

Soil Bank Deadline Extended

The United States Department of Agriculture today announced a new deadline of September 30 for farmers to apply for the establishment of basic annual rates per acre for Conservation Reserve contracts. Previously the final date for such applications was September 10. An application for the establishment of a basic annual rate per acre is the first step taken by a farmer to offer land for the 1960 Conservation Reserve of the Soil Bank.

The extension to September 30 will allow farmers time to make applications for rates after there has been necessary clarification of provisions governing the establishment of land values in determining rates.

The Agricultural Appropriations Act for 1960 provides that "in establishing annual rental rates for new contracts, no such rental shall be established in excess of the local fair rental value of the acreage offered, such fair rental value to be based upon the average annual crop production harvested from such acreage during the past five crop years including the current year."

Pending legislation in approved would change the land value provisions, and an administrative and legal review is being made of methods used in establishing local rental values. When these steps are completed, clarifying instructions will be promptly issued.

Applications for contract, the second step taken by farmers to offer land for the 1960 Conservation Reserve, will not be accepted until further notice. Filing of applications for contracts was scheduled to begin September 14.

Farm Women No. 9 Meet At Conestoga

The regular meeting of Farm Women Society No. 9 was held at the home of Mrs. Marguerite Kreider, Conestoga Center, last Saturday. Mrs. Minnie Warfel was co-hostess.

Announcement of sewing at the Lancaster General Hospital on October 21 was made by the president, Mrs. Edward Brenneman.

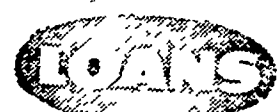
The County convention of the Societies of Farm Women will be held November 7 at the Penn Manor High School Luncheon tickets are available at \$1.50 each.

On November 12 Society No. 9 will be entertained by Society No. 12 at the Quarryville fire hall. The program will begin at 12:30.

During the program period, Mrs. Melvin Leuver demonstrated many crafts.

The next meeting will be a covered dish, family night supper at the home of Mrs. Bertha Heir. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 19.

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Mulch Removal Prevents Winter Azalea Injury

Removing mulches from evergreen azaleas about 3-weeks before the first fall frost gives the greatest amount of growth with minimum winter injury to unsheltered plantings, according to scientists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This research finding is counter to previous recommendations for a year-around azalea mulch, and should be particularly valuable to nurserymen who manage large plantings of field-grown

Feed per dozen eggs depends on rate of laying, explains Harry Kauffman, Penn State extension poultry specialist. Leghorns averaging 144 eggs a year use 6 lbs of feed per dozen eggs, while Leghorns producing 240 eggs per bird require 4½ lbs for each dozen.

azaleas. However, most azaleas used in home gardens and landscaping plans are sheltered by buildings, shrubbery and trees, and so may not benefit greatly from mulch removal.

The discovery came out of nursery studies at Glenn Dale Md., by John L. Creech and Walter Hawley of USDA Agricultural Research Center which showed that while mulching is helpful during the summer in retaining sufficient soil moisture for normal plant growth, the mulch lowers the air temperature in fall and winter by insulating against heat loss from the soil.

Tests during October and November showed that the air temperature two inches above the mulch averaged five degrees lower than at the

same level above non-mulched plots.

In one case, a temperature of about 28 degrees was noted a week before the first recorded frost. Frost particles were observed on the hay mulch and on unmulched azaleas.

Winter injury was found to be directly related to the date in autumn that the plants remain mulched.

The later the mulch remained the greater the winter injury. For instance, almost no dead wood was found on a number of plants

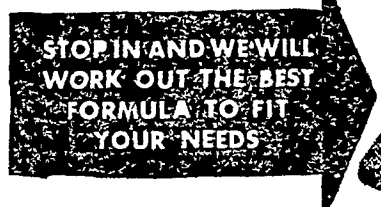
from which the removed before but a corresponding of azaleas of the city that were winter suffered severe injury. Winter injury consists largely of damage, leaf splitting of the stems.

Usually the plants these symptoms during winter, but occasional effect will not be until the following when the plants are ing a period of cold

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