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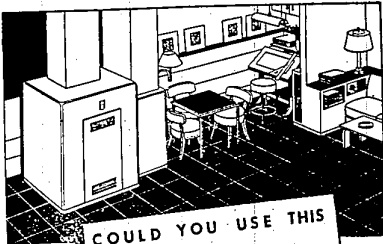
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Farm Insurance Usually Too Low

A serious fire can pull the curtains on your farming operations fast — particularly if you're a young farmer who had borrowed heavily to get started.

Warren Vincent, Michigan State College agricultural economist, has found "under-insured" buildings a common condition in Michigan. He warns that unless insurance policies are adjusted in line with rising replacement costs, the farmer stands to lose as his actual protection becomes less and less. Reliable appraisal firms have estimated that farm property values have increased 20 per cent during the last three years.

Fire insurance is only one type of protection needed by the farmer who wants to make the best use of his operating capital. The increased investments in real estate, livestock, and machinery required in modern farming makes fire, lightning and wind insurance practically essential on all farms.

Many other types of insurance deal with both personal and business risks. They vary from damages caused by falling airplanes to the damages or injuries resulting from actions of a neighbor's mischievous child.

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FARM NEWS



DOUBLING UP—Russell, at left, and Ralph Logan, six-year-old twins of Houston, Tex., found their double persuasion ineffective against the double stubbornness of these twin donkeys. The boys couldn't be too surprised at their failure, for they were up against a special pair. The owner of the animals stated they are the only twin donkeys in Texas and probably the nation.

LAMB DISEASE DUE TO LACK OF VITAMIN E

Stiff-lamb disease, a condition commonly occurring in April and May, can be cured in the majority of cases if recognized and treated early, says L. H. Blakeslee of the Michigan State College animal husbandry department.

The disease is sometimes called white muscle disease — a muscular condition causing stiffness and lameness of suckling lambs. It is now known to be due to a deficiency of Vitamin E in the diet of the ewe and therefore in the diet of the suckling lamb.

Most feeds contain some vitamin E, but wheat and some of its by-products — particularly wheat germ meal, wheat germ oil and wheat red dog are better sources of this vitamin.

Blakeslee says the problem is getting the high vitamin E feeds into the ewe or lamb before the deficiency occurs. Feeding wheat or part or all of the grain ration to the ewe is the most practical solution. Wheat can also be included as one-third to one-half of the creep ration for lambs when two to three weeks of age.

Wheat germ meal, which also contains 25 per cent protein, can be used as 10 per cent or more of the ewe ration and for the lamb creep ration.

If stiff-lamb disease occurs, the lamb must be confined with the ewe to insure proper intake of milk. Then a feeding grade of fresh wheat germ oil can be fed with a teaspoon once or twice daily according to the extent of symptoms. Alpha-tocopherol, the synthetic form of vitamin E, is another cure but it should be injected by a veterinarian.

Prevention by the use of wheat or a variety of grains and clover should be practiced if stiff lambs have occurred in previous years.

Crop varieties recommended for use in Michigan by farm crop specialists at Michigan State College are those which have proved themselves over a period of several years. Your county agricultural agent can tell you which ones are good in your locality.

Alfalfa Benefits From Fertilizer

Alfalfa stands will produce more forage for more years through fertilization, says James A. Porter, Michigan State College soil scientist.

If the stand is good, 200 pounds of fertilizer each year or 400 pounds alternate years will usually keep production high and profitable.

On heavy soils, Porter suggests use of 0-20-10 fertilizer; on medium soils 0-20-20 and on sandy soils 0-10-20 or 0-9-27. This fertilizer can be applied in June after the hay harvest.

Loading livestock carefully means fewer bruises, say Michigan State College agricultural authorities. A good loading chute will help.

Saturday Nights

CECIL BROWN and the NEWS

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C K L W — 7:55 p.m.

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MAURICE J. BROWN

Simple Hog House Plans Available

Portable shelters for hogs offer farmers many advantages, according to James Boyd, agricultural engineer at Michigan State College.

Farmers know, he points out, that it is recommended by some hog men to arrange pastures so they can be used every other year or every third year. This can be done with a permanent house, but many advantages are found with smaller temporary units.

The portable houses are less expensive to construct and farmers can get in and out of the hog business without having an expensive building to stand idle. It is also easier to vary the number of hogs kept. Portable houses are easy to build, too.

The "A" type house is preferred by many farmers but is hard to clean, the agricultural engineer reports. It is often difficult to keep the slides fastened to the floor.

Plans for hog houses that employ the latest in building design are available from Michigan State College. For details, see your county agricultural agent or write to the Agricultural Engineering Department, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

CREWS START SPRING HOUSECLEANING ON FISHING SITES

Slackened fishing pace especially on southern inland lakes giving conservation department field men the chance to begin "spring housecleaning" on many of the state's 480 public fishing sites.

Closed season now prevails on practically all inland lakes below highway M-16.

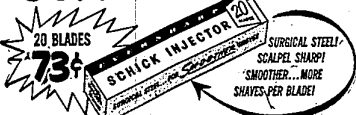
Before trout season opened April 25, crews finished clean-up work on over 100 sites which are on northern trout streams.

In addition to debris and brush clearing, entrance roads and parking areas are being graded. Direction and entrance signs, taken down update before hunting season, are being replaced.

The department notes that picnic tables or stores are not provided on any fishing site.

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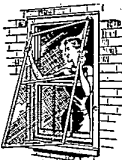
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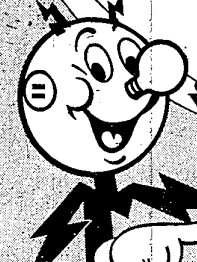
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