

USDA Changes Regulations For Soil Bank Cotton, Tobacco

The 1957 Soil Bank acreage reserve regulations for cotton and tobacco have been changed to permit increased participation by farmers having acreage allotments for those crops, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced Friday.

Cotton and tobacco acreage reserve regulations have been modified to permit the signing of all agreements offered by farmers within present maximum farm limitations for those crops. For cotton this is the larger of 10 acres or 30 per cent of the farm acreage allotment. Limitations on tobacco are the larger of 1 acre or 30 per cent of the farm allotment for burley, dark air-cured, fire-cured, and Virginia sun-cured and 3 acres or 30 per cent of the farm allotment for flue-cured, Maryland, cigar filler types 42 and 44, and cigar binder types 51, 52, 54, and 55.

These changes will permit the immediate resumption of signing acreage reserve agreements in those cotton and tobacco counties that have exhausted their initial allotment of Acreage Reserve funds.

Further changes have been made in connection with all types of tobacco other than cigar bin-

der types 51, 52, 54, and 55 in major producing counties, those with total acreage allotments under 2,000 acres, farmers will be permitted to sign acreage reserve agreements putting all the acreage they want to, up to their farm allotments, in the program. In major producing counties, those with total acreage allotments over 2,000 acres, this will be permitted if ASC state and county offices determine that the sign up of the additional acreage will not have a seriously adverse effect on the county's economy.

USDA Prepares New Booklet On Crop Handling

Information on how to protect motor truck shipments of perishable farm products from loss or deterioration in transit is contained in a handbook just released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Requirements for protection against heat and cold are shown for a large number of commodities, including fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh meat and meat products, dairy and poultry products, and frozen foods. Methods of loading these commodities in trucks and truck-trailers to obtain the best results are also suggested, and there are more than 70 illustrations showing loading techniques for different commodities in various types of containers.

Agricultural Marketing Service researchers compiled the data — much of which was previously available but widely scattered and difficult to find — into this easy-to-use handbook.

A single free copy of Agriculture Handbook No 105, "Protection of Perishable Foods During Transportation by Truck", may be obtained from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of

Folder Tells How To Measure Hog Backfat

A new folder just published by the Missouri Agricultural Extension Service illustrates how to probe and measure the backfat on hogs.

Probing is an actual measurement of the backfat thickness. The measuring is easy and causes no injury and very little discomfort to the animal.

Probing can be a big help in selecting breeding stock that will produce meat type hogs. Selections should be based on backfat measurements, along with litter size, weight of age, conformation, length, underlines, and feet and legs.

The probing job should be done when the hogs weigh between 170 and 225 pounds and are on a standard fattening ration of grain and supplement.

Copies of this illustrated folder can be obtained upon request to the Mailing Room 18, Waters Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

Two Holsteins Top 100,000 lbs. On Official Test

The Holstein-Friesian Assn. of America has announced that the following registered Holstein cows have completed official records that bring their lifetime production totals to more than 100,000 pounds of milk.

Fultonway Rag Apple Honor Girl, 112,462 lbs. of milk and 3,949 lbs. of butterfat in 2,432 days on official test. Owned by J. Mowery Frey, Lancaster.

Wye Oak Hero Dora, 106,901 lbs. of milk and 3,688 lbs. of butterfat in 2,435 days on official test. Owned by Elvin Hess, Strasburg.

To date, 7,008 Holsteins have exceeded this outstanding production mark on official test. This volume of production represents approximately five times the lifetime total of the average dairy cow.

Advisory Committee Cites Need For More Agricultural Scientists

The need for more trained brain-power — scientists and technicians — to meet increasing demands for research on farm-product utilization received major attention at the meeting of a special committee to advise the President's Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products, in Washington, D. C., Feb. 13-14.

The General Advisory Committee on Policy was appointed by the President's bipartisan commission to help develop recom-

mendations to Congress for widening industrial use of farm crops. Areas of discussion included contract research, laboratory facilities, grants and fellowships, salary levels for Federal researchers in farm-product utilization, and incentives to farmers and processors to hasten development of new crops.

Chairman of the committee is Dr. John H. Davis, Harvard School of Business. Members attending besides Dr. Davis were Harry Caldwell, master of the North Carolina State Grange, Greensboro; Dr. T. K. Cowden, dean of Michigan State University's College of Agriculture, East Lansing; James A. McConnell of Cornell University's Graduate School of Business and Public Administration, Ithaca; J. Jerome Thompson, Charles Pfizer & Company, Inc., Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Herbert W. Voorhees, president of the New Jersey Farm Bureau, Trenton.

This advisory group will submit a report for consideration by the Commission in making recommendations designed to provide the nation with new and improved industrial goods from agricultural raw materials, and to help broaden and stabilize markets for farm products.

Compulsory Poultry Inspection Called

'Benefit to All Phases'

HARRISBURG — Compulsory poultry inspection, a possible development for Pennsylvania, was described at the State Farm Show today as beneficial to all phases of the industry.

"The poultry industry knows that its success rests upon the growing acceptance of poultry products by the American consumer," declared Roy E. Willie of the Poultry Inspection Branch in the Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Speaking to the State Poultry Federation, Willie asserted that greater consumer acceptance and confidence would result from compulsory inspection since the consumer would receive a more uniformly wholesome product.

The speaker said he believed the present Federal voluntary program has indirectly helped all producers of poultry. He cited the rapid expansion of voluntary inspection as "closely allied with the trend toward marketing poultry in ready-to-cook form and the wide acceptance of such food items."

"This voluntary service is now being used by 315 processors," Willie stated. "This demonstrates the interest of poultry processors in marketing high quality wholesome and tasty food products."

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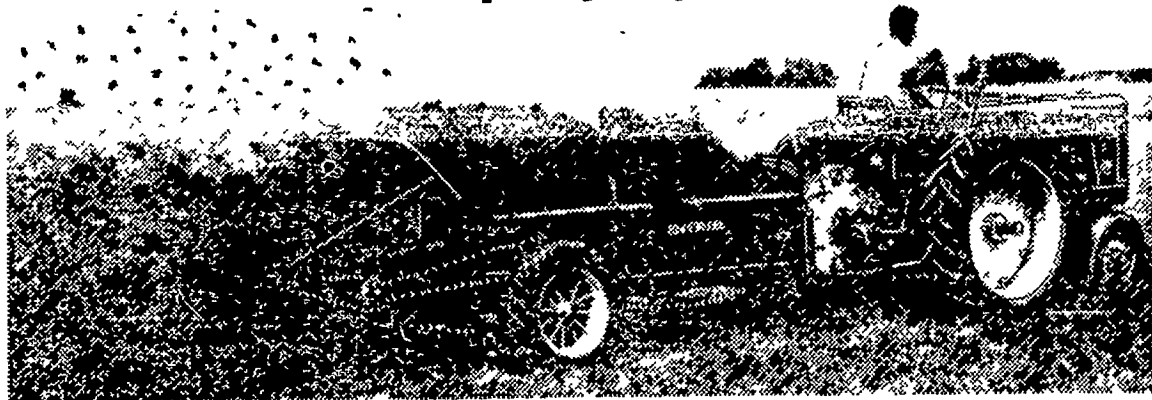
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