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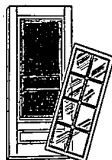
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FARM NEWS

GIVE POINTERS TO INCREASE POULTRY PROFITS

Pointers for making more money with your poultry flock in 1952 were listed by Michigan State College poultry specialists.

They predicted that prices in the winter and spring of 1952 would be higher than this year, and urged use of an all-pullet flock. Pullets lay more eggs than old hens and a good pullet flock coming into production this fall will give you the advantage of usual good fall egg prices.

Dry quarters will mean more eggs and will prevent waste of feed, so good insulation and ventilation are important. A balanced ration will save feed. Prompt removal of birds that are not producing will save feed and increase profits. Control lice, mites and rats to improve the health of your birds.

The poultry specialists suggested four methods of saving space and labor. They are using deep or built-up litter, installing running water in the poultry house, using community nests and dropping pits.

Using lights to provide a 13 to 14-hour working day for the hens is a cheap way to increase production. Keep nests clean, provide plenty of nests and gather eggs three times a day to avoid broken and dirty eggs and, thus, market a better product.

CREDIT COSTS 'EXTRA', SAYS MSC HOME EXPERT

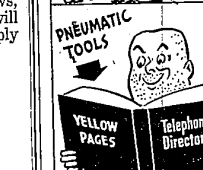
Have you ever stopped to think that credit is something you might shop around for? Credit is an "extra" you pay for as surely as you pay for the article you buy on credit, points out Dr. Irma H. Gross, head of the home management and child development department at Michigan State College.

Even stores that advertise no extra charges for paying on the installment plan may simply spread the cost of the credit over all their sales instead of charging separately for credit. It may be that their general level of prices is higher for identical goods found in other stores. It would pay to find out, Dr. Gross warns.

In shopping around for credit, find out the percentage charged on the unpaid balance you owe, she advises. Knowing the per cent charged and knowing that it is charged on the unpaid balance is a better basis of comparison than the dollar cost of the article because it will tell you how much you actually owe and how long you will owe it. In installment buying and the repaying of many cash loans, the unpaid balance gets less each month. Naturally, as the unpaid balance decreases, so should the interest you pay. But know the rate of interest — it might be as low as six per cent, or as high as 50 per cent.

Often purchasers do not know the rate of interest they are paying, but if customers would begin to ask for that information, Dr. Gross believes installment sellers would eventually make it a practice to tell it at the time of the sale, just as they do the dollar cost.

Low analysis fertilizers cost less per ton, but more per pound of plant food.



Dairy Farmers Can Cut Grain Needs Through Roughage And Pasture Use

Liberal feeding of high quality roughage and use of good pastures for the longest possible period of time make an economically sound feeding program for Michigan dairymen to follow, especially in 1952 with high feed grain costs.

Since dairy animals are efficient users of roughage feeds, it is possible to conserve feed grain supplies and reduce the feed cost of milk production with lots of roughage and a minimum amount of grain. Following are some suggestions offered by Michigan State College dairymen to meet the special need for feed grain conservation and labor efficiency in feeding and management of the dairy herd.

Feed legume-grass mixtures such as alfalfa-brome hay or silage, and corn silage on farms where corn is well-adapted. They should be the basis of the feeding program during the barn feeding period. Feed liberally. For instance, if you're feeding hay or hay crop silage to Holsteins, grain is not required unless the cow is producing 20 pounds of milk or more. If 50 pounds of corn silage is included in the ration, grain feeding is not required until a cow's production reaches 30 pounds of milk. Feed according to milk production. The MSC dairy specialists advise, cows producing 250 to 350 pounds of butterfat per year with high quality roughage may be fed farm-grown grains at the rate of one pound of grain for each four or five pounds of milk, or at a rate of one to six if corn silage is fed. Cows that are producing at

Can Boost Meat Output Through Good Pasture

Livestock production in Michigan can be raised by using good pastures and forage crops, without materially increasing grain requirements.

Yearling heifers and two year old steers at Michigan State College have been fed to "commercial" and "good" market finish on pasture alone. Yearling steers can be pastured to give more pounds of beef per pound of grain. However, yearling steers must be finished on grain to reach their best market grade.

Good pasture saves 10 to 15 per cent of the grain and half the protein supplement in swine rations. Good roughage can furnish the main part of the feed for wintering calves or yearling feeder cattle. Beef cows and breeding ewes can be wintered on good quality hay alone, or hay and grain or corn silage. And good quality hay and grass silage reduces the protein supplement needs for all classes of hay-consuming livestock. Winter rations for brood sows and gilts being self fed should contain one-third ground legume hay as an inexpensive source of protein.

It pays to keep your young pigs worm-free by good management and careful sanitation rather than to rely on drugs after the pigs become infested, say Michigan State College animal husbandry specialists.

Fourteen million dwelling units in the U. S. are heated with coal.

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higher levels than this can be given efficiently. These high producers should receive a grain ration of higher protein content and be fed at a higher grain rate based on milk production. Good pasture for your dairy cows includes alfalfa-brome or alfalfa-corn or other legume mixtures with more than half legume. Reed canary grass on low, poorly drained soil furnishes good quality, long-season pasture when kept closely grazed.

June grass is poor pasture except for a short period in early summer, and if possible should be broken up and reseeded to more productive grasses and legumes. Bahio rye provides early spring and late fall pasture if soil and drainage conditions permit livestock on the fields. Sudan grass is a good emergency pasture for late summer. But both rye and sudan grass are high cost pastures compared with stands of long-lived legumes and grasses because of the cost of seeding them every year.

Trace mineral salt and steamed bone meal will provide cheap mineral insurance for your herd from the standpoint of health and top milk production from the feed used.

Low producers are poor markets for feed crops and labor. Dairy herd improvement records show that cows producing 200 pounds of butterfat have a feed cost of 82 cents per pound of butterfat, compared with only 37 cents for 350-pound cows. Use good breeding, and keep production records to use as a basis for culling and selecting herd replacements, the dairymen advise.

The outlook for dairy farmers is good. Dairy prices likely will improve relative to prices of other livestock so you can plan on good profits in the next five years if you have an efficient dairy farm.

Tincture Of Iodine Best Farm Disinfectant

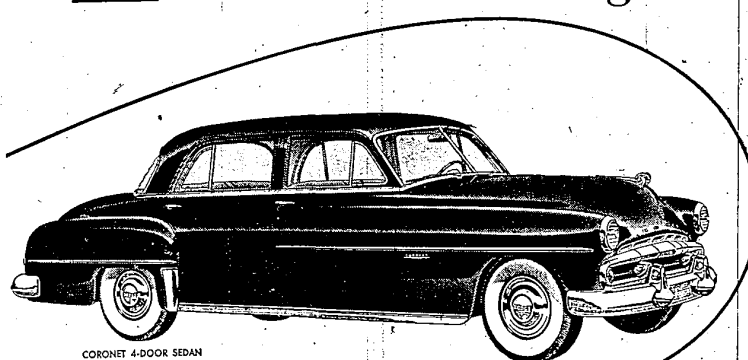
After tests of many disinfectants for sheep and lambs, Graydon Blank, Michigan State College animal husbandman, says that tincture of iodine solution has no equal. He says it's the best to use when docking, castrating and disinfecting the lamb's navel at birth.

The recommended strength is found by diluting regular tincture of iodine with an equal part by measure of rubbing alcohol.

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