

New Poultry Regulations Aimed At Disease Control

Increased protection against pullorum disease and fowl typhoid will be provided poultry producers by proposed Federal regulations governing interstate movement of breeding poultry, baby chicks, and hatching eggs, the U S Department of Agriculture said today.

The proposed regulations were drawn by officials of USDA's Agricultural Research Service at the request of the 1958 National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plans Conference. Interested persons are asked to submit their comments on the proposal to ARS by September 16. At that time ARS officials will consider all suggestions and then decide whether to put the proposed regulation into effect.

The proposal would augment present Federal regulations under which ARS programs for control and eradication of animal diseases are carried on. It would require that poultry and hatching eggs shipped interstate must originate from flocks that are not infected with pullorum or fowl typhoid as indicated by an official blood test.

In addition, certain sanitary requirements would be established for boxes and crates used in interstate transportation of these products.

Poultry moved direct to a slaughtering establishment could move interstate with-

out restriction. The term "poultry" includes live chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeons, doves, pheasants, grouse, partridges, quail, guinea fowl, swans, and peafowl, of all ages.

Pullorum disease has been recognized for more than a half century as one of the most hazardous of all poultry diseases in the absence of control measures. It causes death of chicks and poults and reduces the productivity of adult birds.

Fowl typhoid — acute or chronic — is primarily a disease of mature chickens, but may attack young chickens and turkeys and some other birds.

Substantial reductions have been made in the incidence of these diseases in the last 25 years, largely through control measures carried out by flock owners and hatcheries voluntarily participating in the National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plans. These plans are administered by ARS and an official agency in each state.

The proposed regulation is designed to preserve the progress already made toward eradicating pullorum disease and fowl typhoid, and to prevent the spread of these diseases interstate, in order to protect the poultry industry of the entire United States. Copies of the "Proposed

Restrictions on Interstate Movement of Poultry" may be obtained from the Veterinarian in Charge, Animal Disease Eradication Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at the State capital; or from the Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Written comments on the proposed regulations should be filed by Sept. 16 with the Director, Animal Eradication Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Adequate brooder house ventilation and ample shade on the range are necessary for successful growth of chicks in hot weather.

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Rutgers Tomato Use Declines In Pennsylvania

Harrisburg—For the second consecutive year the use of Rutgers variety tomatoes has dropped in Pennsylvania, the State Department of Agriculture reported this week.

Based on tabulations by the Bureau of Plant Industry Rutgers was the third most important variety for production of processing tomatoes planted this year. It had been the leading variety for at least the past decade.

Varieties leading the list in numbers of tomato plants imported to Penna this spring were KC-135, KC-146, Rutgers, Roma, Fireball, Garden State, Urbana, Heinz-14, Long Red, and Heinz-1370.

An innovation in tomato growing is making its appearance in Pennsylvania this year. Dwarf tomato plants are transplanted at three to four times the usual rate or some 12 to 16,000 plants per acre. These dwarf varieties ripen most of their fruits at one time.

In midwestern trials with these dwarf varieties, they have been harvested with a machine similar to a modern potato digger. Whether Pennsylvania growers will use this method of harvesting this year is unknown.

It also has been reported to the Bureau of Plant Industry that some companies are planning to use tomato seed instead of transplants in trial fields next year. Dwarf varieties such as Epoch will be direct-seeded in the field at rates of up to 40,000 plants per acre.

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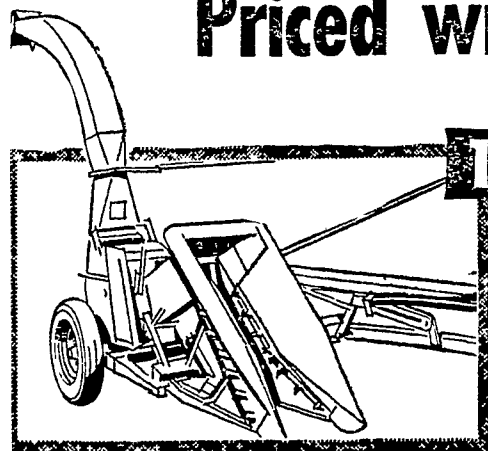
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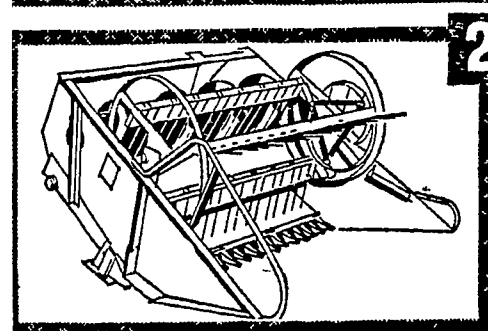
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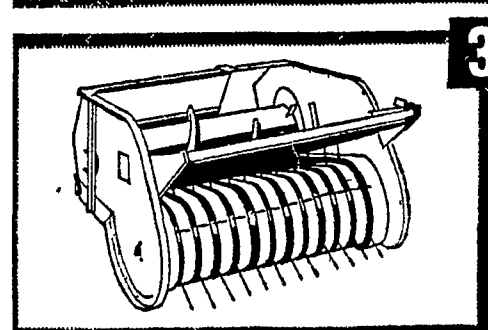


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