

Mix and shape ground beef into patties. Too much handling makes hamburgers dense and packed, reminds Louise Hamilton, Penn State extension nutrition specialist. Cook ground beef patties at moderately low temperature

until just done. High temperature and overcooking give a hamburger that lacks flavor and juiciness.

Trees won't grow overnight, so now is the time for action if this country is to

have timber it needs forty years from now, says E. P. Farrand, Penn State extension forester. The key to adequate future timber supplies lies with small timber land owners such as farmers businessmen,

Plowed Under Plant Residue May Hinder Water Movement

Plowed-under cover crops hinder soil drainage in the spring or cause drought damage to crops in the summer, according to cooperative laboratory studies by scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station.

The studies show that when crops are plowed under they may create a vegetative mat that blocks the capillary flow of water be

tween surface soil and subsoil, according to Dr. Vernon C. Jamison of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

This restriction of water movement may cause some plants to "drown" in the spring from too much water and too little air in the soil. In the summer the same condition may cause trouble from drought if the lack of capillary contact prevents an adequate amount of water from passing back from the subsoil to the root zone in the upper layer of soil, said Dr. Jamison.

Further research is needed, the scientist said, to determine how a farmer can eliminate or reduce the effect of the mat of plant material. Present findings indicate that harmful effects may be reduced by turning the furrow slice on edge to achieve partial contact between the plow layer and subsoil, without any intervening vegetative layer.

Herd Numbers Are Assigned By State Agency

Harrisburg — Cattle herd owners this week started receiving notification of herd number assignments from the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Adams County herd owners are the first to receive the notices. York County farmers will be last. It is estimated that about six weeks will be required for the more than 100,000 notices to be delivered.

This is how herd numbers are determined. The first two digits represent the county. Adams County is 01 and York County 67.

The next two digits represent the township in which the herd is located. Township numbers are represented in alphabetical order.

The last four numbers are a code given the farmer as a herd owner within the county. Again it is done alphabetically. In a given county, A, A. Aaron may have a herd owner number 0001. His neighbor Z. Z. Zilch might have a herd owner number of 9995.

These new herd numbers are to be used on most of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture records having to do with animal health including test reports, vaccination reports and health charts.

Herd owners and veterinarians are urged to use the herd number in all instances to improve service in processing animal health docu-

Heifers Bring \$277 Average

The top selling heifer at the Henry S. Lapp sale last week brought \$465 and helped the 65 grade holstein heifers average \$277.

Four other heifers brought prices of \$410, \$400, \$385, \$375 at the sale of Wisconsin first calf heifers on the Lapp farm at White Horse.

All heifers in the sale were bred to freshen starting in September and throughout the fall. All heifers were bred to a grandson of Harden Farms ReBurke Duke. Diller and Kreider were auctioneers.

State Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning explains that the use of a herd number is necessary for mechanical record keeping. "To use high speed business machines, and thus speed service to farmers and improve the accuracy of records, we must use a numerical code to represent the herd. This is another reason farmers should be sure to include their herd number in all correspondence with the Bureau of Animal Industry," he said.

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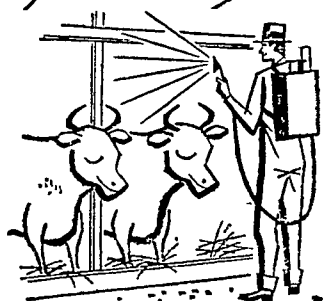
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