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HOLDING THE BACKFAT probe in position, Dwight Younkin tells Lancaster County Swine Producers that this is a fast and easy way to tell if a hog is truly meat type. The operation is easy and does not seriously injure the animal if proper sanitary precautions are taken. (LF Photo)

**BAI Warns to Check Pastures For Possible Poisonous Plants**

HARRISBURG — Livestock changing to lush pastures during this dry period are constantly in danger of consuming poisonous plants unless farmers take proper precautions, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Dr. H. A. Milo, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, said cattle going on quality pastures after a period of grazing on poorer grasses should not be turned out until farmers inspect fields for poisonous plants.

A report from York County was recently received in the Department in which a farmer reported three dairy cattle died as a result of eating poisonous plants

According to Dr. Milo, herd owners should pay particular attention to their pastures during dry weather when poisonous plants appear to thrive. He added that prussic acid poisoning will develop following consumption and digestion of the plant and kill livestock.

Farmers were urged to inspect new pastures and to give special inspection care to fields following

a rain or heavy winds. In the past wild cherry trees have been uprooted and carried over to pastures to prove fatal to livestock eating the plant.

Dr. Milo said cattle suffering from prussic acid will have dry coats, become listless and have diarrhea. Farmers should contact veterinarian upon noticing such symptoms, he said.

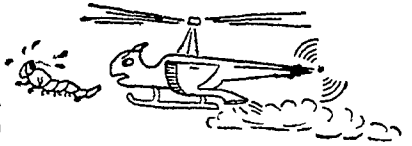
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Bang's Deadline**

HARRISBURG — Dairy men shipping milk to the New York and New Jersey markets are urged by State Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning to take immediate action to begin removal of brucellosis reactors from herds.

New Jersey will not accept milk from any brucellosis infected cattle and on Jan. 1, 1959 milk shipped to New York markets must be from "clean herds."

Dr. H. A. Milo, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, State Department of Agriculture, said the New Jersey order would "greatly affect" dairy men in Bradford and Lebanon Counties where only limited testing for brucellosis is underway

"Pennsylvania producers," Dr. Milo said, "face the loss of their New Jersey and New York markets for milk unless they act soon." He added that once testing for brucellosis is approved by dairy men in these two counties an undetermined period of time will be required before test and certification can be completed. He warned that unless dairy men not yet in testing programs fail to approve such testing "it might be too late to hold the markets they (dairy men) have"

There are more than 46,000 dairy cattle in Bradford County and 15,000 dairy cattle in Lebanon County, the Department reported. In order to be approved as brucellosis free the infection cannot exceed 1 per cent in the county cattle population and 5 per cent of the herds in the county.

There are 55 of the State's 67 counties certified as brucellosis free. There are 8 counties completely tested but awaiting certification. Only 13 townships of the 1,569 townships in the Commonwealth do not have testing programs underway. They are in Bradford and Lebanon Counties.

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