

## Scouts to See Conservation Circus at Camp

When approximately 50,000 Boy Scouts encamp at Valley Forge State Park for their fourth National Jamboree during the week of July 12, they will see a "conservation circus."

It is being sponsored by the Soil Conservation Service and the Forest Service of the USDA, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior, and several state forestry and wildlife agencies.

The circus will consist of three arenas, one featuring soil and water conservation, another forestry, and the other wildlife.

The Scouts will also have an opportunity to see, in a tent outside the entrance of the main show, the world premier of a 12-minute color movie, "Our Magic Land," which will be available for general use after the jamboree.



**TOBACCO PLANTS RAISED** under glass proved to be a curiosity to these state agricultural officials touring the Eugene Wissler farm, R1 New Holland, Monday, Wissler raises part of his plants under

glass so that the crop may be planted early to ease the work load during potato planting time. He started planting May 15. (LF Photo)

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## Wholesale Market Facilities Subject Of Study by USDA Marketing Service

Improved wholesale food market facilities are needed in many localities, according to a report issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The report describes methods of financing such facilities.

Large firms that occupy entire buildings in the wholesale food market can own and operate the buildings they use. But facilities for other operators must be provided by other types of ownership and financing, the reports states. To get unified action by all types of dealers and to develop a plan for obtaining funds, market sponsors must first form an effective organization that will plan the operation, sign up tenants, deal with financial institutions and otherwise promote the project, the marketing researchers say.

The report, prepared in the Marketing Research Division of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, discusses merits of different types of ownership, sources of loan capital, ways of selling securities, and governmental

regulations to be complied with. It describes methods of financing used by a number of food markets. The researchers say that this general information should aid interested people in any locality in developing a financial plan to fit the local situation.

## New Antioxidant Helps Mushrooms Keep Color

A new, cheap mushroom antioxidant — a chemical that prevents discoloration — has been developed through the University of Missouri's horticulture department's research program, says Robert N. Goodman, associate professor of horticulture.

The new antioxidant can reduce present costs in treating mushrooms to prevent discoloration at a 12 to one ratio, Goodman says. It also eliminates one washing operation in preparing mushrooms for market and this further reduces costs.

Several different standard antioxidants were used in the research project and by far the best results were obtained with sodium bisulfite and common table salt — both relatively cheap items. Mushrooms left in the antioxidant solution 1½ minutes are adequately treated and the risk of discoloration is decidedly reduced.

The fact that mushrooms discolor naturally with time is one of the major troubles growers encounter in marketing their product as a fresh item. Therefore, Goodman says any appreciable delay in the discoloration process would lengthen the time that the mushroom remains acceptable to the consumer.

Since the mushroom is a delicate plant structure it is subject to bruising during cutting, grading, and packing operations. Bruised areas darken rapidly and hurt mushroom quality and appearance.

Mushrooms frequently "set" beneath the casing soil and, as a result, need washing. However, mushrooms immediately begin to discolor when washed in water.

Thus, mushroom oxidation occurs naturally with time, upon bruising, and from washing. It's evident that an efficient antioxidant treatment would improve the product and benefit the industry.

The use of antioxidants in processing fresh, dried, frozen, and canned foods is a long-standing practice, Goodman says. The housewife who cans or freezes peaches knows that an antioxidant, such as ascorbic acid, will improve her product.

There is nothing mysterious about this practice and a relatively large number of chemicals can provide the desired effect. The problem has been finding the most practical and inexpensive treatment

## Bloat Can Be Avoided Through Management

Most bloat trouble among cows can be avoided, according to extension dairyman Frank Wright of Rutgers University, by following these relatively simple management practices.

Change from barn feeding to pasture gradually; never turn hungry cows into legume pastures—give them all the dry roughage they want first; have hay available in hay racks out on the pasture; and keep cows off legume pastures at night and following a warm rain or heavy dew.

If bloat does occur, Wright advises that the veterinarian be called immediately because this affliction can be a serious and fast killer of cattle.

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