

Source Of Hog Cholera Studied

Where does long cholera come from? State and federal regulatory veterinarians recently analyzed 589 outbreaks which were traced to a source during 1964. They found that 36 percent were caused by shipment of infected and exposed hogs; 25 percent were due to "area exposure" . . . such as trading equipment or hogs with neighbors, or any ordinary farm-to-farm traffic which might spread the disease; 19 percent were associated with vaccination; 5 percent were caused by feeding raw garbage; and the remaining 15 percent resulted from miscellaneous causes.

Because of the importance of vaccination in the eradication program, officials have taken an extra hard look at the outbreaks that were attributed to his source. They found that in about one-half of the investigations there was not enough evidence to clearly establish vaccines as the source. In the remainder—the ones for which the most complete case histories were available—the most common factor was misuse of vaccines and failure to follow the manufacturers' directions.

In almost all cases, it was reported, the trouble arose when modified live virus vaccines were used without the simultaneous use of anti-hog cholera serum in the recommended amounts. Either no serum was used, or in a few

cases, an insufficient amount of serum were used. In several cases pigs were unthrifty or sick when they were vaccinated. A couple of cases were caused by vaccinating pregnant sows with modified live virus vaccines.

Dr. G. H. Wise, who is in charge of USDA's hog cholera eradication work, outlines three lines of defense against the spread of hog cholera for farmers to follow:

1—Follow shipping rules—this means a health certificate, record of official vaccination, and clean transportation for all feeder pigs and breeding stock shipped in interstate commerce.

2—When cholera enters an area farmers must be exceptionally alert to prevent farm-to-farm spread. They are urged to report any suspected illness to their veterinarian at once.

3—Make sure vaccines are used properly. Read the label, and make sure directions are followed carefully. If serum is recommended, don't skimp on quantity.

Dr. Wise adds one special note for garbage feeders: make sure cooking equipment is working properly. Even though producers feeding garbage represent less than 1 percent of the total number of swine producers, raw or improperly cooked garbage was the source of 5 percent of the outbreaks studied.

The goal for declaring the United States "hog cholera free" is 1972. One state, Vermont, has already reached this goal, and four others are now in the final phase of the program

COLORADO DELEGATION TO APFB CONVENTION WANTS "PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH" FOOD

On their way to the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting in Philadelphia, the Colorado delegation will stop briefly in Lancaster County for some "Pennsylvania Dutch" cooking and a quick look around the county.

They will be the guests of the Lancaster County Farmers Association on Saturday afternoon for a tour of some of our farms, then they will have dinner at the Abe Groff Farm at Mount Joy.

It seems that they have heard of Lancaster County's fabulous farms and people way out there in the wild west and they didn't want to pass through without seeing it for themselves.

• Vintage

(Continued from Page 2)

183 head were sold. Hogs weighing 160-180 pounds brought 15.00-16.10; 180-200, 16.10-17.10; 200-220, 16.25-17.10; 220-240, 15.50-17.10; 240 and up, 15.60-16.00. Sows brought 12.00-13.35.

At the sale of feeder cattle on Nov. 20, good and choice (600-750 lbs.) brought 20-22; good (300-400 lbs.), 18.00-22.50; medium to good (500-800 lbs.), 17-20; medium (400-800 lbs.), 16-17.25; 9 head 550-lbs. Char. 23.85-25.85.

There were 201 head sold at the Hog sale on Nov. 28. Hogs weighing 180-200 lbs. brought 16.25-17.25; 200-220, 16.75-17.35; 220-240, 16.00-17.50; 240 and up, 13.75-16.00. Sows sold for 11.25-13.35.

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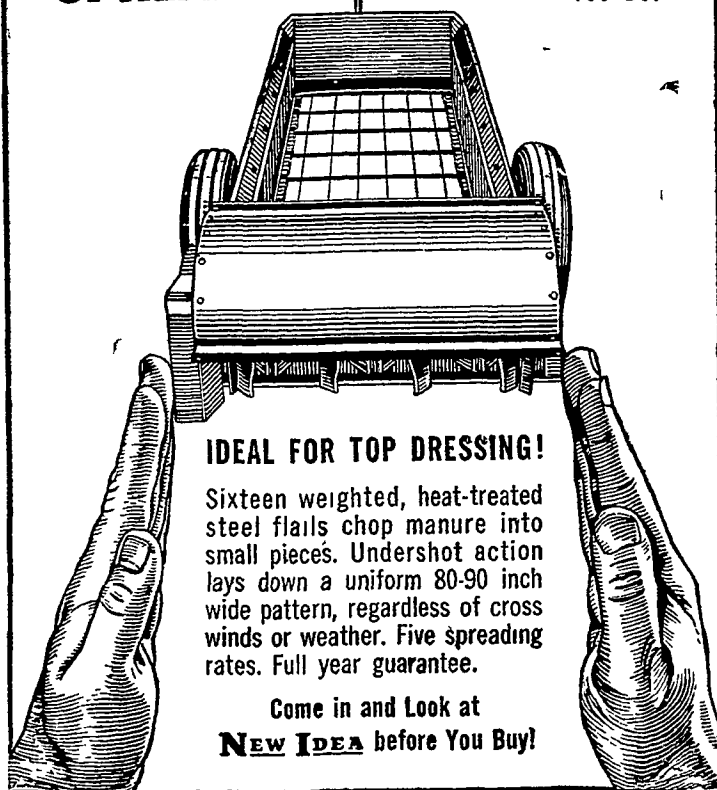
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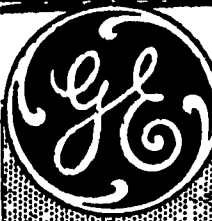
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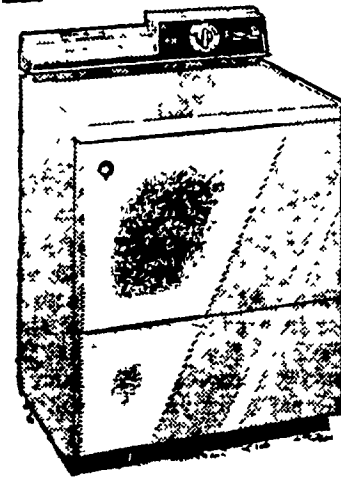
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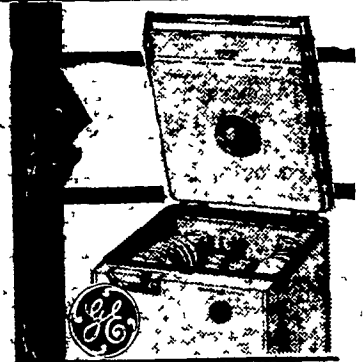
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