

Crop Roundup

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Ceage has already been planted in central sections planting is underway, while in northern sections little has been planted.

Hay and Pasture

Growth of grasses and legumes continues to be rapid due to satisfactory weather conditions. Alfalfa weevil activity is becoming an increasing problem on many central and southern farms. However, farmers have embarked on spraying and cutting programs to control them and results are fairly successful. Pasture conditions have improved so that livestock are now grazing in most areas.

Other Crops

Early planted potatoes are generally up and making satisfactory growth. Planting of all potatoes continues in the north but is most active in the north. Warm weather increased growth of tobacco plants in the beds. Cutting of paragus is active throughout

Termite Time Is Here Says Expert

One kind of courtship that's anything but romantic to homeowners is the spring-time swarming of termites. The only good thing about this courtship rite is that it warns homeowners termites are living nearby and may be moving nearer, according to Dr. Dale F. Bray, chairman of the department of entomology at the University of Delaware. He explains that in the spring, some of the winged, reproductive members of each termite colony decide to start their own families, so they swarm to locate a place to settle down. They can choose a new house as well as an old one as a likely place to set up housekeeping. The insects actually live in the soil, but wood is their only food, so they build a network of tiny tunnels to reach the wood in the house. The beams in the cellar, or the sill under the front door — in fact, any part of the house made of wood — is exactly what they're looking for. They'll even go through a concrete block wall with ease, if there is a tiny crack in it. But because termites remain hidden except when they form new colonies in the spring, the swarms may be your only warning that these pests have

turned your home into their personal cafeteria, Dr. Bray says. He explains that since termites seldom break through the surface of the wood on which they feed, you can't tell if they are present simply by looking at the beams or other wood parts of the house. He says there are three ways to tell whether the house has termites. Mud-like tubes about one-quarter inch wide on foundation walls are their way of getting from their home into yours. If you find these tubes, break them and look for worker termites — small white insects without wings. Check all points of the house where wood touches the ground or where the concrete slab meets the walls of the house. Use an ice pick and probe for cavities. Swarms of insects in the house in the spring or fall

may also indicate termite infestation. However, these swarming insects might also be winged ants. Dr. Bray explains that winged ants have very narrow, pinched waists, while termites are blocky insects with almost straight bodies. Sawdust like powder around the tunnels is left by insects other than termites, and these insects usually aren't as destructive as termites he points out. If you're sure your home does have termites, you should have it treated to get rid of them. Dr. Bray says the homeowner can do this himself but this isn't recommended because it is difficult to do a completely thorough job. And for this reason, Dr. Bray cautions homeowners to deal only with reliable exterminators. The job should be done within a few weeks after you discover the insects — but don't be rushed into action.

“Termites work slowly, and there is no great hurry in having the house exterminated, providing you do something within a few weeks. Don't be frightened into hiring the first pest control operator that comes along,” Dr. Bray says.

“Cleaning Tip For Artificial Flowers

When artificial flowers show signs of soil, wash them off with a soft cloth wrung out of soap or detergent suds, then wipe with a cloth wrung out of clear water. Or you can swish the flowers through warm suds, then through clear water to rinse them. Shake gently to remove excess water, then let them dry in the air.

“Termite Time Is Here Says Expert”

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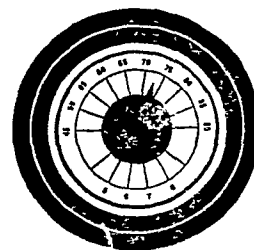
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