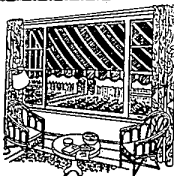


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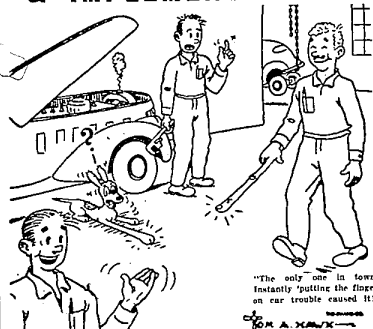
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FARM FEATURES

Expect Good Year For Stock Raisers

Michigan livestock producers can look forward to 1949 as another good year. This word comes from Michigan State College farm economists who say that personal incomes will probably keep meat and livestock prices strong.

They point out that a time of high prices, short term operations are less likely to result in losses due to severe price declines. There is a caution, however. Seasonal prices for livestock are again approaching prewar patterns, the economists believe.

Last year cattlemen were faced with high-priced feed. Now, feed supplies have become more abundant and feeders are high-priced. Demand is keeping the price of stocker and feeder cattle high. Feeders should plan to make their profit on efficient feeding — it won't be safe to depend on the "spread".

Hog producers face a good year. Pork is expected to be the one meat that increases next year's red meat supply. A favorable hog market is expected throughout 1949 but economists think it will pay to push hogs for early slaughter to avoid the expected big increase of marketing of spring pigs. Hogs will be supported at 30 percent of parity until the end of 1949. Farmers who have plenty of corn and are tempted to feed hogs to heavy weights are cautioned.

Watch price differentials between weight classifications, before adding those last few pounds.

Sheep are at the lowest number since any time after the Civil War. The output of lamb and mutton is expected to be even smaller than 1948. Lamb feeding is expected to be profitable this year for those who have a good supply of grain in roughage. Only good doing feeders should be fed, the economists conclude.

HANNAH IS NAMED ASSOCIATION HEAD OF COLLEGE GROUP

When congress passed legislation in 1925 establishing funds where by other states could set up a college patterned after Michigan Agricultural College it was quite an honor to Michigan.

This month Michigan was again honored when the president of the nation's first agricultural college was named president of the American Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities.

Presidents and deans of the 53 Land Grant Institutions, located in every state and territory, picked President John A. Hannah of Michigan State College to head this association during the coming year. He succeeds J. L. Morrill, president of the University of Minnesota, who was last year's association president.

During the past year, President Hannah headed two committees of the association which held particular importance to agricultural and rural people. One was the legislative committee which allowed him to make several appearances before senate and house committees on agriculture and education. He was also chairman of a joint committee studying the Cooperative Extension Program. This committee, named by the secretary of agriculture and the association, reviewed the Extension program and made suggestions of ways it could further serve the people.

Culling Out Laxy Hens
When a poultryman culls his flock, his aim is to weed out all the hens that are not doing their fair share of egg laying.

JOINS MSC STAFF



JOSEPH T. COX

New landscape architecture and urban planning extension specialist at Michigan State College, is Joseph T. Cox of Lapeer, Michigan. Previous to this appointment he was associated with a landscape nursery at Romeo. Following graduation from Michigan State College in 1942, Cox spent five years at the Firestone Plantations in Liberia, West Africa. He will work throughout Michigan following the program that was carried on for many years by O. I. Gregg, now retired.

CONTROL OF PLANT MILDEW IS FOUND BY MSC SCIENTISTS

For the first time, an antibiotic material has been applied to control a plant disease. This report comes from Dr. Irma M. Felber and Dr. C. L. Hammer of the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State College and reported in a recent issue of the Botanical Gazette.

The chemical compound, actidione, is a by-product of streptomycin, the drug widely heralded in medical fields. The horticulturists were testing the compound for growth regulating properties when red kidney bean plants in the greenhouse became severely infected with powdery mildew. The usual sulphur treatments failed to control the disease and an aqueous solution of actidione was sprayed on the plants. Within 48 hours the grayish-white patches had completely disappeared from the upper surfaces of the leaves.

They report that the plant may be protected during its lifetime if the first application is made when the plant is 10 or 12 days old and treatments are continued at intervals of 6 to 10 days. At the time of this experiment, the test plants were closely surrounded by untreated plants which were heavily infected with mildew.

The important feature of this first discovery is the small amount of substance required for the control of mildew. Only two grains of the chemical are needed for 100 gallons of spray.

Extensive experiments are being conducted with this new material on roses, chrysanthemums, hydrangeas and other crops that are susceptible to mildew. Excellent control of the disease has been obtained on these plants and it seems to show great promise as a pre-tentative spray. Roses that were treated with this material remained free of mildew infection for 4 to 6 weeks.

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MSC SCIENTISTS GIVE HINTS FOR DRYING WET CORN

Since the corn crop has been cribbed, reports have been coming from various sections of the state about the high moisture content causing the corn to mold.

Agricultural engineers at Michigan State College say that high moisture corn should be spread out on the barn floor, machinery shed, or any other place available.

If no protected area is free, corn can be spread out on a mat of straw or hay, or on poles or boards. The layer of corn must not be more than two feet thick. Inspect the corn daily for evidence of molding and heating. Spread in thinner layers if necessary.

Blowing cold air through cribs will keep corn cool and prevent molding, the engineers say. Heated air is needed, however, to accomplish satisfactory drying. If you have a blower for drying hay, county agricultural agents can give details for its use in corn drying.

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Check Cement Block Quality Before Buying

A few helpful things to look for when buying cement block were listed recently by James S. Boyd, agricultural engineer at Michigan State College.

He points out that quality block should have sharp, straight edges and corners and should meet the strength, absorption and moisture content tests. Strength requirements apply to block made of cinders, processed slag and burned clay or shale as well as those made of sand and gravel.

It is highly important that the block be dry when placed in a wall. Blocks that are not dry should be piled with the cores horizontal and aligned so that the air will have a free passage through the pile. Protect the pile from rain.

Results of recent tests will help to identify good quality concrete masonry. Ask to see them when you make your purchase, the engineer advises.

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