

## 1953 Spraying Calendar Now Available At MSC

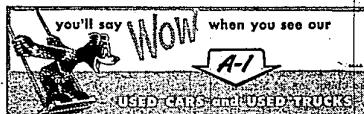
The 1953 Spraying Calendar, listing diseases of fruit trees, sprays, time for spraying and other information of value to fruit growers, is now available at Michigan State College and county cooperative extension offices.

In the calendar, published every year by MSC, new methods of "concentrated" spraying, spraying materials and their use and diseases which infect Michigan

fruits. Spraying schedules are included.

Small fruit spraying facts in the 1953 calendar include: blueberries, gooseberries, blackberries, dewberries, raspberries and strawberries. Spray schedules for apples, pears, peaches, plums, sour and sweet cherries and grapes are included.

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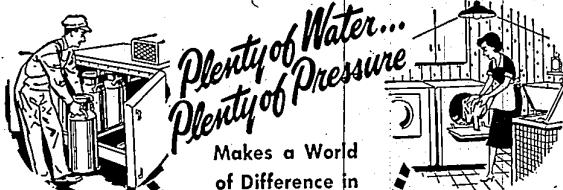


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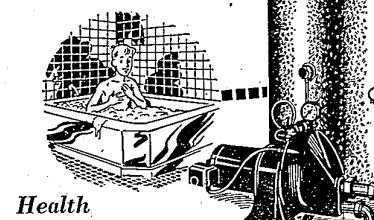


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# FARM NEWS

## Set Fruit Plants Early In Spring

Spring is the time to get new fruit plantings into the ground and here are some tips from a Michigan State College horticulturist on how to do it.

Clarence A. Langer, fruit specialist at MSC, says all fruit plants should be put in the ground as early as possible in the spring. This gives them a chance to get a head start for the fall harvest. Small fruit, like raspberries, strawberries and grapes, should be planted in ground that has been under cultivation at least a year. Row crops, corn or potatoes, are preferred to precede small fruits.

It is not necessary to plant large fruit trees in land that has been cultivated. Some have been planted directly into a soil with satisfactory results, Langer notes. Organic matter, either green manure or rotted barnyard manure, is important. Peat moss is also good but is expensive for large operations.

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## Thicker Planting Of Corn Crops Gives Best Yield, Says Researcher

Corn yields on many Michigan farms can be boosted considerably by thicker planting, says E. C. Rossman, Michigan State College farm crops researcher.

Five years of testing at several locations have shown that when 15,000 corn plants acre give the best yield on average-to-good corn soils. You can estimate 16,000 corn plants acre this way, says Rossman: When corn is planted in 40-inch rows, it takes one plant every ten inches. In 36-inch rows, a plant every 11 inches will average about 16,000 plants per acre.

Here is the way the corn yields compared with different plant pop-

## Steep Slopes Need Protective Grass

Land with 5 to 8 per cent slope should be in grass at least for one half of the rotation, and very steep slopes should be in grass continuously, says Russell G. Hill, extension soil conservationist at Michigan State College.

Such areas, he says, may actually produce more long-term income in high-quality legumes, than from any other crop.

Research studies show repeatedly that during the spring and early fall one-third of all rainfall may run off cultivated sloping land while the water loss from good pasture is hardly measurable.

During most growing periods, water itself limits high yields; on uplands it's money in the bank that will runoff on the slopes.

A good pasture will act as an umbrella over land, protecting it from the "explosive" action of raindrop impact. Large masses allow more water to penetrate the soil.

A raindrop "exploding" on bare soil breaks down clods into individual soil particles. This seizes the surface, cuts down on air and water penetration and aids running water in carrying away topsoil. Rain water running unhampered down even gentle slopes carries away soil particles and organic matter.

Hill cites this example: One experimenter cultivated land showed that when the depth of top soil eroded from six to three inches, oats were cut from \$2 to 35 bushels and corn yields were reduced more than 20 bushels per acre.

Pasture, says Hill, is not enough.

High-quality legumes and grass mixtures, dense in growth and not over-pastured, will give land its best protection and increase its productivity.

Spring Cleanup Pays Dividends For Cattlemen

Checking pens for protruding nails will pay dividends for cattle men, says a Michigan cleanup. Eliminating the hazards, says Michigan State College veterinarian, will help prevent losses from tetanus or lockjaw.

Small wounds from the nails permit tetanus germs to gain a foothold. Not eliminating the hazard may be expensive, say the MSC specialists.

Nearly 20,000 workers in 26 counties in Ohio produce about 35 million tons of bituminous coal yearly.

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