Excess Nitrogen

Of Grass Silage

Heavy nitrogen fertilization

Cuts Quality

Sheep Scabies Eradicated In Penna.

Minnesota, Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania have been declared free of sheep of forage grass can cause sig- which is meeting at Purdue scalbies by the U.S. Department nificant reduction in the qual- University. of Agriculture, following cam- ity of high-moisture silage, a paigns by the State and Fed- U.S. Department of Agriculteral livestock regulatory wor- ture scientist said today. kers.

announced today, means that the higher yield benefits of heavily fertilized with nitroprecautionary dripping of bree- heavy fertilization without the gen (400 lbs. of ammonium der and feeder sheep being problem of poor quality by wil nitrate per acre) was a lower moved to other areas is no ting the forage crop before en- quality and less acceptable to longer compulsory.

plies to 49 counties in Michi- cording to USDA's Agricultural ture silage is made by the di-higher butyric acid content, covers 12,300 square miles. gan and all of the other three States. Thirty-four counties in Michigan previously had been declared free of the disease.

Established eradication procedures were followed in the four States. All sheep where carefully inspected, and affected sheep were treated and dupped. Reinspection showed that the treated sheep no longer have the disease.

Scabies, also called mange or scab, develops from tiny puncture wounds inflicted on the sheep's skin by mites Chronically diseased skin areas become hardened and covered with tightly-adhering, scaly, grayish crust This condition causes intense itching Seriously infected sheep lose weight and fleece, and may die unless treated

The disease is transmitted readily from one animal to another by direct contact.

BOOKS EXPLAINED TO MERRY STITCHERS 4-H

Mrs. Herbert Royer, club leader explained the use of project record books at the Tuesday afternoon meeting of the Manheim Township "Merry Stitchers" 4-H club at Production Credit Building, Roseville

Next meeting will be held July 8 at 1:30 p.m. at the same place.

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Research Service.

Although the alteration of plant composition by changes in fertilization has been repeatedly demonstrated, the imto silage quality has not been generally recognized, Dr. Chester H. Gordon told the American Dairy Science Association,

Dr. Gordon, a dairy husbandman with the Agricultural Research Service, pointed out Other studies, however, in- that high-moisture silage made The scalbies-free designation, dicate that farmers can get from orchardgrass that was siling, or by adding preserva- dairy cows than silage from Today's announcement ap- tive when silage is made, ac- unfertilized grass. High mois-

siling method.

These silages were fed as ity, Dr. Gordon said. the only forage on a three-Beltsville, Md.

gen. Milk yields were about sed and the cows lost weight. the same during the short periods of this study, but the effects on milk production of prolonged feeding of silage not measured.

Chemical analysis of silage from the fertilized grass indicated higher pH, higher am-

rect-cutting and immediate-en- and lower lactic acid contentall indications of inferior qual-

Earlier studies at Beltsville week alternating schedule over have shown fairly similar rea period of about three months sults. Nitrate poisoning was portance of these alterations in experiments conducted at not involved since nitrate practically disappeared during en-Cows on silage from fertili- siling, but the quality of the zed grass ate about 15 percent silage was poor. Consumption less dry matter than they ate of the material by milk cows when offered silage made of was low and, in one experigrass not fertilized with nitro- ment, milk production decrea-

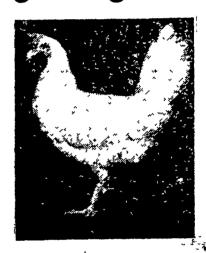
> Rural Areas Development is a major USDA effort to keep from the fertilized grass were farm communities prosperous and to restore properity to those by passed by technological developments.

> > The Mississippi River delta

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