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FARM NEWS

OFFER PRIZES, SCHOLARSHIPS IN 4-H PROGRAM

Three national 4-H awards programs relating to conservation, beautification and insect control in rural areas, have been approved by the State Club office for membership participation in 1953. The programs are conducted under the direction of the Cooperative Extension Service, and awards donors are 4-H Soil and Water Conservation, Firestone; Beautification of Home Grounds, Mrs. Charles H. Walgreen; and Entomology, Hercules Powder Company.

Incentives for outstanding records of achievement comprise medals of honor for county winners and 17 travel watches to the state winners in all three programs.

In Entomology and Soil-and-Water Conservation, sectional winners are given all-expense trips to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November, and national winners receive \$300 college scholarships. In Beautification of Home Grounds program, there are no sectional awards, but national winners receive trips to the 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

Additional awards in Soil-and-Water Conservation are a DeLesse Bond to the state winner in the Junior Division.

John Clappison Sell Insurance

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THANKS THANKS THANKS

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Name New State Corn Champion



(Special)—Good farming and good seed corn worked together for Arthur Stodowa of Gladwin to produce a 146.56 bushel yield of selected 5-Acre DeKalb Corn Growing Contest. Stodowa's outstanding yield topped the yields of 163 other Michigan farmers in the 1952 Contest. Their average yield was 104.42 bushels. His Selected 5-Acre contest field of clay loam soil was plowed, received the usual reduced fertilization, and had 6-22-52 fertilizer applied before it was planted on May 5th.

Correct Timing Of Fertilizers Makes Bigger Payoff For Farmers

Farmers can make fertilizer pay by using it on wheat and alfalfa, with sugar beets at planting, and a little later on beans, corn and potatoes.

Sugar beets respond better to liberal planting-time fertilizing than most crops, reminds Paul J. Reed, extension soil scientist at Michigan State College. It will pay to top-dress alfalfa liberally immediately and to use 20 pounds of nitrogen per acre on wheat now. Reed advises soil tests for the best plant food analysis. Alfalfa

COUNTY AGENTS MAKE USE OF LUNGS IN WORK

Farmers know that their county agricultural agents are busy men. But a study made by a Michigan State College extension specialist proves this point and gives a few tips for agents to do their work more efficiently, too.

John T. Stone, MSC specialist in extension training, asked 195 county agents around Michigan what they did with their time.

He found that county agents spend most of their time talking person-to-person, to groups and individuals. And most of the time they spend talking is with individual farmers.

The figures show that 32 per cent of the county agent's time is spent talking to people who call on the telephone or at his office. He works with groups of people at meetings, or gives demonstrations, 31 per cent of the time.

Stone also found the county agent is expected to be an agricultural jack-of-all-trades. More than 44 per cent of the questions thrown his way are about agricultural production and about 23 per cent pertain to farm management problems. But at least 10 per cent of the folks who corner the agent press him for information about national and international matters, and more than 12 per cent want marketing and distribution information.

County Agent's Office Gives Fertilizing Hints

It is getting time to start applying fertilizers to fruit trees. There is supposed to be ten per cent more fertilizer this year than last year, but you may have difficulty in getting a hold of it, mainly because the demand is so high.

In fertilizing trees, go by the vigor of the tree. One which is growing quite vigorously and has fairly dark-colored leaves last year, would need less than one that is growing less vigorously and perhaps had lighter green leaves.

Trees from 5 to 10 years old need 2 to 4 pounds per bush of ammonium sulfate or 2 1/2 to 3 pounds of ammonium nitrate. For trees 15 to 20 years old, apply 5 to 6 pounds of ammonium nitrate per tree and as high as 8 pounds of ammonium sulfate.

For peach trees 5 to 10 years old and in good vigor, apply about 1 pound of ammonium sulfate.

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YOUNG JUDGES TO PARTICIPATE IN LAND CONTEST

The top teams of youthful land judges from all parts of Michigan will gather at Topeka on April 16 for the first State Invitational Land Judging contest. The winning team will represent Michigan at the national contest April 30 and May 1 at Oklahoma City.

One 4-H team from each county and other agriculture students from each high school may enter the contest, sponsored by Ionia County Soil Conservation District. Teams will have four members but only the scores of the top three will be counted and three-member teams will compete nationally.

Conservation Department Warns About Fire Laws

Invariably in the spring season, brush burners run into trouble because they are unmindful of the law.

The conservation department advises all would-be brush burners to take heed: It is unlawful to set open fires in Michigan, except for domestic purposes, whenever the ground is not covered with snow, except under burning permits.

Burning permits may be obtained simply enough from local fire officers, district officers, conservation officers or from local fire chiefs. Procedures for safe burning are printed on the permits.

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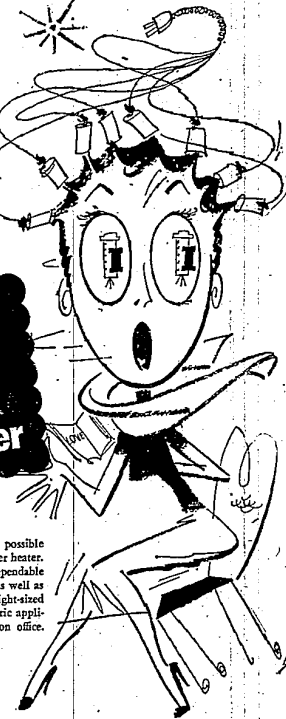
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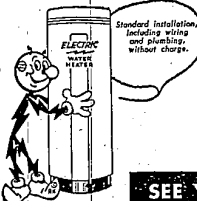
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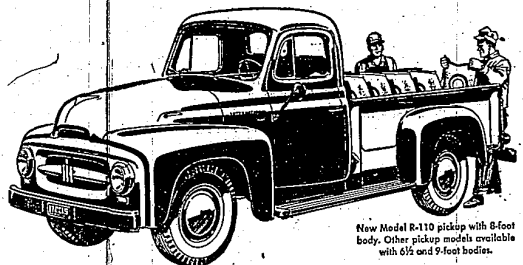


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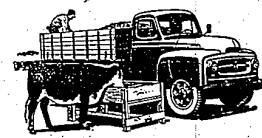


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