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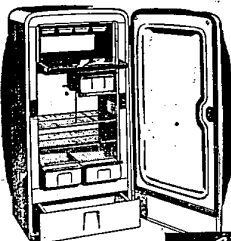
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FARM FEATURES

Cattle Feeding At All-Time High

This is the first of a series of three articles on the beef cattle feeding situation by Don H. Stark, extension livestock specialist at Michigan State College. The others, which will follow, will deal with the feed situation and planning feeding operations.

Cattle feeding is at an all-time high and is likely to continue at present or increased levels through fall and winter and into 1951.

Thirty-four percent more cattle were on feed July 1 than last year, but many are scheduled for later marketing this fall. Livestock production is on the increase and meat production during the last two years has kept pace with the growth in population. Emphasis placed on grassland farming the past year will have a tendency to increase livestock numbers. The annual consumption of meat has changed very little from last year, season for season.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the eight corn belt states during the first six months of 1950 were 29 per cent larger than in corresponding months of 1949. The number of calves going to the country was 19 per cent higher than in 1949, indicating that cattlemen are trying to keep their investments down and make their profit on cheap gains, not margins.

The war situation may cause some cattlemen to feed longer, for heavier cattle, rather than sell and invest in higher replacement cattle. War conditions also bring in a certain amount of risk and speculation with heavier cattle. In normal times these cattle would go to the market for slaughter. This should take away some upward pressure on feeder cattle prices. However, the demand for meat may cause the packer to dip into the feeder alley for many of his cattle. This could cause feeder prices to follow or even exceed fat cattle prices.

Grass on western ranges has been good this year. Many ranch men may do more fat cattle feeding this year, which would decrease the number of cattle coming to market.

Rural Health Meet Set For Oct. 20 - 21

The fourth annual Rural Health Conference will be held at Michigan State College October 20 - 21, under the sponsorship of the Michigan Foundation for Medical and Health Education, Inc. in cooperation with more than 60 other Michigan organizations.

Dr. Haven Emerson, professor emeritus of public health at Columbia University, will be the main speaker. Health educators from all over the state are expected to attend.

Purpose of the conference will be to discuss five case studies which will be presented by various cities and counties in Michigan. The studies are a community health center project, Channing; community hospitalization enrollment campaign, Newaygo county; community health organization project, Jackson county; home safety project, Kalamazoo; and community sanitation, Ingham and Washtenaw counties.

AUCTION

4530 Walnut Lake Road
West of Orchard Lake Road

Saturday, Sep. 30

Cattle will be sold at 1:30 sharp

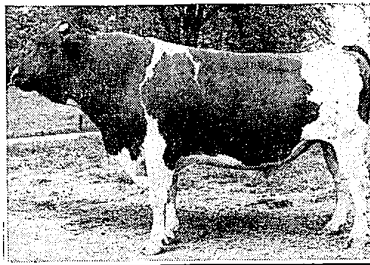
23 Good young TB and
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SET MEAT DAY CONFERENCE FOR OCTOBER 11 AT MSC

Several hundred livestock producers, packers and retailers from all over Michigan are expected to attend a Joint Livestock and Meat Day meeting October 11 at Michigan State College.

Don Stark, MSC livestock specialist, reports that the idea of bringing the three phases of the meat industry production and marketing team together has met with enthusiastic approval of each group. The conference objective is to look at new techniques in livestock marketing and trends in the merchandising field.

The 1-day program will feature hog, with emphasis on selling on the merit basis while at the same time giving consumers the kind of meat products they want. Stark said. Specific aims will be to show that proposed new hog grades are practical, to learn how the packers look at livestock, and to learn how consumers buy meat.

Speakers will explain problems and relationships of each phase of the industry from farm to consumer.

One of the program highlights is expected to be the participation of swine growers from throughout the state in a demonstration of the new hog grades designed to recognize the meat type hog. The proposed grades are based on relationship of lean to fat cuts as a basis for price determination.

The conference will offer a good chance for producers to meet packers and retailers, Stark believes, and a good opportunity for all three to exchange ideas and understand each other's problems.

Adjustments Can Save Tractor Fuel

Saving money in tractor operation interests every farmer, say Michigan State College farm machinery specialists. High fuel consumption is often to blame for high operating costs.

Any of a number of things can be causing high fuel consumption: faulty spark timing, improper valve tappet setting, leaky valves, or a partially plugged radiator. The engineers suggest a check on the setting of the load needle valve of the carburetor. Even one quarter turn of this valve beyond that which is necessary can result in the use of at least two more gallons of fuel each day.

Be careful not to set the mixture too lean, however, for it will cause the engine to misfire and lose power.

NEW STANDARDS PLANNED FOR CREAM MARKETING

More rigid requirements for the production and handling of cream offered for sale to be used in butter manufacture will become effective in Michigan on January 1, 1951. Don Murray, extension dairyman at Michigan State College, reports that the proposal for an acidity test as a measure of quality was made at a recent meeting by representatives of the Michigan Creamery Owners association, bureau of dairying of the State Department of Agriculture, and the MSC dairy department.

In conjunction with the present standards in the Michigan state law for insurinary cream, a voluntary standard was to reject cream in excess of eight-tenths of one per cent (.8) acidity. It was considered that excessively sour cream indicates decomposition and would not make edible butter.

Murray advises that for producers to meet this acidity standard, it will be necessary to cool cream immediately after separation and to store at a temperature below 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Cream should be delivered at least twice weekly and clean equipment and utensils used in handling and production. The standard which was proposed incorporated recommendations from five district meetings of creamery operators held prior to the Lansing meeting.

Consult Classified Columns

STATE FARM INSURANCE

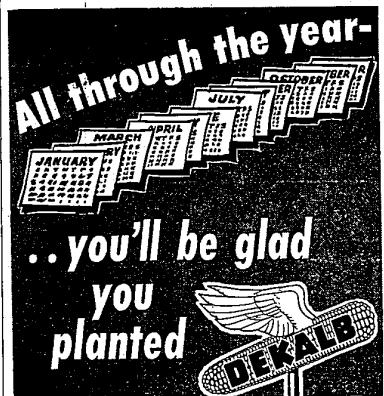


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