

many present day citi- Johnson grass is a peren- roughing it means turn- nial grass closely resembling the electric blanket down Sudan grass. It reproduces by seeds and extensive underground rootstocks.

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## Be Prepared

### Tent Caterpillar On Way Back

Harrisburg, April 12—An unwelcome harbinger of spring is being noticed in many southeastern Pennsylvania communities. Dr. Thomas L. Guyton, director of the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry, said today.

"The Eastern Tent Caterpillar, it seems, has come through the winter very well" he said "Some farmers and homeowners report finding tents"

"Last year, tent caterpillar infestation was heavy enough in many areas to completely defoliate shade an orchard trees. Abundance of the caterpillars undergoes periodic fluctuations, destructive outbreaks occurring for three or four years followed by a longer period

in which it is not present in any great numbers. Wild cherry, apple and plum trees are favorite food plants," Dr. Guyton said.

The larvae — caterpillars — are social, and all those hatching from an egg cluster remain together and soon form their silken 'tents'. These are added to from day to day as the darvae increase in size They remain in the nest during storms and the warmer part of the day, going out in the early morning and evening to feed Full grown larvae are about two inches long

"Nests are easily destroyed in early spring by wiping out with the hands This should be done when the caterpillars are in the nest, usually on cool, wet days,"

Dr. Guyton advises. "Burn ing out the nest may result in damage to the tree, hence it is not recommended.

"To protect trees with a spray, use arsenate of lead, three pounds in 100 gallons of water; or DDT 50 per cent wettable powder at the rate of two pounds in 100 gallons of water (4 tablespoons in one gallon); or Malathion 25 per cent wettable powder at the rate of two pounds in 100 gallons of water (15 tablespoons in 1 gallon.)"

One thorough spraying of the infested tree is enough to give protection Spray as soon as the first small "tents" are noticed.



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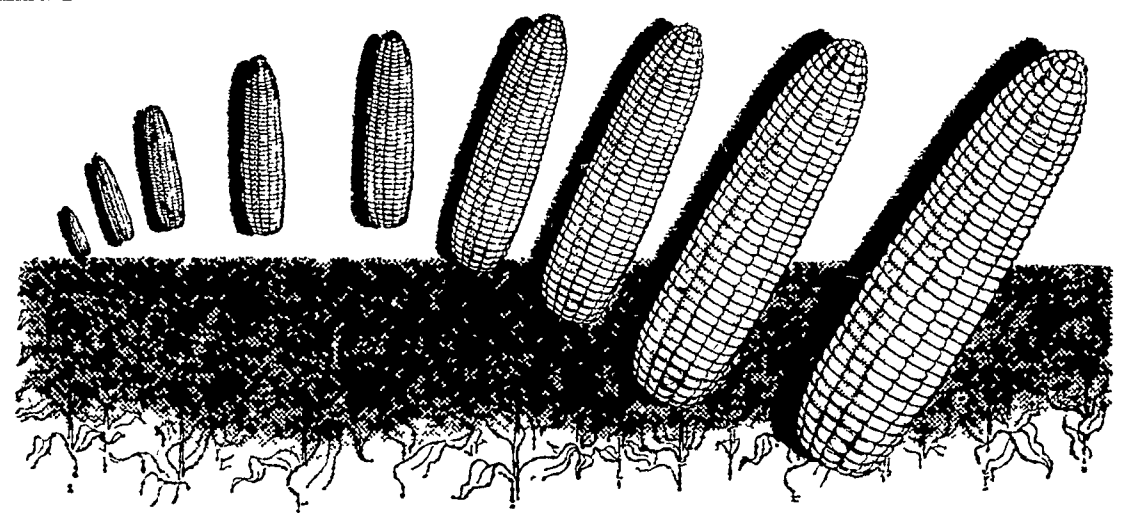


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