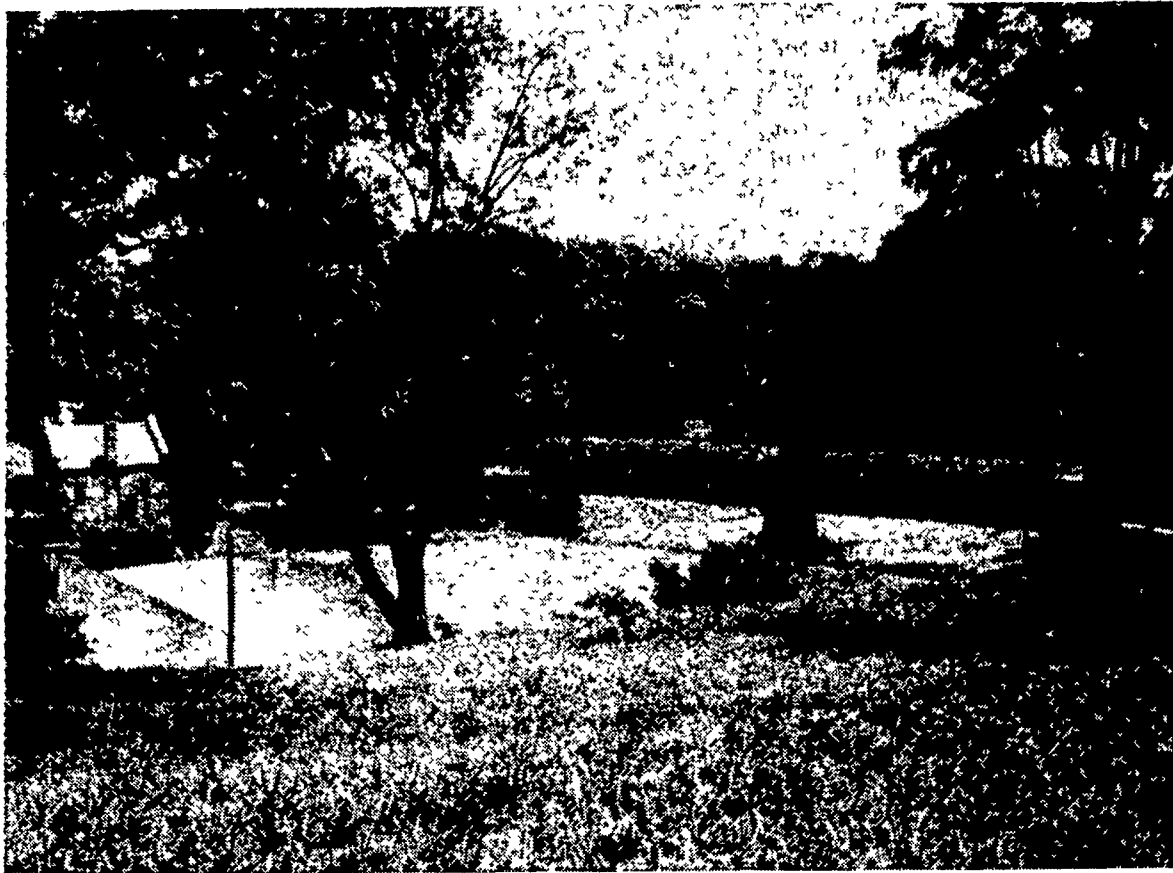


## Pine Grove Covered Bridge



Among the many ancient covered bridges in Lancaster County is this — the Pine Grove Covered Bridge, linking Lancaster and Chester Counties in the extreme southeastern part of the County.

Pine trees frame the covered bridge, the power house and dam to the left, one of Lancaster County's many scenic spots (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

### HIT BY TREE: SUE CITY

LOS ANGELES — Two men, Albert Sirvin and Salvatore Guerrero, were playing gin rummy in Echo Park when a eucalyptus tree fell on them. They have entered suit against the city of Los Angeles for \$150,000 damages, charging negligence. The tree had rotted at the roots.

## In-the-Row Weeds Reduce Soybean Yields Significantly, USDA Says

Washington — (USDA) — Weeds can be an expensive pest, even in so-called clean cultivated row crops, according to

results of cooperative research conducted since 1951 by Iowa State College, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This work has demonstrated that in-the-row weed growth can reduce bean yields in soybeans by about 10 percent.

Extensive field trials at Ames, Iowa, not only established the high cost of natural weed infestations, but measured the damage caused by weeds under a variety of conditions of infestation.

### Involve Typical Plants

These experiments, conducted by David W. Stanforth, Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, and Charles R. Weber, employed cooperatively by the Station and by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, involved such typical plants as yellow foxtail, a grassy weed, velvet leaf and Pennsylvania smartweed, both broadleaved weeds, and the Hawkeye variety of soybeans. The weeds were planted singly and in combination in the row with soybeans, and then were thinned to stands of 3, 6, and 12 weeds per foot of row. Weeds were removed at a half-dozen specific intervals during the growth of the soybeans.

In general, this elaborate research program demonstrated that soybean yield reductions are proportional to the amount of weed growth, and that the combined above-ground growth of soybeans and weeds is approximately the same as the above-ground growth of weed-free soybeans. The tests showed also that the presence of weeds delayed maturity of beans about one day, decreased the height of soybean plants about 2 inches, and increased lodging of soybean plants about 2 to 6 percent.

### Little Effect in Dry Years

The scientists found that although weather is an important factor—in dry years weeds had little effect on soybean yields, and in years of ample moisture weeds reduced yields the most late in the season—weeds on the average began to affect soybean yields early in the season and caused progressively greater yield reductions as the crop matured.

In one experiment aimed at

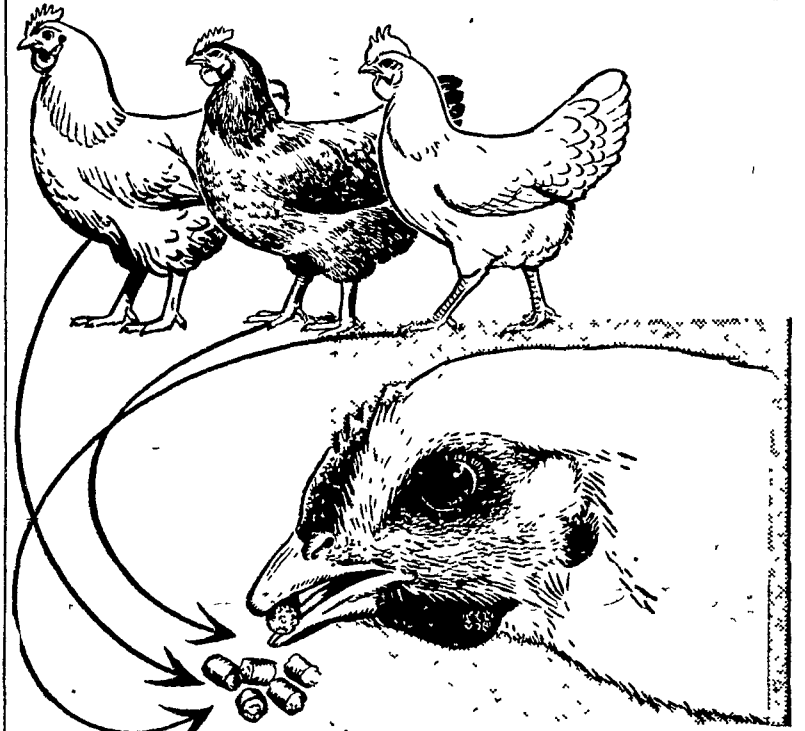
demonstrating the different effects of varieties and numbers of weeds on soybean yields, the scientists found that a foxtail infestation averaging 6 plants per foot of row during the entire growing season caused only a 2.6-percent yield reduction, but that 12 foxtail plants per foot of row caused an 11.1-percent yield reduction.

The two broadleaved weeds—velvet leaf and Pennsylvania smartweed—caused an average reduction in soybean yields of 8 percent when grown at a density of 3 plants per foot of row and 9.1 percent at a density of 6 plants per foot of row. In these tests the two weed species were not grown in combination—in other words, the soybeans had only one weed spe-

**BOY, DOG DIE**  
Hutchinson, Kan. — Three hours after Therval L. Johnson, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Johnson was missed, the father, found the bodies of the boy and his pet dog curled up inside an abandoned upright metal ice chest. The tiny dog's body was covering the one small air vent into the box.

cies in a given treatment. Because foxtail becomes established early in the season, it tends to reduce soybean yields during the entire growing period; smartweed, however, which is two to three weeks later than foxtail, tends to decrease yields the most late in the season (early September).

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