

Lancaster Farming

SECOND SECTION

USDA Plans 1970-Date For New Meat Research Center Completion

Some 20 percent of U. S. Choice beef never makes it to the barbecue pit or the dinner table. It is trimmed away as unused fat—by the meat cutter, the butcher, and the housewife herself.

This unwanted fat is nobody's fault; it is simply an unavoidable by-product of feeding beef to U. S. Choice grade. But meat animal researchers

are confident that improved cattle breeding and feeding will enable the meat industry to cut this fat portion from 20 percent to five percent without affecting the meat's flavor or general appeal.

U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists now setting up shop at a former ammunition dump in Nebraska, think

Gold Star Guernsey Award To Witmers

PETERBOROUGH, N. H. — Raymond F. and Louise A. Witmer, owner of Penn-Del Farm, Willow Street, have been named Gold Star Guernsey Breeder for 1966 by the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

The Witmers met all of the high requirements for this award during the past year. Some of these requirements were that all Guernseys over

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Plowing Down Corn Stubble Helps To Reduce Corn Borers Next Season

Corn growers can help cut down on next summer's corn borer infestations if they act fast. The number of borers overwintering in corn stubble is unusually high, and damage may be severe this summer unless growers plow down stubble before May 1. Plowing stubble under kills and buries many borers before they come out as moths in May.

At least one borer per square foot overwintered in corn stalks in Delaware fields this year. That adds up to more than 43,000 per acre. It also adds up to trouble for sweet corn, potato and pepper growers, points out Dr. Dale Bray, chairman of the department of entomology and applied ecology at the University of Delaware. If weather conditions are right this summer, this could be one of the worst years on record for corn borer damage.

Green peppers are a major target, more than half of the crop may be lost. As each generation of borers develops—there are three or four each summer—numbers increase astronomically and so does the damage.

Bray advises commercial pepper growers to begin spraying with DDT or carbaryl (Sevin) when entomologists find four borer moths per night in their light traps. Spraying every seven to ten days will be necessary.

DDT is also recommended for control of borers on corn if it is not going to be used for livestock feed. In that case, Bray suggests carbaryl. However, spraying field corn is usually impractical since it may cost more than the value of the corn lost.

Borers don't cut corn yields appreciably unless the third, or August, generation is extremely numerous. If heavily infested corn stalks are weakened enough to be blown down during windstorms, corn pickers can't harvest the entire crop. Borers do more costly damage to sweet corn, they can lower the quality and edibility of a sizeable percentage of corn ears. Some of the crop may have to be discarded.

Borers also attack potatoes; the first generation moths emerging from the corn stalks

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