

USDA Prepares Exhibit For World Agri. Fair

The United States will demonstrate its newest techniques of agricultural research, production, and marketing at the First World Agriculture Fair to be held in New Delhi, India, Dec. 11, 1959 to Feb. 14, 1960.

The United States exhibit at the fair is a joint undertaking of the Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, Atomic Energy Commission and the United States Information Agency. The Department of Agriculture and the Atomic Energy Commission have major responsibility for planning and developing the demonstrations and displays.

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson said "the productivity of American

agriculture, which will be shown graphically in the exhibit, is due in large part to a deep reservoir of scientific knowledge gained through research and technology.

"We believe that this is the largest and most complete agricultural exhibit ever attempted", Secretary Benson declared. "It will mirror American agricultural efficiency through these steps: Our land and its resources, research and technology, information and education, applied technology on the farm, marketing of farm products at home and abroad, life in a farm community, and a look at the atomic age in agriculture."

The Atomic Energy Commission exhibits will center around nuclear techniques a ready in use by agricultur-

al scientists and benefits which the peaceful atom has already brought to the farmer. The exhibits will also show some of the many other benefits that atomic energy is bringing to the American people, which can be shared with the peoples of the world.

The estimated cost to the U. S. Government is \$2 million, a large part of which is in rupees acquired through sales to India of U. S. farm commodities (largely wheat) under the Public Law 480 program.

The first section of the ex-

hibit lays the foundation for emphasizing modern American farming by using one of the larger terrain models (36 feet by 42) in the world. The reproduction of typical American farm and shows in detail four types of farms — dairy, poultry, wheat or grain, and general farming.

Research in wheat, corn, fertilizers, chemicals, poultry, feeding, and dairy cattle feeding will be demonstrated. Exhibits will reveal how research is communicated rapidly to the farmer. Home-training programs will be staged in a complete farm

kitchen. The story of production and marketing will be emphasized. A large display of food products and late machinery for packaging will be shown. Farm cooperatives and farm organizations will be described. And the will be told of technical assistance and the use of foods around the world.

Four boys and four outstanding 4-H Club members in the nation—will represent America's rural farm and home projects entertain with folk

Salt Seals Farm Ponds

Even a well-planned and properly constructed farm pond sometimes fails to hold water. Many of these problem ponds can be effectively sealed by an application of inexpensive common salt.

Salt, applied at rates of one-tenth pound to one pound per square foot, has stopped seepage in existing ponds and may be used in preparations for pond building.

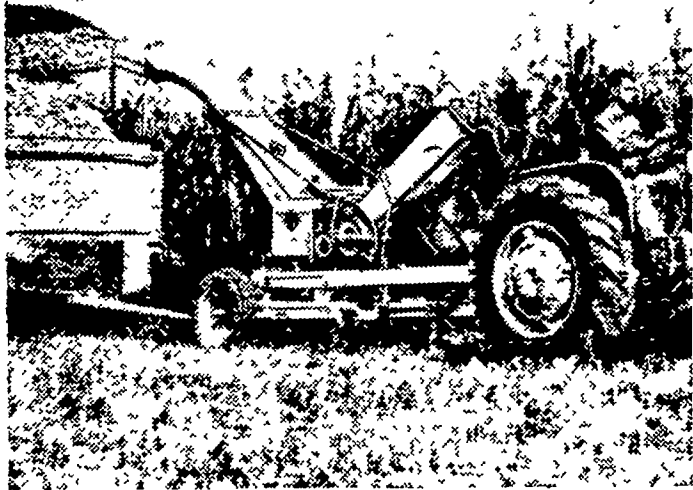
Soil conservation Service estimates 80,000 or more new ponds are constructed each year. Technicians from this service, or other qualified soil specialists should be consulted when considering the use of salt to seal ponds.

The salt seal system is simple: drain pond; chisel

pond bottom; use a fertilizer spreader to apply salt in amounts recommended by the soil specialist, disk and cross disk to work salt in. Dampen the mixture with sprinklers and then pack the pond bottom before permitting the pond to be refilled.

Fish in the farm ponds seem to benefit from salt applications too. A group of farmers having fish trouble reported increased fish growth within a year while applying salt blocks to the ponds. One 50-pound mineralized salt block per acre of pond surface was applied every 3 or 4 months. In low-sodium areas nitrate of soda is applied in addition to the regular pond fertilizer at the rate of about ten pounds of nitrate of soda per acre each month, in addition to the mineralized salt blocks.

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