

## Near-Perfect Xmas Trees Goal Of Long-Range Plan

Improved varieties of near perfect Christmas trees, ready for market sooner than the wild species now used, are the goal of the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers' Association and the School of Forest Resources at Penn State University.

Long-range plans for such a goal were announced recently during the National Christmas Tree Growers' Convention held in Indiana, Pa. The Growers' Association is organizing the project. Research to develop new varieties will be carried out by Penn State. Once developed, such trees should require very little shearing and should resist damage by insects, diseases, and climate.

As announced at the convention, the plan will seek the cooperation of tree growers, nurserymen, and geneticists to spot the best trees, test them, and make them available for Pennsylvania growers. Dr. Henry D. Gerhold, associate professor of forest genetics at Penn State, said Pennsylvania growers now market Christmas trees worth some \$4,000,000 annually.

Some genetically superior Christmas tree varieties should be in the hands of growers within 10 years after the program

starts, Dr. Gerhold claimed. Assisting with the Penn State research is Edgar H. Palpant, research assistant in the School of Forest Resources.

The program will concentrate on Scotch pine and Douglas fir trees — the two most important Christmas tree species grown in the Commonwealth. The plan will help growers and nurserymen make better use of varieties that are available now, while creating genetically improved varieties for the future.

The best available seed sources will be selected and recommended to participating nurserymen. The best seedlings and transplants, for sale by member nurserymen, will be recommended to growers.

### Still Time to Plant Some Vegetables

Late August is still planting time for a few home garden crops, such as endive, kale, and Chinese cabbage, says James O. Dutt, extension vegetable crops specialist at Penn State. Even September 1 is not too late for spinach, lettuce, and early-maturing radishes. Dutt suggests sowing the seed thinly, and thin again when the plants come up, if necessary.

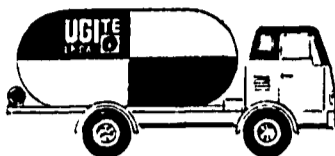
### NO MORE SPOTLIGHTING OF BIG GAME

The Pennsylvania Game Commission this week reminded the public that the spotlighting of big game will be illegal in the state between midnight and sunrise beginning Sept. 1.

Spotlighting of deer is a popular practice in the state, being enjoyed by the non-hunting public as well as sportsmen. Effective Sept. 1, the sport may still be enjoyed during the evening, but the practice will be curtailed after midnight.

A motorist suddenly confronted with a deer darting into the path of his vehicle is not affected by the ban, but the deliberate practice of spotlighting big game animals after midnight will be illegal.

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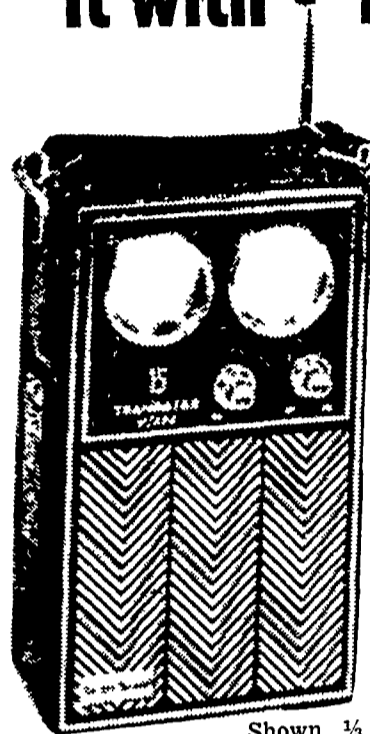
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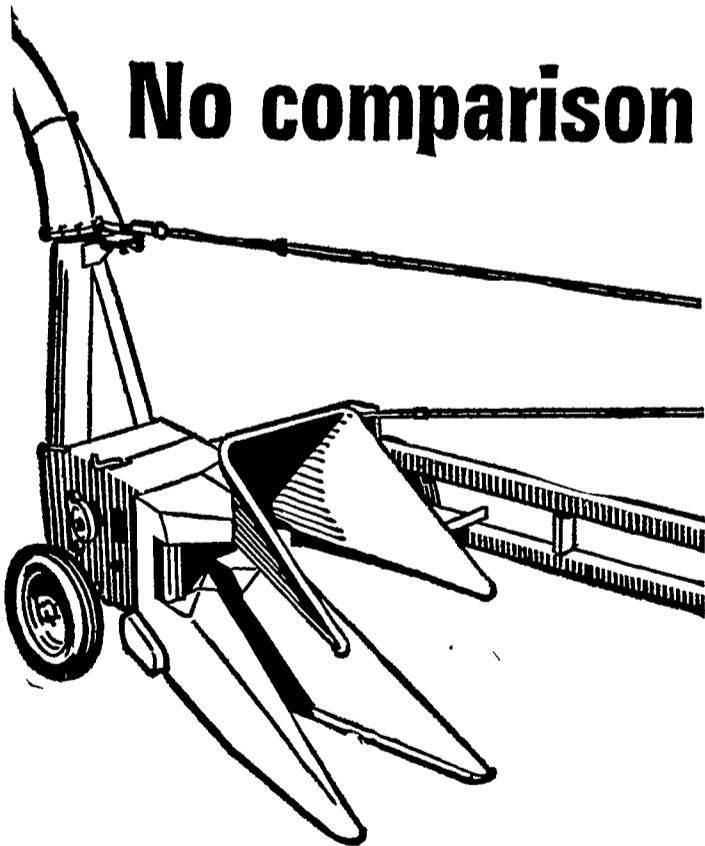
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