

Venezuela Lures Best European Farmers to Jungle Garden of Eden

TUREN Venezuela — Deep in West Central Venezuela, on the edge of the vast "llanos" the great plains that form the heartland of the nation twentieth century pioneers are working a miracle of modern agriculture transforming a wasteful, savage jungle into a rich, overflowing breadbasket. Men and women of vision and strength are spelling out a bold example not only to Venezuela, but to the rest of the continent as well, how the great jungle mass of South America can be converted into a modern day cornucopia.

Established by the National Agrarian Bureau and the Venezuelan Development Corporation in close cooperation less than six years ago, more than 500 European immigrants and refugees from 68 different nationalities are now discovering there what freedom of

enterprise means in the New World.

They live in modern, concrete homes with baths and running water. Their children go to an up to date school, and hospital and dental services are free.

It is a moving experience to listen to the Venezuelan National Anthem being sung by the happy voices of the children who have found a new and peaceful home in Turen.

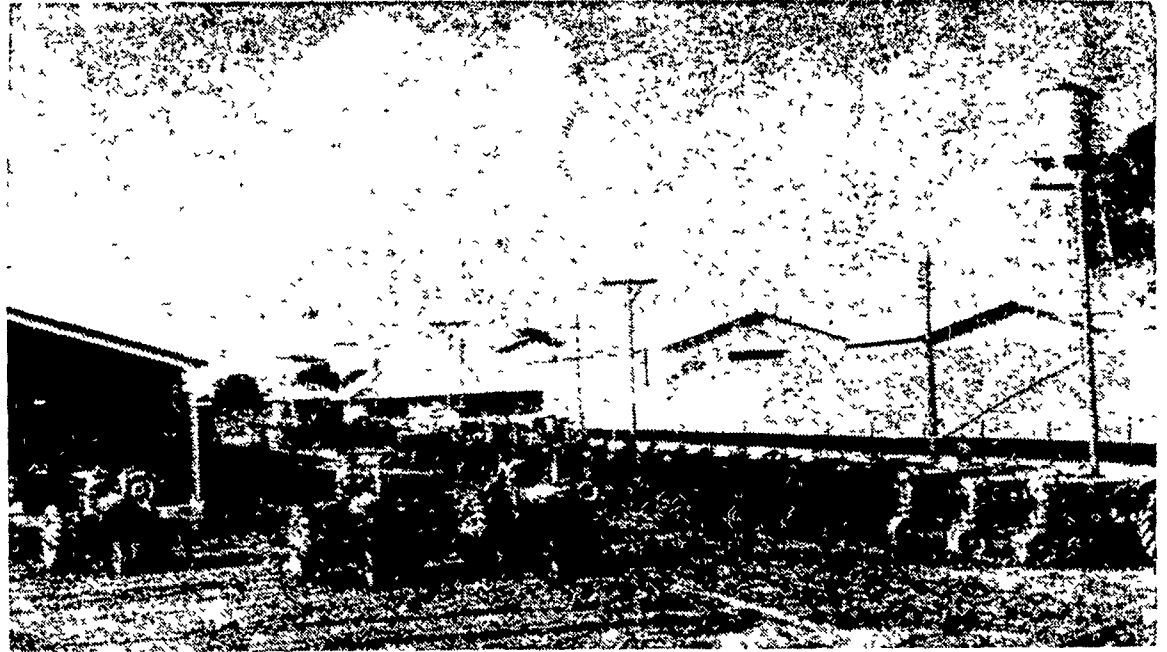
Many of these families were refugees from German and Russian prison camps. Virtually all arrived in Venezuela with little more than the clothes they had on.

Today, they are on the road to prosperity. Many already have paid back their loans from the Venezuelan Government and are putting money in the bank.

Two crops a year are raised in the virgin soil which, according to an American farming there, "is so rich it won't need fertilizer for 25 years." Beans, corn, rice, sesame (for oil) and other crops find an immediate sale at good prices.

The Venezuelan Government cleared the land and built a modern town, families were given homes, machinery, seed, and even food, in a move to increase agricultural production. Farms average 112 acres each, and have convenient irrigation systems.

Take the typical case of a Russian from behind the Iron Curtain, Theodore Popoff. He arrived at Turen about two years ago, and today he has 95 acres under his plow, which so far have rendered him four crops of rice totalling 114,500 kilograms (250,000 pounds) or some 3,350 kilograms per hectare (2,500 lbs per acre). He received 68,664 bolivares (\$20,500) in return, and after paying all his debts he had 50,000 bolivares left. (Continued on page 13)



U S tractors are lined up at Turen in Venezuela, a South America country making rapid advances in agriculture through lands producing prolific crops. (Photo by Hamilton Wright, 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York City).

South American Farming



European farmers are using modern U S. tractors in farming cultivating corn on a Turen, Venezuela, S A. farm, an operation described in this issue of Lancaster Farming. (Photo by Hamilton Wright)

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Penn State Tests Automatic Feed Processing Unit

An automatic feed processing unit is now under test at the Pennsylvania State University. This unit is designed to eliminate most hand labor needed to grind and mix livestock rations.

This automatic unit will grind ear corn without processing small grains and concentrates. Swine and poultry rations may be mixed without blending ear corn with the ration.

Developed by the Agricultural Experiment Station, the machine is reported in the fall issue of Science for the Farmer, now in circulation. The unit is described by Ralph P. Prince, assistant professor of agricultural engineering.

Uniform speed of both the blending table and the crushed corn metering auger is another feature. This protects the hammer mill from overload while the unit is operating.

In addition, a separate feed mixer is eliminated when preparing livestock rations. Capacity of the unit is about 1200 pounds per hour when grinding a livestock ration.

Development of this continuous-flow feed-processing unit began at Penn State about three years ago. It uses commercially available machines as well as several techniques proved successful in other systems. A bin agitator to direct corn into a crusher and an auger to meter crushed corn onto a blending table were designed by the Pennsylvania Experiment Station. Further details are found in Science for the Farmer.

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