

FARM CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

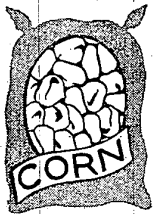
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American Dairy Association
of Michigan

May 21, Michigan Angus Breeders' Evening Sale, Livestock Pavilion, Michigan State College.
May 21 and 22, Michigan Milk Producers Association 4-H Dairy Tour.
May 22, Michigan Polled Hereford Breeders Sale, Fairgrounds, Saginaw.
May 23, National 4-H Club Sunday.
May 24 - 28, Michigan Home Demonstration Staff Conference at Michigan State College.

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Farmers' Home
Agency Moves
To Ann Arbor

The Farmers Home Administration has moved its office, which serves Washtenaw, Wayne, and Oakland Counties, from Pontiac to 291 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, in order to better serve farmers in the area.

Philip J. O'Malley, county supervisor for the Farmers Home Administration, states that the organization makes loans to under-financed farmers for stock and tools, feed, seed, lime, fertilizer, and to pay other farm operating costs. These loans may run for seven years at five per cent interest.

The FHA also makes loans to buy, enlarge, or improve family-type farms. These loans utilize private capital and are 100 per cent insured by the government. They run for 40 years at three per cent interest to the lender and a one per cent charge for mortgage insurance to the government.

In addition the FHA makes loans to build or improve farm houses and other farm buildings. On all of its loans the FHA actively lends a hand to help the farmer help himself to earn a better living. The supervisor sits aside a large portion of his time to make personal visits to the borrowers, to advise and assist them in making better adjustments in their farming operations and in adopting improved farm and home practices.

The FHA tries to channel farmers into producing what their farms are best suited for and it passes along the latest information from state and federal experiment stations and agricultural researchers.

The procedure in obtaining an FHA loan is somewhat complicated due to the organization's habit of caution. Any U. S. citizen with satisfactory farm training who owns a major portion of his income through farming and who cannot obtain needed credit from any other established source at reasonable terms is eligible for FHA help.

After an application, with references, is made, a "farm and home" plan is developed with the supervisor. The plan is a management blueprint for the applicant, made after anticipated income and expenses are reviewed. Most FHA farm and home plans stress diversification in farming.

The applicant meets with the county committee either in the FHA office, or on the prospective borrower's leased or owned farm.

After the financial aid is approved and given, the FHA begins its program of technical aid and advice. Sometimes, comments O'Malley, the technical help is just as badly needed as the financial assistance. Usually, though, he adds, it is merely a case of a good farmer needing a little monetary boost in order to make improvements.

Dr. Thomas Cowden Named Dean
Of M.S.C. School Of Agriculture

Dr. Thomas K. Cowden, for five years head of the department of agricultural economics, will become dean of the School of Agriculture at Michigan State College on July 1.

Named last Friday by the State Board of Agriculture, governing body of the college, he will succeed Dr. Clifford M. Hardin. Dr. Hardin will become chancellor (president) of the University of Nebraska.

Widely known as an economist and leader in agricultural education and research, Dr. Cowden has served in the agricultural economics departments at Pennsylvania State University and Purdue University and directed research for six years for the American



Thomas K. Cowden

Farm Bureau Federation. Dean Hardin's rise to the directorship of one of the nation's

GOOD PASTURES
HOLD KEY TO PROFIT
FOR CATTLEMEN

Good pasture holds the profit key for Michigan cattlemen. If animal needs, pasture output, and market planning are in balance, points out William J. VanArsdel, Michigan State College livestock specialist.

Gains made on pasture cut production costs, he notes, but it takes management to turn all available pasture into beef.

Good pasture on two acres - three tons of hay in all - will take care of a cow and calf for this season and calf will need four acres. Two acres of the same good pasture will carry a yearling steer, without grain, through the season.

Grain feeding cuts down the pasture needs, of course, but it costs money, explains VanArsdel. If grass is green and succulent, no protein supplement is necessary.

Blue grass usually produces enough forage in the spring and fall, the MSC animal husbandman advises, but not during the hot months. Alfalfa-brome pasture can supply the tonnage from May to September.

Pasture experiments have shown that yearling steers can gain from a pound to 1.5 pounds per day on either bluegrass or alfalfa-brome in season, VanArsdel reports.

Some farmers clip pastures daily and feed the clippings to steers in a dry-lot for greater gains, but this means more labor. He sees a need for more study of this method before recommending it generally.

leading land-grant colleges came only 21 years after he left his home in Knightstown, Indiana, to enter Purdue University on a 4-H Club scholarship. Only a year ago, he became MSC's agricultural dean, after serving as director of Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Cowden, the MSC dean-elect, has traveled extensively in the United States on agricultural work and has made two European surveys. Born in 1908 in Hickory, Pennsylvania, he received bachelor of science and master of science degrees from Ohio State University and his Ph.D. in 1937 at Cornell University. He is president of the American Farm Economics association.

He lives in East Lansing with his wife and a son and daughter.

NEW PRODUCT
OFFERS BETTER
FLY PROTECTION

Ray L. James, Michigan State College entomologist, reports that new fly control mixtures can be used now that may be more successful than some that have been used over the past three or four seasons. Malathion seems to be the safest and gives the best results of new products tried. It can be applied as a spray on walls and ceilings at the rate of 32 pounds of 25% wettable powder in 100 gallons of water, or two gallons of the 50% malathion emulsion per 100 gallons of water.

Breaking this down for a small three gallon sprayer, it would be one pound of 25% wettable powder or 1/2 pint of the 50% emulsion. As bait it can be used as follows: One cup of 50% malathion emulsion, one cup of any type of molasses and three gallons of water. Sprinkle onto clean cement floors, preferably the walks behind the gutter. A three gallon mixture should treat a 20 to 25 cow size barn. This should be applied about every seven days.

Malathion should not be sprayed directly onto cattle, used on milk houses, in the home, or sprayed on feed, it is cautioned.

Farmers who neglect machinery maintenance on the farm are paying hard-earned dollars for increased equipment expense.

It's possible to save up to \$5 per acre in tillage cost by using once-over cultivation without reducing yields; on spring planted crops, say MSC specialists.

In this price - cost squeeze, don't slip on the little things they may be costly. Be sure to inoculate legume seed, treat small grains for rust and smut. It pays.

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The
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By ED ALCHIN
County Agricultural Agent

Several farmers have been conducting this extension office during the past few weeks relative to articles appearing in many national magazines on heavy fertilization on corn. There seems to be a great deal of interest in this particular item this year. A great deal of experimental work that has been done has taken place on all high humus content soil in the corn belt. We do not have the growing season nor the kind of soil to guarantee comparable results on many Michigan farms.

Actually the most important part of fertilization on corn, using heavy applications, goes back to the soil management practices on the farm. There is no substitute for soil management by the use of heavy fertilization practices. It is far better to apply fertilizer on the grain and high crops in rotation and then use 200 to 300 pounds of starter fertilizer on corn at the time of planting, and if necessary side dress with nitrogen after the corn is up.

In heavy fertilizer application the best results have generally been found when part of the fertilizer is applied either side and at the same depth of the kernel with additional amounts beneath the seed about four inches. As yet proper equipment for making this application is not available and most farmers will not be able to make this proper application. Plowing down the fertilizer has not proved satisfactory.

Above all, the kind of soil you may have may determine whether or not heavy fertilizer application will be of benefit on clay loam high in organic matter, rich dark soil. Much of our Oakland County soil on which corn is grown does not fit this description and on the lighter, sandy, more droughty soil type only spot results have been favorable to exceptionally heavy fertilizer applications. So let's watch the development of the 600 and 800 pound application of fertilizer on corn. Wait until we have the proper equipment and make sure our soil will warrant the investment.

Levin Nelson, crops specialist at MSC, says that more than one variety of corn gives best results in the total yield of crops due to better pollination and different variety characteristics which may prove to be beneficial depending on the season. This sort of advice that is pointed out means use more than one variety and you will not be putting all your eggs in one basket. It sure sounds like something farmers ought to consider this year.

Cold Winter Helpful To Sweet Corn Growers

Michigan's sweet corn growers won't have as many worries this year as last. One less worry will be bacterial wilt.

E. A. Andrews, Michigan State College extension plant pathologist, says that last winter was cold enough to assure a wilt-free season for sweet corn.

When the disease hit hard in 1950 and 1951, it followed either warm winters. That permitted the insects which harbor the wilt bacteria to overwinter north of their usual range.

Later in the season, he indicates, there may be some bacterial leaf blight on field corn. That's one of the stages of wilt, but field corn seldom is injured appreciably by bacterial wilt.

Don't buy green pineapples thinking they'll ripen into a sweet fruit. Pineapples do not increase in sweetness after they are harvested.

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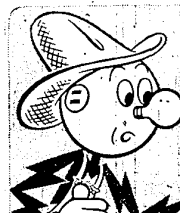
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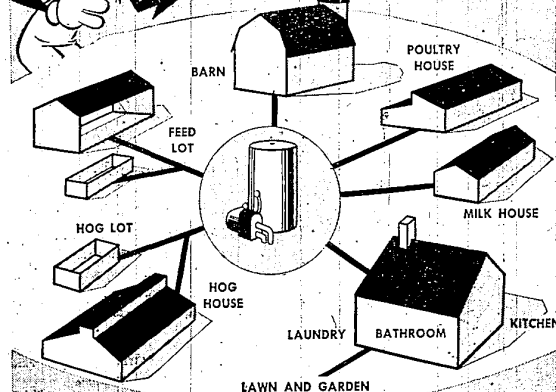
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