

After rains, during late spring, the soil surface may become too hard for germinating seed to break through. Gardeners can break this crust by raking the surface, say extension horticulturists at the Pennsylvania State University. But be careful not to rake too deeply because garden seeds or seedling may be disturbed.

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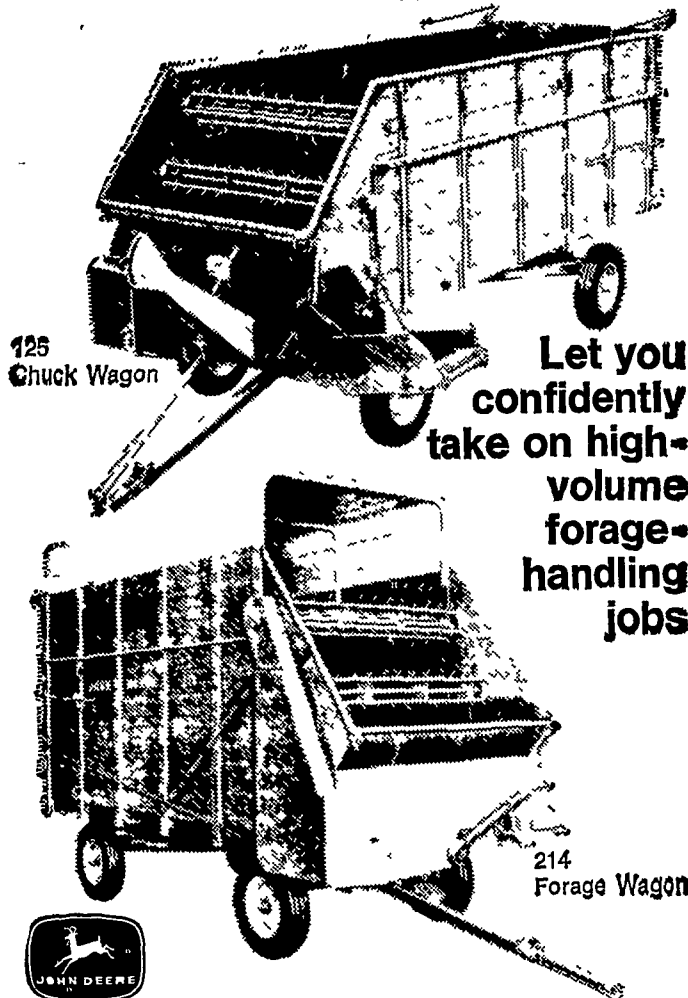
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## A View From The Governor's Office

By Gov. Raymond P. Shafer

Pennsylvania has applied for \$43 million in Federal funds to help finance some \$10.8 million in acid mine drainage elimination projects during the next fiscal year.

The applications, now under review by the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration in Washington, include two major projects to be constructed under the \$500 million Commonwealth conservation fund and another to be financed by 70 percent Federal and 30 percent State money.

These are — A lime-soda neutralization plant capable of treating 15 million gallons of acid water daily now under design for construction at Altoona at an estimated cost of \$25 million in bond issue money. An additional Federal grant of \$359,000 is sought to evaluate results of the process.

— A \$22 million exchange treatment plant now under design for construction on Hawk Run near Phillipsburg and capable of clearing 500,000 gallons of acid water daily. An additional Federal grant of \$359,000 is sought to evaluate results.

— A \$4,175,000 mine drainage cleanup project in the Morris Run area of the Tioga River in Tioga County. This project, to be financed by \$2,922,500 in Federal money, includes backfilling

abandoned strip pits, surface water diversion and stream channel improvement work and elimination of acid water potholes caused by surface subsidence.

In addition, Federal help also is being sought for eight other research projects to be conducted both at Penn State and by private enterprise under contract to the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries.

Right now, Pennsylvania is one of the few states in the Nation ready to take advantage of every Federal dollar currently available for water quality control projects. Last year, for example, 11 of the 18 Federally-funded projects approved by FWPCA were in Pennsylvania.

As a result of research already done by our Department of Mines and Mineral Industries, we now stand on the doorstep to either effective control or ultimate elimination of acid mine drainage as a major source of pollution to more than 3,000 miles of State streams.

We now know where many of these sources are, and we have treatment plants and other facilities either built or being built to control abandoned mine pollution on several key State streams.

In addition, results of the massive engineering-surveys on seven major watersheds, which I ordered last year, are proving to

us that this particular pollution problem could be substantially reduced, if not eliminated in the future, if funds are made available by the Federal Government to match our own effort.

We are certainly hopeful that the FWPCA and the Department of Interior will find joint participation in Pennsylvania's Department of Interior will find joint participation in Pennsylvania's current and future programs to curb abandoned mine drainage pollution will pay the kind of dividends that an alarmed and aware people now demands.

Research projects for which Federal funds are sought follow:

— Evaluation of the use of gel material for sealing openings to abandoned deep mines (\$205,000 Federal and \$61,500 State).

— Determine precise location of concealed abandoned underground mines as pollution sources (\$164,780, \$115,346 Federal and \$49,434 State).

— Evaluate the use of ozone in oxidizing iron in mine drainage (\$255,000, \$178,500 Federal and \$76,500 State).

— Development of a field research unit to further evaluate the use of limestone in treatment of acid mine drainage (\$106,680 Federal and \$31,944 State).

— Development of a program for the magnetic removal of iron from mine drainage (\$81,695 Federal and \$24,509 State).

— Research into the use of mine drainage sludge (Yellow-boy cake) as possible building materials (\$41,275, \$28,892 Federal and \$12,383 State).

— Development of a process for removal of acid from mine drainage by electrodialysis (\$214,504, \$150,152 Federal and \$64,352 State).

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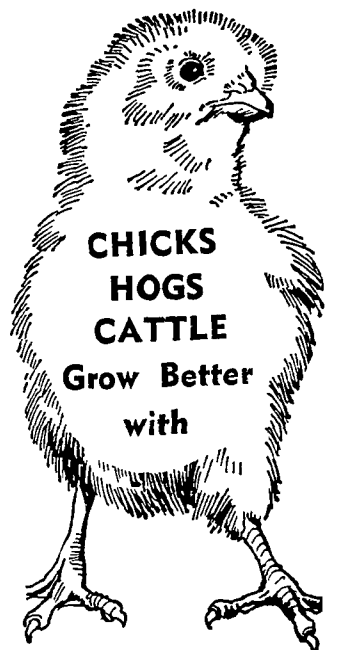
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