

## High Quality Forage Is Least Expensive Feed

High quality forage — efficiently produced, handled, and fed — can easily be the least expensive source of livestock feed in the northeastern states, an Extension agronomist at The Pennsylvania State University said here Feb 1 at the Lime and Fertilizer Conference

"Since feed costs normally account for 50 percent or more of the income derived from milk production, the big problem facing modern dairymen is how to reduce feed costs and thus increase the profit margin," Dr John E Baylor noted

Dairymen in 12 northeastern states are currently spending nearly \$350 million annually for purchased feed. This average, he said, amounts to \$5,000 per farm. By contrast, these same dairymen are spending less than \$50 million each year for lime and fertilizer on their pasture and crop land

"Economists at land-grant universities agree that the best approach to higher profits for dairymen is to grow the maximum amount of corn and alfalfa where there crops are adapted," the Extension official pointed out

Average yields at present are 12½ tons per acre of corn silage and 2½ tons of alfalfa hay. Potential yields are more than two times the present average

Extensive investigations in Pennsylvania by using linear programming show that alfalfa, because of its high protein content, cannot be eliminated from most cropping systems, Dr Bay-



lor said As a general guide, researchers at Cornell University suggest, "producing one acre of silage and one acre of alfalfa per milking cow, including her replacement"

"Choose the best, well-drained, productive soils for corn and alfalfa hay," Dr Baylor emphasized "Test the soil, lime and fertilize accordingly and follow other good management practices"

Commenting on crop nutrient removal from productive forages, the Penn State forage specialist said a 6-ton per acre alfalfa yield removes 60 pounds of phosphate and 270 pounds of potash. For continued profitable yields, applications of plant nutrients should equal or exceed actual crop removal, he concluded

"Learning to do, Doing to learn, Earning to live, Living to serve" is the official motto of the Future Farmers of America

### New Drying Process Reduces Corn Losses

A new process of drying corn, dryeration, has been developed recently, says Ronald T. Noyes, extension agricultural engineer at Purdue University.

Speaking at the University of Delaware's Farm and Home Week February 1, Noyes explained that dryeration is a combination of high speed drying and aeration. Use of the new process allows the farmer to dry shelled corn at temperatures as high as 240 degrees with less cracking, breakage and

deterioration of the grain than in conventional drying methods.

Dryeration allows hot corn to temper in a bin from four to eight hours before being cooled, he said. Corn is then cooled slowly from eight to ten hours. This relieves stress within the kernel and prevents cracking. He added that corn loses an additional two percent moisture during the cooling period.

Dryeration increases both the capacity and efficiency of a grain drying system. It may increase the capacity of a batch or continuous dryer by more than 60 percent. This is due to bet-

### CONTROL RATS

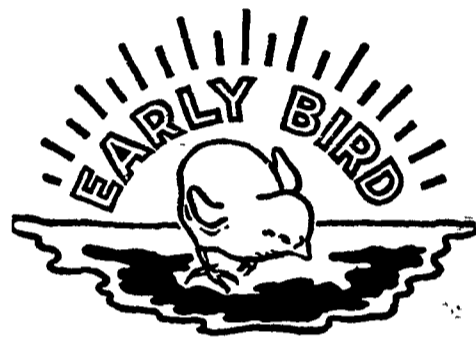
One rat can eat as much as 40 pounds of feed yearly and contaminate 10 times this amount. Stanley G. Gesell, extension entomologist at The Pennsylvania State University, says there are a number of rat baits on the market. When used properly, they are effective and safe. Always follow directions carefully.

ter heat utilization and the fact that corn is cooled in a separate bin

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# 3 GOOD REASONS

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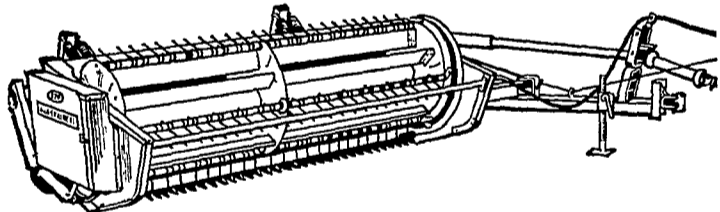
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