

● Potato Research
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maintain the crop during the growing season.

At the end of the season, the potatoes will be hand-harvested from both the fertilizer and the variety test plots, and a 50-pound sample from each treatment will be taken to Penn State to study its chipping and other processing qualities. These samples will be evaluated after two months of cold storage at two separate temperatures, and again after reconditioning at room temperature.

The five, standard varieties used in the fertilizer study range in maturity from the very early Norland to the very late Sebago, and include such medium season varieties as Pungo, Katahdin, and Kennebec.

As Harrington explained

the fertilizer treatment, phosphorus will be held at a constant level while four levels of nitrogen and potassium will be varied in all possible combinations. This will involve a total of 16 fertilizer treatments for each of the five varieties, or, a total of 80 distinct treatments. Each treatment (a certain level of nitrogen and potash for each variety) consists of a 25-foot row, and is repeated six times in each field, Harrington said.

The second study, which will run simultaneously, covers .4-acre, and includes 42 different varieties and unnamed seedlings. It takes many years to develop a satisfactory variety, Harrington said, but it is possible that 20-30 years from now a few of these experimental seedlings may develop into de-

scribable commercial varieties through such research projects as this, he added.

He also described a pilot study which is incorporated in the over-all project. "It is felt by some authorities," Harrington said, "that the source of potassium affects chip color. We will be using potassium from two sources, muriate and sulphate. If that theory shows any evidence of support from our study, it can be expanded for later research."

According to associate county agent Arnold Lueck, during the growing season the Lancaster County extension service will hold at least one, and possibly two meetings at the test plots to observe the growth progress, and to learn more about the plans for this potato experimental project.

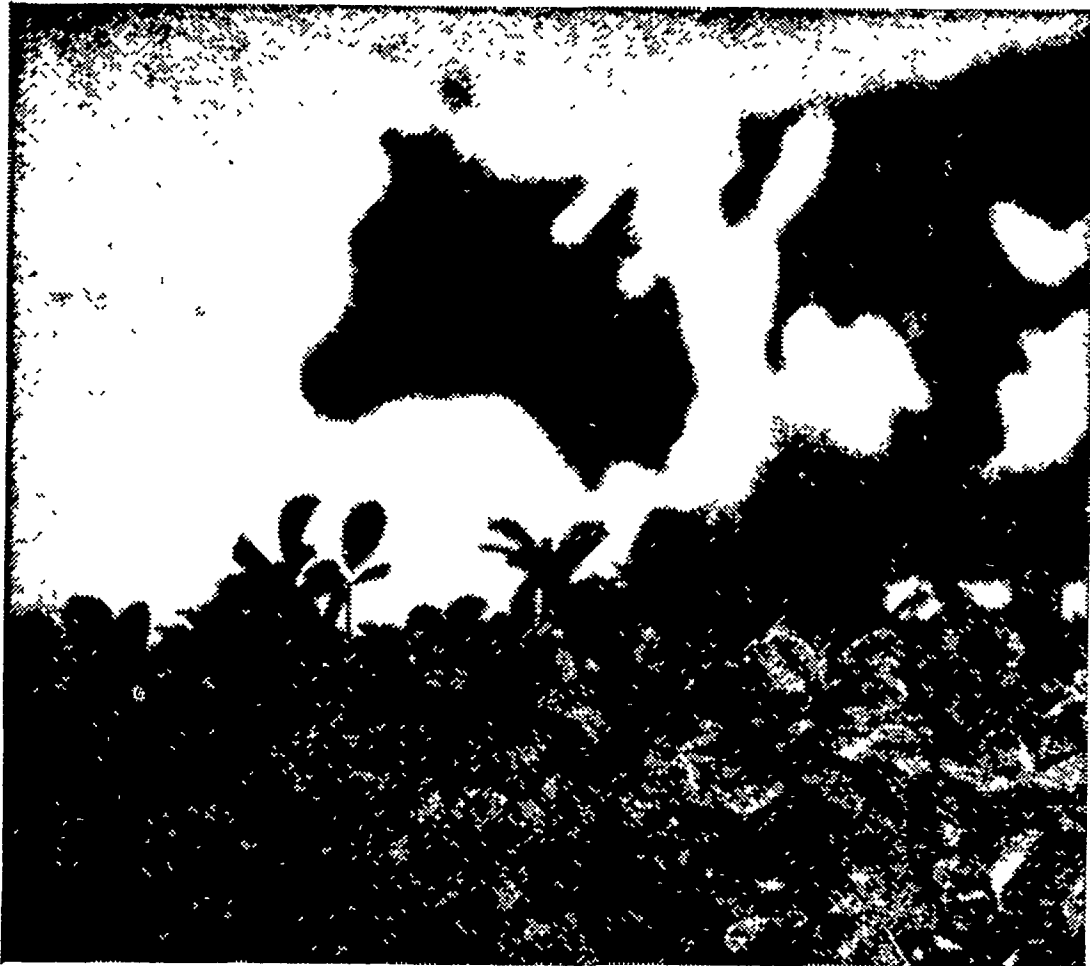


CHISELING THE POTATO PLOT to about a 12-inch depth to improve drainage is Luke Burkhart of PSU Southeastern Pennsylvania Research Farm, Landisville. L F Photo

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Baby Beef Club Roundup Will Be Held Dec. '66

The Southeast District 4-H Baby Beef Show and Sale will be held in December this year, six weeks later than usual. This was the decision reached Tuesday night by the show and sale committee at a meeting at the Lancaster Livestock Exchange Room. The dates are December 6 and 7.

The roundup will again be held at the Lancaster Stock Yards this year, and will feature a total of 215 animals. The Lancaster County Club will supply 134 of these with three other counties accounting for the balance. Chester, 26, Dauphin, 30, and Northampton, 25. The committee will remain the same for the also approved Carbon Coun-

ty's request to join the roundup, although it was reported that Berks County had already invited them to join that county's event.

The committee set a 750-pound minimum weight standard for steers entered in the show, saying that owners of animals below that weight would have the choice of selling their steers or taking them home.

The show management committee by counties, consists of M M Smith and Melvin G Rohrer, Lancaster; Robert Church, Northampton; Charles Mentzel, Chester; Iia Coble, Dauphin, with state representatives Frank Bortz and Lester Budette.

The next committee meeting was set for early Fall. It was also decided that all assessments and premiums will remain the same for the 1966 show and sale.

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