

Permanent Station Study Effects Air Pollution

University of Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station has been awarded a \$10,000 research grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for an in-depth study on the effects of air pollution on plants. Dr. Morris S. Cover, station director, announced this week.

Donald F. Crossan, assistant professor of plant physiology, will direct the preliminary research conducted to determine the effects of pollutants in the air on various plants. Dr. Crossan's subsequent research is needed to develop

plants resistant to damage by not allowing the pollutants to disperse into the atmosphere. While financial losses to crops because of air pollution have not been estimated, symptoms of this type of damage have been found with increasing frequency. Because, in many cases, insect and disease damage and nutritional deficiencies have been ruled out as the causes, scientists believe more and more of these crop losses can be attributed to air pollution.

Dr. Crossan explained that relatively short periods of exposure to pollutants — only a few hours — can severely injure plants. Preliminary research in New Jersey has shown such crops as spinach, alfalfa, beans and petunias to be affected, and continued commercial production of some crops is seriously threatened. In Delaware, plant scientists

Farm Show Only 5 Weeks Away; Plans Shape Up

The theme for this year's Farm Show is "Agribusiness—Keystone for the New Pennsylvania."

Farm Show Week, January 11-15, is only five weeks away and Horace Mann, director, says entries of all kinds are arriving in great numbers. One problem will be to fit them into the available space. Most of the space is claimed early.

The Farm Show is an all-Pennsylvania event. A symbol of the State's agriculture, it will also depict this year the close relationship between the farm and allied businesses, and between agriculture and the State's total economy.

There will be 11,000 exhibits, including all the latest in farm machinery. As in other years, the exhibits will indicate the variety and diversity of Pennsylvania's agriculture.

Rural youth who enter the best exhibits in the Farm Show will be taking home \$14,544.75 in cash premiums, Mann said.

This represents 23 per cent of the total premium budget of over \$63,000. Both figures are new all-time highs in the 49-year history of the show.

There will be several hundred young people competing for these prizes as members of 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and Future Homemakers of America. It is estimated that between 60-70 of these boys and girls will be representing Lancaster County.

In addition to cash awards these youths, competing as teams and as individuals, will get ribbons and special prizes.

The U.S. published 10,057 new books in 1963.

at the University have observed increasing amounts of crop damage, especially on spinach, potatoes and various ornamental plants, believed to be caused by air pollutants. Damage in some cases was so severe that entire fields of spinach were discarded. In addition, plants grown in greenhouses in New Castle county have shown similar damage.

In agricultural areas where industrialization and urbanization are constantly encroaching upon the land, reduced crop losses and higher production are needed to make the farm venture profitable, Dr. Crossan explained.

"That industrial air pollution is damaging to plants and to human health is an acknowledged fact," he said. "Basic studies are needed to determine the cause and effect relationships of air pollutants and plant responses. Any evidence of a fundamental nature concerning the response of host cells to pollutants will be of value in similar studies in human health." He said the results of this and similar studies should prove useful to governmental agencies in their efforts to regulate air pollution as it affects all aspects of human health and welfare.

IRA LANDIS TO ATTEND WASHINGTON FEED MEETING

Ira B. Landis, local Purina feed dealer, will join with other dealers from a 16-state area December 14-15 at a meeting with executives of the Ralston Purina Company in the nation's capital.

The Ira B. Landis Company has supplied Purina Chows in this area for some five years. It also offers bulk service, grinding and mixing, and a complete line of livestock health products.

Here's News For Cattle Feeders!

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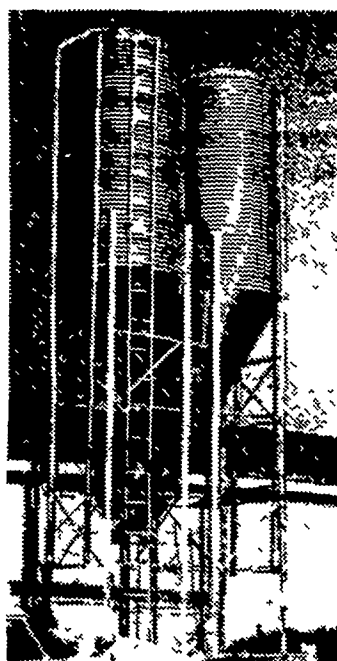
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