

Farmsteads Deserve Spring Cleaning

HARRISBURG—A thorough spring housecleaning of farm lots and work areas to prevent accidents later this summer was urged today by State Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning.

Henning noted that many summer accidents are caused by wire, trash and rubbish which are concealed by tall weeds and other vegetation. Many falls, puncture wounds

and other accidents are directly traceable to concealed junk.

"Slack days in the spring when planting and other activities are halted by wet weather are ideal for these housekeeping chores," Henning said.

"Another thing to remember is that trash piles formed by winter winds can become tinder boxes when dried by

the hot summer sun. Dead branches, leaf piles and the like should be removed from the farm building area now as insurance against fires later this year," he said.

Now, too is a good time to check the pesticide and chemical storage cabinets to be sure they are child-proof. Electrical wiring should be inspected for bare spots and frays caused by winter wind.

Foot injuries to humans and livestock often are the result of careless clean-up practices. Nails should be removed from used boards and all broken glass, junk and loose wire eliminated.

Sharp knives should be kept from the reach of children and pitchforks, spades, rakes and shop tools should be stored properly.

Henning also said that a clean farmstead means fewer hiding places for rodents which carry diseases, damage buildings and consume much stored animal feed.

"Farm people can help nature by cleaning up and around the farm", Henning said "Give the farm a new look and make it a safer and easier place to live and work

1958 through Feb. 28, totaled 7.8 million short tons. This was 37 per cent more than for the same eight months of 1957-58, the previous record. Shipments in February at 837,000 tons, were up 54 per cent from Feb. 1958.

For the eight month period; barley exports, at two million tons, were 71 per cent above the same period a year earlier; grain sorghums, at 1.9 million tons, are up nearly three times from last season's shipments; oat shipments, at 304,000 tons, 21 per cent ahead of last year; and corn exports, at 3.6 million tons and comprising 46 per cent of coarse grain exports to date, are about the same as last season's eight-month total.

REVIEWS :-

County Agent Max Smith has warned county farmers to use care in selecting alfalfa varieties recommended by the Extension agronomists, and to be especially careful in not confusing commercial trade brands with certified seed of improved varieties.

Of the wilt-resistant alfalfa varieties, Vernal tops the list of recommendations for Lancaster County, Smith reports.

Maynard Coe, director of farm safety for the National Safety Council stated recently that an effective educational program is the only way to reduce the accident rate on farms. Safety cannot be guaranteed by legislation or compulsion.

Coe points out that one farm in six will have a disabling injury during the year. The cost of these accidents for medical and hospital expense alone will total \$40 million. In addition, about 20 million man-days are lost.

"Agriculture is now the third most hazardous occupation, exceeded only by mining and construction. It is four times as dangerous to work on a farm as in a manufacturing plant," Coe said. This is due to the safety-mindedness of industrial workers from their safety education program.

Exports of coarse grains from the U S from July 1,



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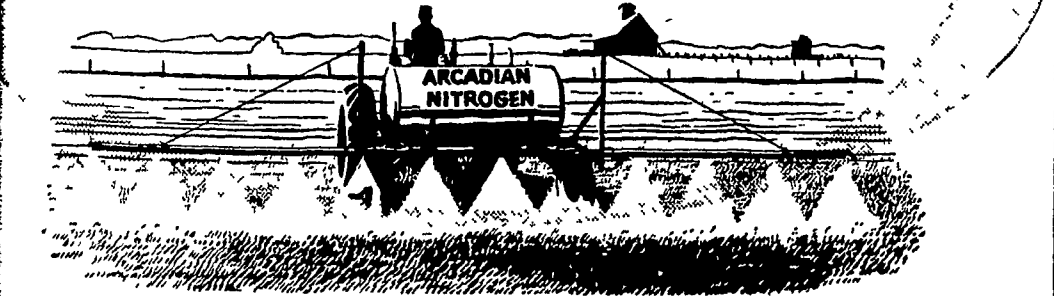
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