

USDA Reports

V.E. Has Been Eradicated

Vesicular exanthema (VE), a serious disease of swine, has been eradicated from the U. S. as the result of a seven-year State-Federal cooperative campaign, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced.

"Getting rid of VE means millions of dollars to the livestock and meat industries and eliminates a serious threat to our national meat supply," Secretary Benson said.

A Federal quarantine for the disease was lifted from the last area of the country under restriction, Deptford and Monroe Townships in Gloucester County, N. J., in August.

Ten countries have embargoes on United States pork because of the incidence of vesicular exanthema. They are Canada, United Kingdom, Colombia, Venezuela, Austria, Belgium, Sweden, Barbados, Jamaica and British Guiana. The lifting of these embargoes will brighten the prospect for export pork sales.

Seven years ago VE disease had reached epidemic proportions, with 43 States reporting infected swine herds. Lancaster County swine breeders reported VE in epidemic proportions. The intensive campaign, conducted since that time by animal disease eradication officials of USDA's Agricultural Research Service with the cooperation of officials in the States, has achieved success.

"Eradication of this disease," the Secretary said, "is a landmark in the continuing battle to protect American livestock from damaging diseases and pests. The United States is second to none in preserving the health of its farm animals."

The Secretary paid tribute to cooperating State departments of agriculture, State livestock sanitary officials, industry leaders, and members of a special advisory committee who assisted Department officials in planning and carrying out the VE eradication program.

The eradication effort involved: (1) passage of laws forbidding the feeding of raw garbage to swine; (2) quarantines, (3) prompt disposal of infected and exposed swine; and (4) thorough disinfection of all contaminated facilities.

Because raw garbage provided a major source of infection and spread VE, great stress was placed on passing laws requiring that all garbage to be fed to swine be cooked. Garbage cooking laws or regulations now are effective in 49 of the 50 States.

Eradication officials say that inspection of farms that feed garbage to hogs will be continued by both State and Federal authorities to make sure that all garbage is cooked and that no traces of the disease recur. Federal inspectors at public stockyards also will continue their vigilance against the disease.

The fight against VE has also improved the control of other diseases of swine, including trichinosis, since the cooking of garbage kills many disease organisms.

Lee Bowers, district supervisor, asks that county farmers, who have already received the questionnaire in the mail, fill in as much of it as possible before the enumerator calls.

"We want an accurate census, but we also want to conserve as much of the enumerator's time as possible. It will help a lot if farmers complete the form as far as they can before the enumerator calls," he said.

Bowers expects that the county agricultural census will be entirely completed by the end of December.

Abner G. Musser, crew leader for enumerators working in the southern and eastern townships, announced his enumerators as follows: Mrs. Mae Tilton and R. Guy Wanner, Salisbury Twp.; Mrs. Betty Jane Lichty and Durwood Shirk, Leacock Twp.; Mrs. Sarah Barge, of Strasburg Twp.; Wm. Kinzer Paradise Twp.; Mrs. Esther Rodgers, Sadsbury Twp.; Clarence K. Keener, West Lampeter Twp.; Mrs. Ruth H. Scott, Pequea and Cone stoga Twps; Mrs. Alta Z. Graham, Martic Twp.; Mrs. Ruth E. Hess, Providence Twp.; Mrs. Sadie Greenleaf, Beecher Colerain Twp; Aaron H. Forney, Conoy Twp.; Mrs

George Javana, Clay Twp; Mrs. Edith Harting and Edgar Eidemiller, West Cocalico Twp.; John Hoffecker, East Cocalico; Evan Good, Brecknock Twp.; Ira Hartz, Caernarvon Twp.; Mrs. Margaret Girvin and Wilson Foust Jr, East Earl Twp.; Mrs. Brenda Book and Norma Oblender, Ephrata Twp.; Thomas Dunlap and George Ranck, Earl Twp.; Mrs. Eleanor Young and Thaddeus Bare, West Earl Twp.; Mrs. Loda Gentzler and Mrs. Jacqueline Wheary, Leacock and Upper Leacock Twps.; Mrs. Esther Overgaard and Parke Mowery, East Lampeter Twp.

Mrs. Evelyn Neff, crew leader for the enumerators working in the northwestern sector of the county, announced that her list of enumerators includes the following: Harold Eckman, Lancaster Twp.; Mrs. Marian Kresge, East Hempfield Twp.; Benjamin Bushong, West Hempfield Twp.; David Shank, East Donegal Twp.; Beecher Colerain Twp; Aaron H. Forney, Conoy Twp.; Mrs

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PETERBOROUGH, N. H. — Third prize herd of the 1959 National Junior Guernsey Show in Waterloo, Iowa, was the Pennsylvania group shown above, according to the American Guernsey Cattle Club here. Left to right, Karl Bender, Landisville; Janet M. Witmer, Dalmatia; William F. Ferguson, Kirkwood; Anr. Witmer, Dalmatia; and Sherrill Smith, Bedford.

Agric. Census Takers Begin Work In County

Census takers for the Lancaster County area are now in the field taking the 1959 Farm Census.

William Lee, crew leader for the enumerators working in the northeastern sector of the county, announced his enumerators as follows:

George Javana, Clay Twp; Mrs. Edith Harting and Edgar Eidemiller, West Cocalico Twp.; John Hoffecker, East Cocalico; Evan Good, Brecknock Twp.; Ira Hartz, Caernarvon Twp.; Mrs. Margaret Girvin and Wilson Foust Jr, East Earl Twp.; Mrs. Brenda Book and Norma Oblender, Ephrata Twp.; Thomas Dunlap and George Ranck, Earl Twp.; Mrs. Eleanor Young and Thaddeus Bare, West Earl Twp.; Mrs. Loda Gentzler and Mrs. Jacqueline Wheary, Leacock and Upper Leacock Twps.; Mrs. Esther Overgaard and Parke Mowery, East Lampeter Twp.

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Dorothy Wetzel, Mount Twp; Mrs. Lila Rohrer, Nancy Young and Wm. Bop, Rapho Twp.; Mrs. Gene Good and Earl Br Penn Twp.; Ralph Gonn Elizabeth Twp.; Lawrence Smith and Samuel Zug, Wick Twp.; Jacob St Manheim Twp.; Amos D bach and Benjamin F Manor Twp.

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