

Second Crop Alfalfa Spray Recommended By Extension Men

The alfalfa weevil has been very erratic in feeding on the first cutting. The injury from the feeding by the weevil larvae started later than usual in most cases because of unusually low temperatures. In some cases farmers have not sprayed and have tried to harvest before the injury became severe, but this practice has usually resulted in severe damage by weevil at harvest time, extension agronomists say.

Practically all farmers who sprayed last fall with Dieldrin according to recommendations have had good control of weevil and spittle bugs on the first cutting. Dieldrin mixed with fertilizer and applied last fall, has not given as good results as the recommended spray of Dieldrin.

Will it be necessary for you to spray your second cutting alfalfa? The answer to this question will depend on the harvest time condition of your first cutting alfalfa, especially at the terminals.

Where alfalfa shows little or no injury at the terminals and few larvae are present: The weevil infestation will not be heavy enough to warrant the expense of a methoxychlor spray. Also, aphids are not likely to be present in large enough numbers to require a malathion spray.

Where alfalfa shows serious injury at the terminals and many larvae are present: It may be necessary to apply a methoxychlor spray to prevent weevil damage to the early second cutting growth. If alfalfa does not make normal regrowth for second cutting after several days, it is a good indication that weevil are feeding and preventing the regrowth. Spray immediately with two quarts of methoxychlor emulsion per acre in at least 25 gallons of water. Also, if the new growth of second cutting is chewed, it is an indication of weevil injury, and a methoxychlor spray should be applied to arrest

the damage.

Leafhopper Prospects

It is not likely that leafhoppers will harm the second cutting alfalfa in 1961. The cold weather has not been favorable for leafhoppers, and they are not likely to build up sufficiently to cause damage until the beginning of the third cutting alfalfa.

As the insect situation affecting forage crops develops during the summer, additional details and recommendations will be provided by the Extension Service.

Wildlife Club Is Organized

Jay Foreman, Lititz R1 last Wednesday was elected president and representative to the County 4-H Council by a newly organized 4-H Wildlife Club meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Long.

Other officers elected were vice president, John M. Buckwalter, Lititz, R3; Secretary, Joyce Shenk, Lititz R4; treasurer, Annette Long, Lititz, R3; game leader, Jay Q. Buckwalter III, Manheim R2, and news reporter, Linda Stauffer, Lititz R3.

Senior leaders of the club are Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Long, Lititz R3, and Robert F. Long, 137 Forney Drive, Lititz, Pa.

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PROTECT FRUITS

To control diseases of fruits, sprays must be applied at intervals to give protection to all susceptible parts, Allen Bauer, Penn State extension plant pathologist, announces that spray schedules for all fruit crops are available from the county agricultural agent.

OPPORTUNITY

June-high school graduate interested in agriculture may want to consider the opportunities offered by the dairy herd improvement association program to qualified supervisors. County agents can supply further information on the subject.

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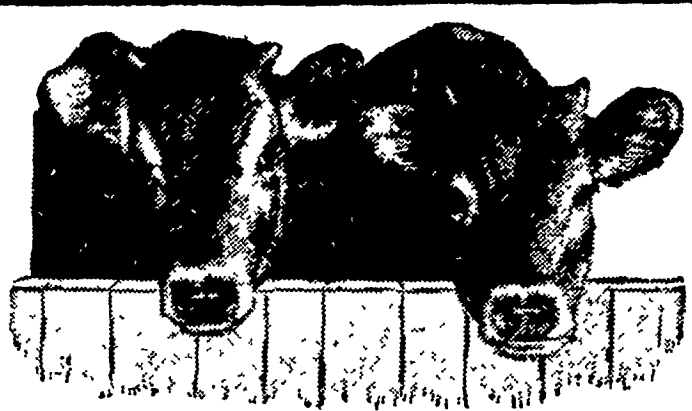
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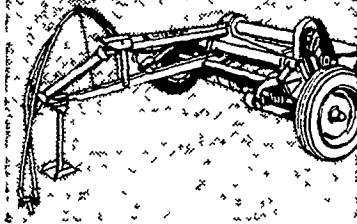
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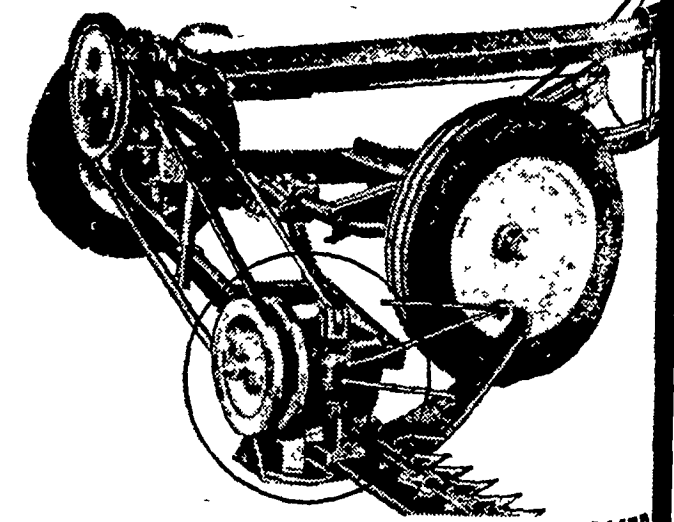
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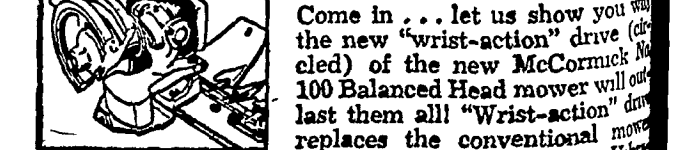
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