

See Doctor Shortage in Rural Areas

Two hundred rural Michigan communities have only one physician for 2,124 persons — though on the average, Michigan has one doctor for each 319 persons. Farmers' Week visitors at Michigan State College heard these facts pointed out in a discussion of state health facilities.

J. F. Thaden, M.S.C. sociologist, in discussing "Where Do Michigan Doctors Practice?", reported that

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from 1910 to 1950, there was a 69 per cent increase in physicians in Michigan compared to a 126 per cent increase in population.

Thaden said it is generally assumed that one physician practicing for each 1,499 or less persons is a desirable ratio. If so, one fourth of the communities are adequately supplied with physicians.

In general, he said, the shortage of physicians occurs less often in the 76 small rural communities with less than 3,000 persons than in communities with 3,000 to 10,000 persons.

The sociologist reported that Michigan's two medical schools, the University of Michigan and Wayne, graduated a combined total of 1,900 doctors from 1940 to 1949. In that period the Michigan State Board of Registration in Medicine approved a total of 3,315 applicants to practice medicine in Michigan.

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FARM FEATURES

HOMEMAKERS BIG FACTORS IN BATTLE AGAINST INFLATION

Does the homemaker have an important part to play in the battle of raising prices? Indeed she does, says Dr. Calla Van Syckle, of the Michigan State College school of home economics.

Forty million homemakers, representing as many households, determine a large part of the waste that goes on in this country or the saving of both durable goods, food, clothing, fuel, and other supplies, she advises. Through their buying practices, they can stimulate or prevent scarce buying. They can create artificial shortages through hoarding, or by not hoarding they can contribute to the fair distribution of goods.

First, she says, do not be a "scare" buyer. Rumors are rife about shortages of this and that and unless you watch yourself you may find that you are rushing to "get yours" without any need.

Second, no hoarding! That means don't stock up with more of an item than is usual because of fear of shortage. You will need to be on guard to resist sales appeals in merchandising just because it is claimed that "prices may rise" or "this is going to be hard to get."

Remember, things have to be stored and cared for and some items go out of style, spoil, or become less satisfactory if held too long.

Third, check yourself and your household on waste.

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Time Is Here To Decide What Forage Crop To Plant This Year

The problem of what forage crop to plant — red clover or alfalfa — is confronting many farmers. They must make their plans for spring seeding, says C. M. Harrison of the Michigan State College farm crops department.

Supply enters into the situation, he reports. Red clover seed is abundant in supply and relatively low in price. However, adapted alfalfa seed for northern growers is in shorter supply and relatively expensive.

Harrison points out that alfalfa is still the most productive legume in terms of tonnage of high quality roughage for hay and pasture. A seeding, once established, generally lasts from two to three years, allowing costs of seed and seeding to be spread over a longer period than is true for red clover.

Of red clover, he advises that it is a short rotation forage legume — its productive life of high quality forage is only one year, the year after seeding. It is far less productive as pasture during dry summer periods.

When choosing which they may plant, farmers should consider that where short rotations are the rule and where the largest bulk of forage is cut once for hay and then plowed under for succeeding crops, red clover has much in its favor.

On farms where livestock is the number one enterprise, Harrison believes that a productive field of alfalfa is much more important than red clover.

He cautions farmers that the price one should not be the determining factor in choosing. How-

Sprays Kill Weeds In Asparagus Bed

Weeds are a problem to most vegetable growers — but the asparagus grower sometimes has more than his share. However, there appears to be hope. A weed-killing job will be an easier one next year, thanks to research at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. E. H. Grigsby, weed control researcher at Michigan State College, has evidence of a new treatment to control weeds in the asparagus beds.

As the asparagus cutting season draws to a close, the weeds are usually allowed to take over. This makes it difficult for the plants to fatten the roots enough for good production the following year.

Dr. Grigsby reports that a cyanamid spray appears to be an effective relief — a killer of both broad-leaf weeds and grasses while doing the asparagus no harm.

A dusting grade of this chemical used in water is an effective spray. A wetting agent is used along with — 75 pounds of cyanamid one pound wetting agent, and 150 gallons of water. This amount covers an acre. Put on in the forenoon of a bright, warm day, "with-in 48 hours all weeds and annual grasses are dead."

According to Grigsby, the numerous asparagus spears, the start of vegetative top growth, were not injured at all though many were blighted with the spray deposit.

Cyanamid has been used to some extent as a dust for killing weeds but was often unsatisfactory because of difficulty of getting it on when dew was on the plant to hold it.

A weed is a thing out of place, but in its proper place it can be a thing of value.

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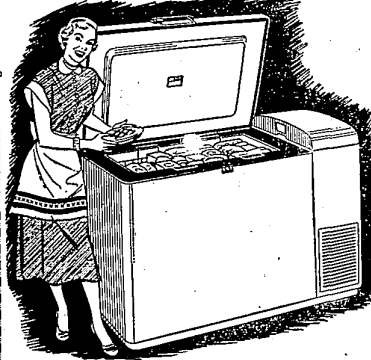
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Tile Proves Value On Heavy Clay Soils

Tiling is one of the most expensive, most permanent, and best paying investments that can be made on a farm with heavy, clay soils, says Willard A. Cutler, Michigan State College agricultural engineer.

Tile, however, must be properly maintained and can be justified only on first class land, he adds.

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It can increase the production per acre and make it possible to produce more at less expense because it saves seed, fertilizer, time and power.

He warns against tiling without adequate survey and design. Quality tile is also important. Many tile systems last through two generations if properly installed and maintained.

Other advantages of good tiling which he lists include:

1. Saving time in the spring by being able to get crops in earlier because of good drainage.
2. Aeration of the soil.
3. Less evaporation.
4. Aid to action of soil organisms.
5. Increasing root zones for plants.

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Holstein Cow, 6 yrs. old, milking; Holstein Cow, 5 yrs. old, fresh Dec. 2; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Nov. 23; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Dec. 15; Holstein Cow, 7 yrs. old, Dec. Mar. 10; Holstein Cow, 8 yrs. old, Aug. 10; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Nov. 3; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Oct. 22; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Jan. 15, calf by side; Holstein Cow, 8 yrs. old, fresh Nov. 5; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due Mar. 10; Guernsey Cow, 6 yrs. old, due Feb. 5; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due Mar. 17; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due Mar. 18; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due Mar. 18; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due April 14; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due April 14; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Jan. 23, calf by side; Guernsey Cow, 2 yrs. old, due May 10; Guernsey Cow, 8 yrs. old, fresh Jan. 9, calf by side; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, due Feb. 28; Holstein Cow, 2 yrs. old, fresh Jan. 21, calf by side; Holstein Heifer, one year old.

— TOOLS —

1915 Farmall Tractor on Rubber (11); 1940 John Deere Grain Drill on rubber; 1915 Case Corn Planter (rubber type); 1910 John Deere Tractor Mower (2 ft. cut); 1910 Champion Potato Digger; 1918 McCormick Deering Farm Binder; Double Bottom 12 Inch Plow; 1915 Tractor Cultivator; Side Delivery Hauler; Platform Scale; Farmine Mill; 1914 Case Food Grinder; 2 Ft. Double Disc; Three Section Spring Tooth; Push Type Hay Loader; 5 Ft. Cultivator; Traction Planter; McCormick Bearing Grain Binder; Two Home Cultivator; Seed Wagon; New Idea Tractor Spreader on Rubber; Steel Roller; Dump Hauler.

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1 6-oz. can broiled mushrooms 4 cups cooked rice
1 pintino 2 cups medium white sauce
1/2 cup blanched almonds 3/4 cup buttered crumbs
1 can condensed chicken soup
3 cups cubed cooked chicken

Chop pimiento and almonds; slice mushrooms into add to rice, soup, chicken; mix well. Pour into greased casserole. Add white sauce. Top with crumbs. Bake in moderate oven (350°) 30 minutes. Yield: 6 servings.

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