



Dr. Robert H. Daines of Rutgers University points to his unique bee trap used to control fireblight of apples and pears.

Bees Fight Fireblight by Carrying Antibiotic on Legs During Pollination

To prevent orchard pollinating bees from spreading fire-blight to apple and pear blossoms, Dr. Robert H. Daines, plant pathologist at Rutgers University has come up with the novel idea of making the bees carry the cure instead of the disease. He powders them with a fire-blight-killing antibiotic, streptomycin, by means of a simple wooden trap inserted at the bee hive entrance. The bees can not get in or out without walking through the streptomycin, which clings to their bodies ready to kill or inactivate any fireblight-producing bacteria they might pick up as they gather nectar. Dr. Daines and his associate,

Dr. Michael Szkolnik of Cornell, succeeded in reducing fireblight infection of pear blossoms from 40 per cent to less than one per cent in controlled greenhouse tests.

The bees did not do as well in preventing the disease in apple blossoms. The scientists attribute this to the difference in flower structure. The bee can land in the shallow nectar cup of a pear blossom feet first. The apple blossom, however, is not so accommodating.

Unlike pear blossoms, apple blossoms have stamens that are tightly clustered together around a deep calyx cup, which makes it more difficult for the bee to get into with his streptomycin-cover-

Listless Cattle May Be Suffering From Listeriosis

Drooping ears and a listless attitude in cattle and sheep at this time of year should alert livestock raisers that a disease known as listeriosis may be present, according to a bulletin by the American Foundation for Animal Health.

Listeriosis appears to be an increasing problem in some parts of the country. The greatest danger season for losses from this condition extends from December through March, Foundation officials say.

The disease was first reported in cattle and sheep less than 20 years ago. It is primarily a brain inflammation, appearing first as a fever, followed by indications of stupor, circling movements, drooping of an ear, paralysis of the jaw and in some cases, inflammation of the eye.

"Listeriosis may be more common than many livestock owners now realize," the Foundation says. "Accurate diagnosis depends upon laboratory isolation of the organism which causes the disease."

Veterinarians have reported some success in combating listeriosis if treatment can be started early. In an outbreak, the Foundation advises that affected animals be isolated and the remainder of the herd scattered over as large an area as possible.

ed legs. The plant scientists are attempting to solve this problem by nailing a cheese cloth net on the upper section of the trap and filling it with streptomycin dust. Now the bees will not have to stomp through the stuff, they will have to take a streptomycin dusting all over.

The method is scheduled to be tested in orchards. Merck & Co., which makes the antibiotic, will provide technical assistance and assay work as it has since the project began. If it works out as well as it has in the greenhouse, pear and apple growers may expect considerable saving over the present method which calls for at least three sprayings during the growing season.

Several other bacteriocides were tried, but streptomycin was found to be least harmful to pollen.

Fifty Counties in State Certified As Brucellosis-free Henning Says

HARRISBURG — State Agriculture Secretary William L. Henning has announced that the 50th Pennsylvania county has been certified as brucellosis-free.

Only 17 counties need to meet standards for listing on the state's honor roll in the 20-year fight against the most bothersome disease of cattle on Pennsylvania farms, commonly known as Bang's disease.

Adams, Mifflin and Northumberland Counties are the latest to be certified by the Federal and State Departments of Agriculture as brucellosis-free, Northumberland bringing the total to fifty.

Sec. Henning said that 20 counties reached brucellosis-free certification status during the past two years, 16 of them in 1956. He anticipates that the entire state will be certified within the next 12 months. Crawford, Susquehanna and Potter Counties are in line for early certification, he added.

Dr. H. A. Milo, director of the State Bureau of Animal Industry, today reported to Secretary Henning that initial testing of all cattle herds in Mifflin County was completed in 1946. At that time 23.4 per cent of the herds and 6.3 per cent of all cattle had the disease. Certification requirements are that no more than five per cent of herds and one per cent

of cattle may be infected. The latest test completed Dec. 28, shows only .72 of one per cent of 833 herds and less than .05 of one per cent of the 14,211 cattle infected.

In Adams County the first complete test in 1954 showed 9.6 per cent of herds and two per cent of all cattle infected. In tests completed Dec. 21 the incidence of Bang's disease was down to 2.3 per cent of 1,330 herds and .3 of one per cent of 19,229 cattle infected.

Northumberland County's first complete test in 1952 showed 9.3 per cent of herds and 2.9 per cent of cattle infected. The latest test was completed early in January and showed only 2.5 per cent of 1,110 herds and .44 of one per cent of 9,875 cattle infected.

Beef Cattle Herdsmen Short Course Offered

Information on feeding, diseases, breeding, management, and handling of beef cattle will be presented at a Beef Cattle Herdsmen short course, March 5 to 7, at Pennsylvania State University.

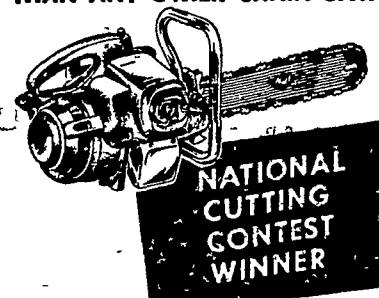
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Poultry

PHILADELPHIA Feb. 6 — Processed poultry, ready-to-cook (ice packed) young chickens - Unsettled. More than sufficient supplies were offered. Most buying was on a reduced volume to meet a fair demand.

Prices paid delivered warehouses, Philadelphia (cents per lb.)

Grade A and U.S. Grade A, 2-3 lb. 34 1/2-36, mostly 34 1/2-35.

HENS: Ready-to-cook (ice packed) Barely steady. Demand fair. Supplies were more than adequate.

Prices paid delivered warehouse, Philadelphia (cents per lb.)

Grade A and U.S. Grade A 4-5 1/2 lb. 33-34.

Receipts Feb. 5 Included other than turkeys: Maryland 87,000 lbs. Delaware 84,000 lbs. South Carolina 22,000 lbs. North Carolina 22,000 lb. Virginia 18,000 lbs.

it's the law . . .

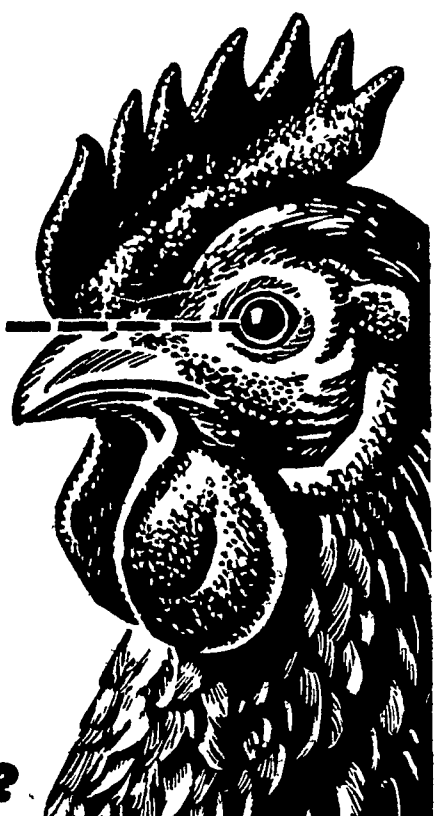
"It's the Law" with simple answers is offered in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Bar Assn.

Q. The name I have used all my life is not the one on my birth certificate. Since I have no desire to use my original name, how can I prevent any legal entanglements at death?—H. E. B.

A. To avoid any legal entanglements it is possible for you to petition the court to have your name changed to the name you are now using. It is suggested, however, that you contact an attorney to determine if this would be feasible in your particular case.



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