



Home gardeners like to cuss moths and butterflies in summer, but in fall many use them to predict what kind of a winter we'll have.

Can the banded woolly bear and other caterpillars be depended upon to tell what kind of a winter we're in for? Many think so, including my own wife who's been studying the woolly bear for years.

You'll be interested to know, first, that there are more than 20,000 kinds of butterflies, and four times that many moths, so there's really no shortage of weather prophets, if you want to take up the subject of predicting the weather ahead.

If you take a look at the woolly bear caterpillar, you'll see it has a shiny fur coat, coal black at the ends and a rich chestnut - brown in the center. The tips represent fall and spring, and the middle represents winter. According to those who know weather forecasting, if the rich brown color in the middle is long, it means a long, tough winter is in store. But if the band is

short, you're in for a mild winter.

Entomologists have tested this theory for years and no scientific results have been published that we know of. In some areas, the woolly bear caterpillar has a long brown segment, indicating you'd better buy some winter underwear and keep your snow shovel.

A wild, woolly winter is in the makings, if you read the caterpillars correctly.

Other signs include: heavy crops of fruit, nuts and berries; hives full of honey. As you stroll thru the woods note the crop of nuts on oaks, beeches and other plants. Old folks say these bumper crops mean a tough, cold winter is in the works.

How about your onion skins? Are they thick and tough? "Onion skin thick and tough, coming winter cold and rough." Some say that if your corn husks were thick and tough, a rugged winter is ahead.

**GREEN THUMB NOTE:** If you're a woolly bear watcher, please write and tell me how you predict winters. What other methods do you use for predicting mild or wild winters? I would like to hear from anyone who follows this fascinating subject. I'm preparing a leaflet on "How to Predict the Winters" and need your help in gathering information for it.

**GREEN THUMB CLINIC:** A reader writes: "I keep reading about new grasses which can be used to renovate the lawn. Please tell us if these are better than the old ones." Send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a copy of my bulletin, "How to Renovate the Lawn." It tells about using many new grasses.



**GIFT-MAKING IDEA** -- Ever think of using cotton swabs on the wall? Here's how: create a picture of a Victorian-styled house by gluing swabs against a bright-colored cotton fabric. Glue on cotton embroidery trim for shrubbery, and set the finished picture in a simple black frames.

# He Calls Them 'Honey Birds From Heaven'

(Marie Long, longtime columnist of local events in the Farmington Enterprise and Observer, has had a bee problem. She called on Hector McGregor to help her get rid of them. The following is a letter Mrs. Long received from McGregor.)

I hope I succeeded in getting the honey bees all out of your house. They were in a very difficult place right by the chimney, up and down inside, and up and down the wall.

It was with regret that I finally had to exterminate them. If it is at all possible I will try to save the honey bees because they are a great benefit to the neighboring community in their pollination work. It is really a sad thing to

be forced to eliminate them altogether.

I call them "honey birds from heaven."

Anyone with the problem of having any type of bees in their house or a place near human activity had better get an experienced person to get them out or send for the booklet "Removing Bees and Wasps from Home Area" by Dr. E.C. Martin, Department of Entomology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823; or, the District Agricultural Extension office in my area.

Do not try just anything that is recommended for ordinary insects. "Just anything" will really make more problems.

In most cases honey bees are gentle and do not wish to make enemies with us. They consider themselves friends and delight in making you some extra honey for any help you can give them.

**WHEN WE PLACE** empty frames (combs) for them they delight in going to work on them and getting them filled again when they have ample stores for their winter supplies already. This proves that these little creatures would not sting you unless you make them suspicious and make them believe you are going to steal their winter stores.

Our "honey birds" pay very little attention to us when we

take our honey and place new frames for them to keep busy.

When we get honey bees at a house we place a hive near their place in the house and try to make them see that it is better than where they are. This can be done by making it uncomfortable where they are. As the hive is right near, they will sometimes go right in and at the same time get all the honey out of the house.

It takes a pretty smart beekeeper to get them to do this. We try to get young beekeepers started by getting their bees that way and learn how to keep the "honey birds" calm so they want to live with us the way we want them to.

## Houseplant Course Given

Houseplants may need larger containers when roots appear on the soil surface and protrude out drainage holes.

Invert the plants, tap the containers on the edge of a bench and remove the plants with soil from the pots. If the soil is covered with a network of roots, transfer the plants.

According to a Pennsylvania State University correspondence course on houseplants, repotting can be done any season. A good time is when plants begin active growth in early spring.

BEGONIAS, ferns and other plants grown for their foliage need repotting every two or three years. Select containers with diameters one-third to one-half the plants' heights. A begonia 12 inches tall needs a pot four to six inches in diameter.

Provide drainage in the bottoms of the containers. A

pot six inches in diameter needs one inch of broken crockery or gravel. When repotting orchids and cacti, fill the pots one-third full of drainage material before putting in the soil.

These and many other practical tips on selecting and growing houseplants in the home are included in the course.

To secure a copy send your name and address to Houseplants, Box 5,000, University Park, Pa. 16802. Make checks in the amount of \$4.65 payable to The Pennsylvania State University. There are no other charges and a complete course copy comes to you by mail.

**PRE-INVENTORY SALE**  
ALUMINUM & WHITE CROSSBUCK COMBINATION STORM DOORS  
32" x 80" and 36" x 80"  
from \$17.95 (includes delivery)  
**ALLEN LUMBER CO.**  
1144 CEDAR LANE  
Bryn Mawr, Pa. 19005  
KE 2-0805  
MON. - FRI. 8:30 - 5:30  
SAT. 8:30 - 5:00  
SUN. 10 - 5:00

**ROCK SALT**  
and  
**ICE-MELTING CHEM-ICAL**  
WE DELIVER  
**349-0615**

**PLYMOUTH, MICH.**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**LEO CALWHO?**

**A.D. PLYWOOD CUTTINGS**  
1/2" x 14" x 120" ..... \$2.25  
5/8" x 16" x 48" ..... \$1.15  
**WHITE PINE FLOORING STRIPS**  
1x2 ..... 4' LIN. FT.  
1x3 ..... 5' LIN. FT.  
**PLYWOOD CUTTINGS EXTERIOR A.C.**  
3/4 x 9 1/4" x 108" ..... \$1.75 Ea.  
3/4 x 9 1/4" x 120" ..... \$1.95 Ea.  
3/4 x 14 x 38" ..... .85 Ea.  
**JOY LUMBER COMPANY**  
15505 Reedley Rd. N. Hialeah, Fla.  
STORM DOORS

**Handy Jim's FIX-UP TIPS**  
Room Comes to Life  
THIS interesting basement recreation room, once a summer and uninviting, has come to life with a simple transformation inspired by a family with imagination.  
The couple dressed up the bare concrete walls with pre-finished Masonite brand hardboard paneling having a printed woodgrain. This, as seen on the wall at left, added warmth to the recreation room.  
At right, the observer might think he was near a lake or ocean. But not so. This wall was covered with a realistic seascape mural which seems only a stone's throw distant.  
Like the table tennis outfit in the foreground, it's all in fun. And this basement has become a fun place in actuality as well as appearance.

**DO-IT-YOURSELF and \$AVE \$**  
**ALUMINUM SIDING, FACTORY SECONDS**  
**Year-End Clearance Sale**  
**FREE INSTRUCTION BOOK!**  
AVOCADO SIDING 14.95 5¢  
ASH GREEN SIDING 14.95 5¢  
BROWN SIDING 14.95 5¢  
CHARCOAL GREY SIDING 14.95 5¢  
CREAM SIDING 14.95 5¢  
DESERT BEIGE SIDING 14.95 5¢  
GOLD SIDING 14.95 5¢  
LIGHT GREY SIDING 14.95 5¢  
LIGHT GREEN SIDING 14.95 5¢  
LUMINOUS SIDING 14.95 5¢  
YELLOW SIDING 14.95 5¢  
GOLD OR GREEN VERTICAL SIDING 14.95 5¢  
TRAILER SIDING 8" x 150" 2.00 ea.  
SIDING LOUVERS 3.00 ea.  
SYNCO COAM INSULATION ALUMINUM NAILS 1" TO 2 1/2" 4.50 5¢  
WHITE ALUM. GUTTERS 18" Ft. \$29.95  
WHITE ALUM. CUPOLA WITH WEATHER VANE \$29.95  
3 Track Alum. Storm Windows 11.95 ea.  
8-7 Daily - 8-4 Sat. Closed Sundays  
**YEAR-END CLEARANCE**  
**FLAT ROCK**  
Aluminum Sales, Inc.  
14544 Telegraph Road, Flat Rock  
Just 1/2 mile South of Flat Rock  
TELEPHONE 782-9890

**GIFTS FOR THE HOME ARE LASTING!**

**SAVE AN EXTRA 5% NOW!!** WE'LL HELP YOU PLAN

**Act Now And Have Your New Kitchen For the Holidays - A Lasting Gift**

**HAAS CONNERS**

**INTERIOR MOVABLE W.P. SHUTTERS**

WIDTH	LENGTH
7"	16" 20" 24" 28" 32"
7"	1.09 1.59 2.09 2.39 2.69
8"	1.39 1.99 2.39 2.69 3.09
9"	1.69 2.19 2.59 2.99 3.39
10"	1.89 2.39 2.79 3.19 3.67
11"	2.09 2.59 2.99 3.49 3.79
12"	2.39 2.89 3.29 3.79 4.19

Also 36" Lengths In Stock

**SAVE 10% ON ALL GRID MATERIALS**

**Armstrong ECONOMY NO. 202-K WHITE TEMLOK TILE**  
**8 1/2" sq. ft.**

**Armstrong CHAPERONE TEMLOK CEILING TILE**  
**15 1/2" sq. ft.**

**Armstrong HIGHLAND VINYL-COATED CEILING TILE**  
**25 1/2" sq. ft.**

**Armstrong TEXTURED CUSHIONTONE CEILING TILE**  
**26 1/2" sq. ft.**

**SNAP LOCK GRID SYSTEM WORKS SO EASY THE KIDS CAN HELP**

**SAVE 10% ON ALL GRID MATERIALS**

**Armstrong CHAPERONE TEMLOK CEILING TILE**  
**15 1/2" sq. ft.**

**INDIANA WALNUT 4x8 -- Reg. 11.95**  
**8.95 NOW**

**MASONITE CRESTWALL AVOCADO BONE III 4x8**  
Reg. 5.99  
**4.99 NOW**

**ICE RINK**  
Complete Kit  
READY TO ASSEMBLE  
FAMILY FUN GIFT  
**24.95**

**TABLE TENNIS**  
2 Pc. Painted Top  
Complete with legs  
and 4 Paddle Game Set  
FAMILY FUN GIFT  
**33.95 K.D.**

**PLYWOOD**  
SIZE 4x8 INT. EXT. -  
1/4" 4.39 4.79  
3/8" 6.89 6.29  
1/2" 7.39 6.99  
5/8" 9.69 9.19  
3/4" 9.59 10.45

**PARTICLE BOARD**  
PC. 25-UP  
3/4" 3.19 3.09  
1/2" 3.19 3.19  
3/8" 3.19 3.19  
1/4" 5.59 5.49

**DIMENSION LUMBER**  
ASSOCIATION GRADE STAMPED CONSTRUCTION AND STANDARD LUMBER

Length	2x4	2x6	2x8	2x10	2x12	4x4
6'	.76	1.29	1.99	2.59	—	1.84
7'	.91	—	—	—	—	—
8'	1.09	1.54	2.11	2.71	3.82	2.46
10'	1.39	1.92	2.71	3.47	4.78	3.07
12'	1.74	2.63	4.03	5.26	5.86	3.68
14'	1.93	3.07	4.61	6.23	6.72	4.29
16'	2.34	3.82	5.01	7.04	7.68	5.14

**PEG BOARD**  
1/8" - 4'x8' 319  
Tempered  
1/4" - 4'x8' 529  
Tempered

**HARDBOARD**  
Standard 1/8" - 4'x8' 229  
Tempered 1/8" - 4'x8' 299

**4'x8' AROMATIC CEDAR FLAKE BOARD**  
**579**

**Standard and BETTER 2"x3"-7' 79¢ EA. 2"x3"-8' 89¢ EA. CLEAN BRITE STOCK**

**WHITE PINE SHORTS**  
6' 8'  
1x4 .49 .69  
1x6 .79 .99  
1x8 .99 1.39  
1x10 1.29 1.79

**REDFORD CASHWAY LUMBER**  
ROYAL OAK 548-2155 803 S. Main St. 8 to 8:30 DAILY, FRI. TIL 8:30  
LIVONIA 261-5110 11970 Farmington Rd. 8 to 8:30 DAILY -- 8:30 THURS. & FRI.  
WARREN 775-7000 24620 Schoenherr 8 to 8:30 DAILY FRI. TIL 8:30