

Farm Forestry

(Continued from page 12)

This will enable the farmer to check against unauthorized cutting.

Another hint to prevent unauthorized cutting was given to farmers who have plantings of young evergreens. These young trees prove to be quite a tempta-

tion to people wanting Christmas trees.

"Cut all the branches off one side," he said. "This will not hurt the tree for timber, but no one will want it for a Christmas tree," he said.

Natural reseeding is preferred in farm woodlots, according to Farrand.

If the farm woodlot has any of the desirable species, larch, oak, poplar, or white pine, natural seeding can be accomplished by allowing seed trees to stand while clearing out undergrowth such as dog-wood and other trees with no commercial value. This will allow the young seedlings access to sun and promote their rapid growth, says Farrand.

However, if the woodlot is to be established from a bare field, planted seedlings from a nursery must be used. In such a case white pine or larch is recommended. The plants should be planted eight feet apart.

By planting eight feet apart, the trees will prune themselves naturally giving good long, knot free sawlogs when the tree reaches maturity.

In such a planting, the trees will have to be thinned at the end of about 15 years. This first thinning, Farrand says, will give a good crop of pulpwood, thus cutting down part of the expense of planting and caring for the trees.

Zinc Imbalance in Diet Causes Parakeratosis in Swine, Tests Show

Scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have demonstrated that a high-calcium, low-zinc imbalance in the diet causes parakeratosis, a non-infectious, mange-like disease of swine, and that the disease can be cured or prevented by adding zinc to pig rations.

Although parakeratosis seldom kills its victims, it seriously slows down growth of the animals and causes skin lesions and poor appetite. It has often been caused inadvertently by feeding mineral mixtures with too much high-calcium bone meal or calcium carbonate and little or no zinc.

By increasing the zinc content of the pigs' diet, scientists at USDA's Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., completely prevented parakeratosis in animals not afflicted, and dramatically cured diseased pigs.

USDA researchers J. W. Stevenson and I. P. Earle recommend that diets containing up to 1.0 per cent calcium be supplemented with 50 parts per million of zinc. Zinc can be obtained commercially in the form of trace-mineral supplements. Farmers should check to be sure that the supplements they buy have a high enough content of this vital mineral.

In the Beltsville studies eight lots of six pigs each were fed diets varying in zinc and in calcium.

A diet containing 32 parts per million of zinc and 0.48 per cent calcium, produced mild to moderate parakeratosis in three of six pigs. Increasing calcium to 0.67 per cent and to 1.03 per cent at the same zinc level (32 p.p.m.) produced severe parakeratosis in all pigs of two other lots.

Addition of zinc oxide to increase the total zinc content of the pigs' diet to 44 p.p.m. reduced the severity and incidence of the disease. Further increase of the zinc level to 80 p.p.m. completely prevented parakeratosis in other animals, even with the calcium level at 0.67 or 1.03 per cent.

Diets of the pigs were reversed after 42 days to determine the curative powers of zinc and possible carryover of its protective effects. Animals previously getting small amounts of zinc were given additional quantities; animals previously getting large amounts were given less. Calcium level remained constant.

This diet change demonstrated

Farm Calendar

MONDAY

Ayrshire - Jersey 4-H Club meeting at 7:30 p. m. at Artificial Breeders Cooperative, Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster

TUESDAY

Quality hay meeting — 9:30 a. m. at Robert Kauffman farm, R1 Manheim, located one-half mile south of Landsville. Speakers will be Joseph McCurdy, extension agricultural engineer from Penn State and County Agent Max M. Smith.

Quality hay meeting — 9:30 a. m. at Donald S. Eby farm, R1 Gordonville, located about one mile north of Paradise. Program and speakers same as morning meeting.

Elizabethtown - Donegal Community 4-H Club meeting — 7:30 p. m. at Washington School, Florida.

WEDNESDAY

Career day at the Cooperatives for 4-H and FFA members. Tours of the various cooperatives in the county will be given.

Guernsey 4-H Club — 7:30 p. m. at Lampeter Community Bldg., Lampeter.

THURSDAY

Lititz-Manheim Community 4-H Club — 7:30 p. m. at Fairland School.

FRIDAY

Boots and Saddles 4-H Pony and Horse Club — 7:30 p. m. at Norman Lausch farm R1 Denver. Membership is still open in this club to boys and girls in the eastern and northern parts of the County

Eastern States Membership meeting — 7:45 at Bareville Fire Hall. Speaker will be Ossie Mills of Eastern States spray and dusting services.

Lancaster Farming,
Friday, April 5, 1957—13

Early Lamb Estimates Below 1956 Crop

The early lamb crop in principal producing States is estimated at one per cent below 1956 by the Crop Reporting Board. California and Texas, where breeding ewe numbers on January 1 were down six and 11 per cent, respectively, were responsible for most of the drop.

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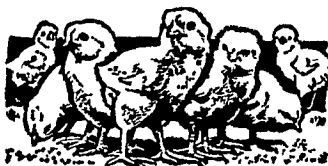


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DELIVERIES FOR DELIVERY IN MINUTES

Potential Layers Up 3 Per Cent Over 1956

The Crop Reporting Board reported this week that potential layers (hens and pullets) on farms at the beginning of this year totaled 371 million up three per cent over a year earlier. About 91 per cent of these were in laying flocks, the rest were pullets not of laying age

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