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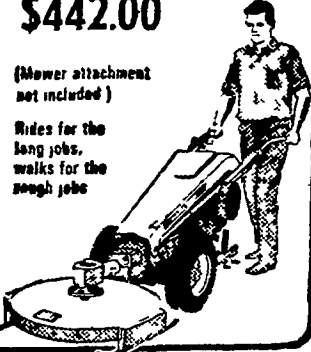
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**New Packaging Film Made From High-Amylose Corn Starch**

Clear, flexible film that dissolves in water has been made from high amylose corn starch in US Department of Agriculture research



**Penn Willows**  
By Eric Eshleman

The organization meeting of the Penn Willows 4-H Club was held Friday March 21st at the Pequea Township Elementary School. Mr. Jay Irwin from the County Extension Service introduced 4-H to 55 eager youths and 15 adults. The next meeting will be April 11th.

The new officers are: Pres., Tim Breneisen; Vice Pres., Don Martin; Sec'y., Bev Martin; Ass't. Sec'y., Julie Harnish; Treas., Peggy Eshleman; Game Leaders: Craig Eshleman, Dennis Landis; Song Leaders, Barb Huber and Liz Lovett; County Council, Debbie Degenhardt, Liz Lovett, Tim Breneisen, Peggy Eshleman; News Reporter, Eric Eshleman.

**BROKEN BIT**  
By Cindy Enck

The monthly meeting of the Broken Bit 4-H Club was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Rheinheimer, R. D. 1, Stevens, Pa., on March 21, 1969.

Slides were shown by Kris Rheinheimer and Mrs. Charles Risser on shoeing a horse.

A demonstration called, "The Bad Parts of a Horse" was given by Cindy Enck.

Plans were discussed for the horse show being scheduled for May 4, at Mt. Airy.

The next meeting is to be held April 18 at the home of Mr.

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Scientists of USDA's Agricultural Research Service foresee that the new film might be used to package such dry products as some foods, detergents, and insecticides.

Amylose makes up about a fourth of the starch in ordinary corn, but high amylose corn, developed by ARS and cooperating corn breeders in research that began about 25 years ago, may contain starch that is from one half to three fourths amylose. The corn starch used in this particular research contained 70 percent amylose.

Films made of high-amylose starch are on the market, but manufacturers have difficulty making clear, flexible films that dissolve in water. This difficulty was overcome in studies at the ARS Northern utilization research laboratory, Peoria, Ill., by Dr. Charles L. Mehlretter and Arthur M. Mark, chemists.

They found that after steam-jet cooking one kind of compound (acetate) derived from high-amylose starch, they could make films with the long-sought properties. The clear flexible films have a wide range of solubilities—some dissolve in water at room temperature and some are insoluble in water at any temperature. Films formed from these cooked acetates also resist penetration by grease and oxygen.

The more soluble films could be used for convenience packaging a variety of products in pre-measured amounts; the package would dissolve, leaving its contents in the water. Less soluble compounds could be used in making films or fibers for special applications related to medicine, surgery, research, food, or health.

**Pasture Cows Slowly** change from winter feeding to pasture feeding can cause mastitis. Feed some hay and grain before dairy cows go out to pasture each day early in the season.

Cows should be let on lush pastures very slowly, says Joe Taylor, extension dairy specialist at The Pennsylvania State University. He warns that a sudden

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