



Live Stock FEEDS

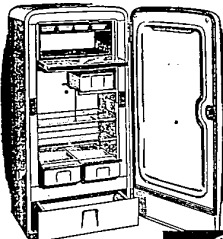
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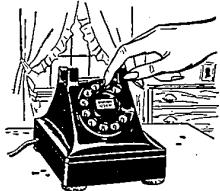
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Rural Tele-news



VOICES WITH A SMILE—Many Michigan Bell operators have attended meetings recently to hear themselves talk—in wire-recorded conversations with other girls who took the part of customers. They've learned that the tone of their voices often can make a big difference in the quality of telephone service. Perhaps you've already noticed an improvement in your service as a result of these meetings.



MORE JOBS—Twelve years ago, only one-tenth of the telephones on Michigan Bell's rural lines were dial. Today, more than two-thirds of the rural-line telephones are dial. And yet Michigan Bell now employs more than twice as many operators as twelve years ago.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

Add Nitrogen To Boost Corn Yield

Give your corn a "second helping" of nitrogen if you want good yields, says James Porter, soils specialist at Michigan State College.

For a 60 bushel per acre yield, corn needs 95 pounds of nitrogen per acre, he states. Most of this is needed after July 15. Good insurance that there will be enough nitrogen for this large requirement is plowing under of manure or a green manure crop. Ten tons of manure contains about 160 pounds of nitrogen. Sweet clover plowed under in May will provide about 90 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Good alfalfa or clover plowed under supplies large amounts of nitrogen.

Where neither manure or legume green manure have been plowed under, corn will usually show a lack of nitrogen by the first cultivation. First symptoms appear on the leaves at the base of the corn stalks—sometimes called "firing". The leaves turn yellow, first at the tips, and the yellowing proceeds toward the stalk. The middle vein of the leaf turns yellow most rapidly.

Treatment to make up this shortage is a side-dressing along the row with 200 pounds of sulphate of ammonia or 125 pounds of ammonium nitrate per acre. This will supply about 40 pounds of the element nitrogen. Porter believes this should increase the corn yield from 10 to 25 bushels an acre. These fertilizers can be applied with fertilizer side-dressing equipment.

A simple test to determine nitrogen needs can be obtained through the offices of county agricultural agents or the MSC Soils Science department at East Lansing. The same nitrate test powder is of value to growers of many truck crops.

Care Needed In Barley Harvest

Barley growers who expect to sell their surplus grain on the open market should exercise care in harvesting and threshing, says R. E. Decker, head of the Michigan State College farm crops department.

Harvesting should be done when the grain is dry and ripe. Skinned and broken kernels lower quality, Decker advises.

Four points should be followed for improved barley quality.

1. When cut with a binder or windrower, straw should be fully yellowed and grain fully mature.

2. When grain is threshed, moisture content should be down to 14 per cent.

3. Adjust machine to prevent cracked or skinned kernels.

4. Avoid mixture with other grain in storing.



PRIZE LAMB—Dale Nelson of Morris, Ill., posed at the Chicago Junior Market Lamb Show here with his purebred Southdown champion. Raised as a 4-H project, the animal weighed 80 pounds and was sold at the Union Stockyards for \$160.

STUDY PROBLEM OF CONTAMINATION IN IRRIGATION WATER

Whether contaminated irrigation water can carry disease organisms to vegetables irrigated with polluted water is the subject of much research at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, East Lansing.

Dr. W. L. Mallman and Warren Litsky, research bacteriologists at Michigan State College are conducting the studies.

With the rapid development of urban areas, sewage has been discharged in large volumes into streams and rivers. Heavy contamination with sewage has resulted in many cases. In some irrigation areas, the only source of water are these contaminated streams. Polluted water may be used on the vegetables grown there.

Although only a few epidemics have been charged to contaminated vegetables, the research workers point out that it is possible that infections may be caused by eating vegetables grown on contaminated soils.

No standards of quality have been set as yet for irrigation waters. Before standards of bacterial quality can be set, investigations of bacteria in sewage and sewage-contaminated water must be made.

Ultimate results of the tests are expected to be standards for irrigation water and recommendations for preventing contamination of vegetables grown on irrigated land.

PLAN FOR SEEDING GRASS OR LEGUME MORE FAVORABLE

Gaining in favor is the summer seeding of legumes and grasses as a means of assuring that ground will be covered and forage crops kept at a high level.

The advantage of summer seeding, according to D. L. Clannahan, Michigan State College farm crops specialist, is that the problem of proper preparation of a seed bed to cut down on weed competition is solved easier. Many farmers throughout the state report having more success from this method than by seeding with a companion or nurse crop earlier in the season.

Michigan State College farm crops researchers have found that all types of grasses, clovers, alfalfa, and mixtures respond to this type of seeding with equal success. Weed competition is eliminated during the hot summer months when the soil is comparatively dry. The weed seed requires more moisture for germination than does the grass and legume seed.

Clannahan says the time to get grass and legume seed in the ground is between August 10 and 25. Included with the regular hay and forage crop seedings are most types of pasture and cover crops such as rye and vetch. A firm seed bed is needed in the planting of small grasses and legumes. The soil should feel firm to the foot before planting. A firm seed bed also helps guard against getting the seed in too deep.

Young Dairy Farmers Aided By ABA Service

Encouragement to young farmers building future dairy herds is being given by the Michigan Artificial Breeders' Cooperative, according to Franklin Helm, president, and A. C. Baltzer, extension dairyman at Michigan State College and secretary-treasurer of the organization.

The new policy calls for one complimentary service on a dairy calf owned by a bona fide 4-H Club member or FFA member. Conditions required are that the animal, if registered, be registered in the name of the boy or girl owner, or if grade that ownership be in the name of the 4-H Club or FFA member.

Officials of the farmer-owned organization believe that this service will allow well over 2,000 animals to be bred on a complimentary basis.

Registration is required in the county and district 4-H Club agents countersign requests.

Fresh fruits should be stored in a cool place. Berries should be spread carefully on trays, sorted, but not washed or hulled until prepared for the table.

Forest Fire Record Continues Low

The state's forest fire record continued low for the week ending July 2 with only seven fires and 4.81 acres burned throughout the state, the conservation department reports. This brings the total forest fires so far for the season to 24 which have burned 4,020 acres.

To the same date in the 1949 season, 1,617 fires had burned 15,765 acres.

Color and flavor of strawberries is easily destroyed by heat. In making preserves it is well to cook them only a short time.

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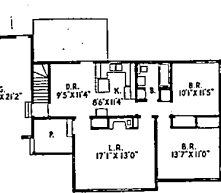
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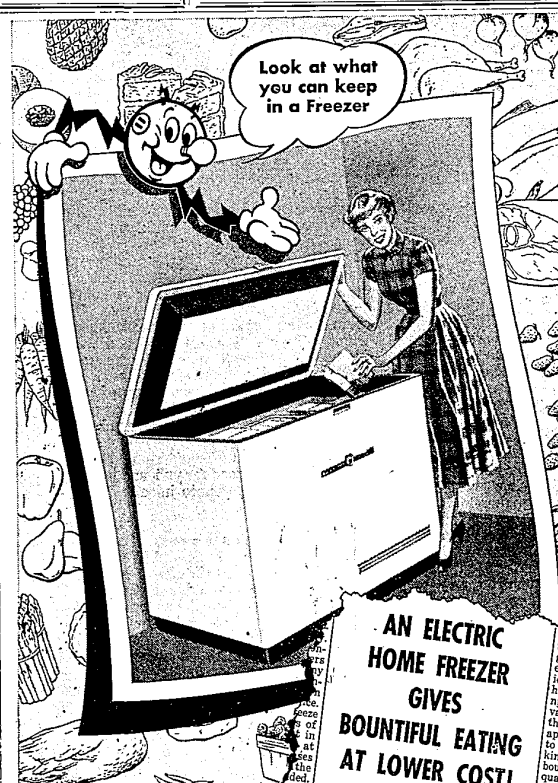
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