

Chemical Spray Program Pays, But Can Be Applied Too Heavy

Application rates on pesticide labels are safe, yet often in excess of what Pennsylvania farmers need, according to Dr. Carlton F. Taylor, Professor of Plant Pathology in the Cooperative Extension Service, The Pennsylvania State University.

For example, farmers following Extension's recommendations for spraying potatoes can save from \$30 to \$40 per acre in most seasons, Dr. Taylor says. In nearly 50 percent of the situations in which pesticides play a role, the rate of application may be substantially less than recommended on the package label.

Recommendations on labels are intended to insure effectiveness in a wide range of climates, soils and crops. This includes hot climates and high humidity where the life cycles of pests may be shorter and more frequent and control may be difficult. In Pennsylvania climates, control is usually simpler.

Aside from the savings in spray costs, Dr. Taylor points out, Cooperative Extension Service recommendations help assure chemical residues on crops will be far below legal limits. Crops found by the Food and Drug Administration to exceed these limits are subject to seizure through prompt legal process. Usually, crops of this kind are destroyed, and always their harvest is prevented.

Representatives of the Food and Drug Administration, headquarters in Philadelphia and Buffalo, will take more than 1,200 samples of crops in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Northern Delaware this season. Such sampling showed in 1962 that farmers had not been violating the spraying limit.

Spray recommendations of the Extension service are available in the majority of seed and chemical dealerships, and from Extension's county offices, Dr. Taylor said.

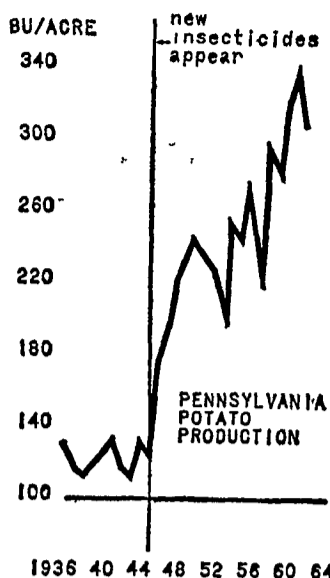


Chart above shows how modern insecticides, arriving on the farm scene about 1945, permitted potato plants to reach full foliage and grow healthy using plant food more completely.

Guernsey Ass'n Hires Countian

PETERBOROUGH, N. H. — Roger L. Strack, Quarryville, has just accepted a position as fieldman for the American Guernsey Cattle Club, according to R. D. Stewart, AGCC, Secretary. His territory is the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland and District of Columbia.

This post was held by Sam Minor, who recently accepted a position with New York Artificial Breeders Cooperative.

Strack was born in Missouri but moved to Illinois at an early age. He attended the

University of Illinois, majoring in Dairy Production. While in school he was 6th high individual in the 1956 National Inter-Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest. During this time he was employed two years at Rolling Acres Guernsey Farm, Elgin, Illinois and at Lauxmont Guernsey Farm, Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, under the Guernsey Scholarship program.

After graduation he returned to Lauxmont as Assistant herdsman and finally herdsman.

More recently he was employed by the Eastern States Farmer's Exchange in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

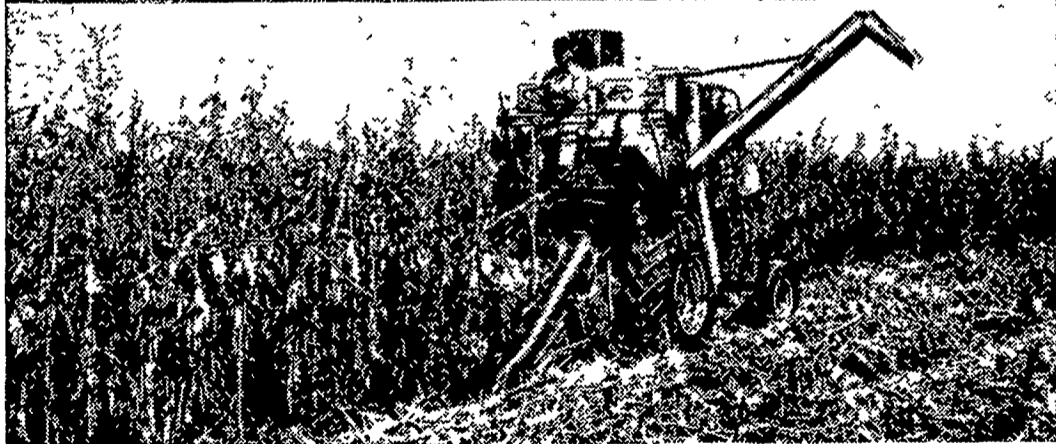
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