

● **SWCD**

(Continued from Page 1)

Staufer, the first ten eligible applicants will be accepted, on both the Geib and the and these may be farmers, Graybill farms, beginning at farm women, or employed 9 a.m., with demonstrations to

farm workers 16 years of age or over.

The field day events will be held on both the Geib and the Graybill farms, beginning at 9 a.m., with demonstrations to

center around Graybill's farm pond. Also in the area, wagon tours will observe such conservation practices as open drains, tiles, strips and contours.

The directors also voted to award door prizes and to investigate the possibility of having of farm machinery and farm safety demonstrations.

Deadline for plowing contest entries will be Saturday, July 23. Entry blanks can be obtained either from Aaron Staufer, Ephrata R1, or from M. M. Smith at the County Extension Office, Lancaster.

Serving with Staufer on the plowing contest committee are: Forney Longenecker, Litz R3; Elmer Good, Litz R1; Ivan Nolt, Ephrata R2; Donald Hershey, Manheim R2, county agent M. M. Smith; Orval Bass and Abner Houseknecht, both from the SCS Lancaster office.

The Lancaster SWCD will be represented by vice chairman Henry Hackman at the Susquehanna River Basin Coordin-

**Two Manheim Vo-Ag Seniors Are Honored**

Two Manheim Central High School seniors in vocational agriculture were honored Monday night at that school's commencement exercises.

Named Outstanding Vo-Ag Senior, Jess Miller of Manheim R4, was cited for excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service to the agriculture department and to the Future Farmer Chapter. The \$15 cash award for Miller's accomplishment was donated by the Lancaster County Bankers' Association.

Ben Nolt of Manheim R1 was the recipient of the second annual Farm Women Society No. 2 cash award of \$10. He was named as the agriculture senior who gave the most service to the department and the agriculture program.

Both boys are holders of Keystone Farmer Degrees and have been active in their FFA chapter activities.

**June Is Best Time To Prune Evergreens**

The best time to prune evergreens is during the month of June, after the first new growth is finished, according to Dr. Charles Dunham, associate professor of horticulture at the University of Delaware.

If pine trees are pruned each year, they will remain compact and still keep their characteristic shape. They should be pruned when the new shoots, called candles, are fully elongated but still tender and succulent. At this time the new needles are about one half as long as the previous year's needles. The new growth can be cut back one-third to one-half its length, a new set of buds will form just below the cut surface, Dunham points out.

Yews, juniper and cedar trees are best pruned from mid- to late June. By this time most of this year's growth has already taken place. The effects of the pruning will last until next year; however, just enough new growth will occur to hide the pruning cuts.

If it is necessary to remove large branches, paint wounds one and a half inches in diameter or larger with a tree wound dressing, Dunham advises.

Spring blooming shrubs can still be pruned this spring. However, pruning in July or later will remove some of the flowering wood and reduce next spring's bloom.

Know what you intend to accomplish before you start pruning, Dunham recommends. Pruning is usually done to force side branches and flower buds to develop, to control the plant shape, to remove dead or diseased wood and to repair storm or winter damage.

Shrubs such as forsythia will bloom year after year without pruning, but after a few years, they become a tangled mass. Forsythia is best pruned by cutting out the old branches at the base of the plant. New, healthy stems loaded with flower buds will replace them.

Lilacs require a different treatment, Dunham says. Cut off the faded blooms before the seed pods develop. When lilacs become too tall or lanky, reshape the plants by cutting off the old thick stems at the base of the plant. Remove only a few old canes each year, he warns, because plants may fail to bloom after a severe pruning.



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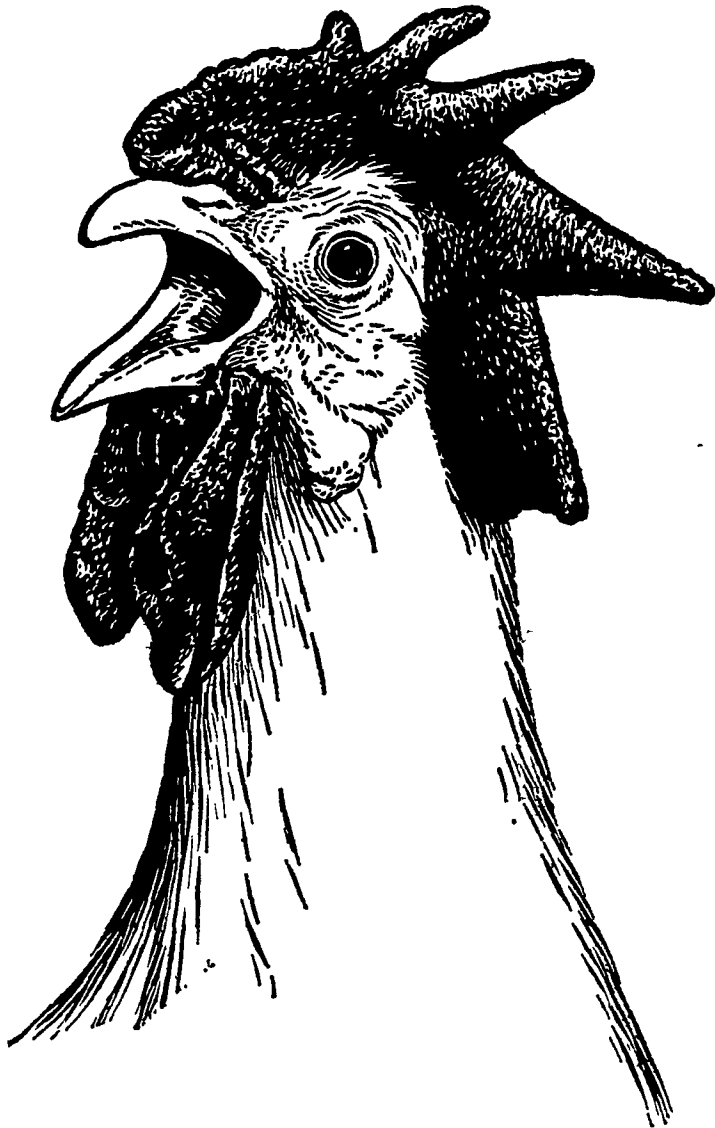
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