

## Eastern Growers Have Available 35 Virus-free Strawberry Varieties

Eastern gardeners and commercial growers have 35 varieties of improved strawberry stock from which to choose for planting this spring, 11 more than were available last year, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture. All these represent strawberry stocks that are free of virus diseases.

These plants will be available from plant nurseries this year as virus-free stock. The 11 varieties of which virus free stocks have recently been found by USDA plants breeders and pathologists are Earlidawn, Eden, Empire, Florida Ninety, Gem, Konvoy, Marion Bell, Redglow, Redstar, Sioux, and Surecrop.

Two of these improved stocks, Redglow and Surecrop, also are resistant to red stele disease, a root rot especially troublesome in central and northeastern United States.

A third new variety, Earlidawn, although susceptible to red stele disease, is available in virus-free stocks.

Researchers recommend to nurserymen that to maintain plants free of virus, aphids (the insects that carry viruses from plant to plant), should be controlled by dusting every two weeks with parathion or malathion. Keeping new plantings at least 3,000 feet away from other cultivated or wild strawberries also discourages spread of virus to new plantings.

A number of nurseries are producing plants relatively free of nematodes. For this purpose

the nurseries are using soil fumigation or a method of hot-water treatment, developed by USDA scientists. Soil fumigation for the grower of strawberry fruit is justified only when the grower has a serious nematode problem.

Disease-free foundation stock was first obtained by USDA pathologists and distributed to plant nurseries for propagation. Official certification programs are operating in Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Ohio, Delaware, and Michigan to insure high quality in certified stocks. Certified programs are also carried on voluntarily in other States.

The three varieties recently introduced all have desirable characteristics. Plants of Redglow, introduced in 1956 by USDA, are vigorous, moderately productive, and produce a good number of runners. Berries of this variety are early ripening, richly colored, flavored, and of large, uniform size. Redglow berries are satisfactory for freezing.

Surecrop, cooperatively developed by USDA and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, is a vigorous plant with many runners. Its berries are firm, bright red, and retain good appearance for fresh fruit market.

Earlidawn, representing a Midland-Tennessee Shipper cross developed by USDA scientists, is a very early highly-productive variety bearing firm, glossy, light red berries with a tart flavor. Characterized by short flower stems, blossoms of Earlidawn are protected from frost.

## New Building At New Holland Sale in Use

The new 110 by 156 foot addition at the New Holland Sales Stables went into operation for the first time yesterday. The addition is used for unloading and penning beef cattle. The capacity is about 600 head.

The new building will eliminate congestion in the loading area. The present building will be used for outgoing cattle only.

In the past 15 years, the New Holland Sales Stables has grown from just another country auction to a stockyard and sales outlet occupying some 70,000 square feet.

In 1951 the sale came under the Federal Packers and Stock Yards Act which regulates trading practices. The total volume of cattle and horses sold has quadrupled since 1943.

Horse sales are held on Monday, dairy cattle and swine are sold on Wednesday and beef cattle and calves are sold on Thursday. The Monday sales starts at 11 a. m. and the other two at 12 30 p. m.

All sales will be on Daylight Saving Time this year

### SPOT CLEAN COTTONS

To help spot clean cottons before putting them in the wash, use embroidery hoops to hold that portion of the garment firm while you apply cleaning fluid, suggests Mrs. Mae Barton, Penn State extension clothing specialist.

## Survey Shows Women Shoppers Changing Minds About Packaging

WILMINGTON, Del — The day of squeezing tomatoes, pinching grapes, and peeling bananas before making a produce purchase is going the way of the tandem bicycle, according to a Du Pont survey just released on food shopping habits.

In buying fresh fruits and vegetables several decades ago, a housewife either trusted her grocer's choice or inspected each item carefully — and sometimes roughly — by hand. The survey indicates most food shoppers today no longer feel that inspection includes the right to pinch, poke, or peel each item before purchasing.

Fifty-two per cent of the 2,000 homemakers polled said they now preferred packaged produce, 25 per cent liked loose produce, while 22 per cent expressed no preference.

With the growth of self-service and improved packaging, shopping habits have changed and so have shoppers' attitudes. In a 1950 survey, Du Pont found that 49.5 per cent of those polled preferred loose produce, 45 per cent liked the packaged type, while only 5.5 per cent expressed no preference. Thus, between the two surveys, half of the shoppers with a strong preference for bulk selection either have switched to a preference for packaged produce or a "show me" attitude. Those preferring packaged pro-

duce offered the following reasons more convenient, time saver (56 per cent), cleaner, more sanitary (54 per cent), keeps fresher (22 per cent). Shoppers preferring the loose variety liked to make their own selection (60 per cent), believed quality is better this way (29 per cent), and found quantity in packages unsatisfactory (26 per cent).

Consumers appreciate the convenience of packaged produce in the home as well as in the store. Seventy-seven per cent of those polled said they stored fresh fruits and vegetables in the package because it keeps fresher.



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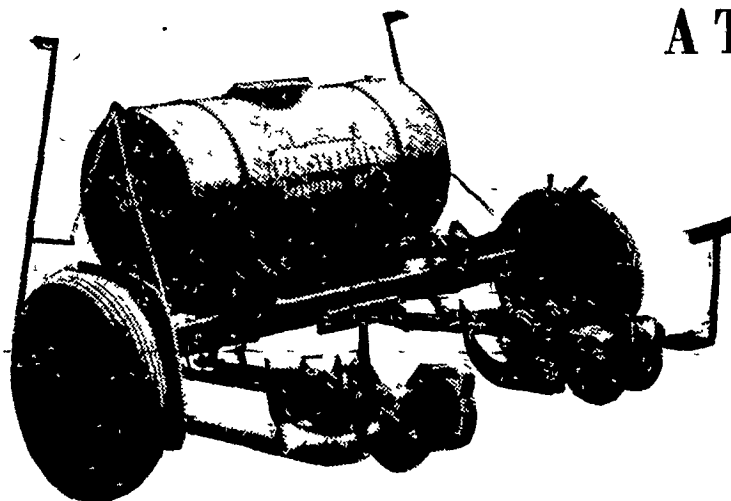
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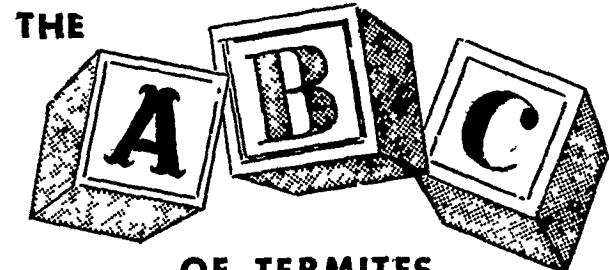
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## BUG of the MONTH



## TERMITES



### OF TERMITES

- A** The reproductives are winged insects (2 pairs of wings of equal size) which swarm in great numbers in early spring.
- B** Immediately after swarming the insects kick off their wings, mate and try to get back into the soil.
- C** It is cheaper to have the soil treated against termites before the house is built. If you missed out on this, it is cheaper to have the house treated this year than to wait until next year. Termites eat while you sleep and they fancy the timbers of your house as much as an old fence post, just as long as it is good, tasty — CELLULOSE.

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