

Research Findings Will Aid Alfalfa Dehydration Industry

Pennsylvania's alfalfa dehydration industry—harvesting up to 14,000 acres annually—plans to meet competition from western states by using results of Penn State research to gain maximum yields, according to John B. Washko, professor of agronomy at The Pennsylvania State University.

Comparing varieties and management practices in 1967 and 1968, Dr. Washko and associates determined that yields of alfalfa can be increased by following specific management practices with the best varieties. Producers of alfalfa had found that management of this crop for dehydration is harder on the growing plants than on alfalfa grown for hay.

Poultry Associations Show Historic Unity

The Boards of Directors of NEPPCO, Southeastern Poultry & Egg Ass'n and Pacific Dairy & Poultry Ass'n held a joint meeting in Washington, D.C., April 22. The three "regionals" represented grass roots poultrymen in 35 states comprising some 75% of the nation's poultry & egg production. Nearly 50 officials and directors of the 3 groups attended.

Egg inspection legislation, chicken sausage, truck lot trading on the N.Y. Mercantile Exchange and the Nat'l Poultry Research Foundation were the major topics of discussion.

By formal resolution, the 3 regional pledged to work thru Associated Poultry & Egg Industries on all nat'l issues and urged the nat'l ass'ns to do likewise. In addition, the 3 Boards will shortly consider formation of a joint committee which would meet periodically to flag attention to those matters on which united action might be taken and provide liaison among the 3 Boards.

Yields of late maturing varieties known as North American types, averaged slightly higher than yields for 12 early maturing types Flamande. The North American varieties are superior in resisting bacterial wilt, common in areas where alfalfa is grown for dehydration.

Annual dry matter yields of 46 to 49 tons per acre were obtained in four harvests per season of superior varieties. These varieties were WL 210, WL 303, Saranac, Apex, WL 305, Iroquois, and Progress. Carried out by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station in southcentral counties, the studies were financed by the alfalfa dehydration industry and funds derived from Pennsylvania harness racing income.

Highest yields and greatest plant vigor were obtained with mowing schedules 35 to 40 days apart. Such a schedule is generally used in haymaking. Dr. Washko says harvesting the alfalfa at 25-day intervals proved to be too drastic. Stands of all varieties cut this frequently disappeared before the end of the first growing season.

Weed Control

Weeds are growing and will soon be maturing. All property owners are reminded of their responsibility to control the weeds and prevent their spreading. This may be done by mowing every 4 to 6 weeks during the season or by spraying with a weed killer when the plants are young and growing rapidly. Many areas are covered with weed control ordinances compelling the owners to mow or spray. This is especially true in case of noxious weeds such as Canada Thistle which are quite common and spread rapidly. Property owners should control weeds without being forced by local government.

Vet Gives Tips For Treating Ringworm

Ringworm can cost a dairyman money because it lowers milk production.

Dr. James R. Wadsworth warns that this disease is very common in young cattle, especially during winter and spring. Close confinement helps spread ringworm.

Dr. Wadsworth lists four areas of treatment:

1. Removal of the scales or crust with a stiff brush, using a mild soapy solution.
2. Local application of certain medicines such as equal parts iodine and glycerine, 2% tincture of iodine, Whitfield's ointment; chlorox solution at full strength; quaternary ammonium compounds (1:200 to 1:1000); specific fungicides prescribed by a veterinarian.
3. Intravenous therapy by a

Local District (Continued from Page 1)

serve as judges and will select the state winner. Soil Conservation efforts from January 1, 1969, through December 31, 1969, will be considered.

Grand award for the 53 districts selected nationally will be an expense-paid, work-study trip to Arizona in December, 1970, for one member of the district's governing body and the outstanding farmer-cooperator in each winning district. The 106 men selected will be guests at Good-

veterinarian when ringworm becomes a herd problem.

4. Strict personal cleanliness to avoid human infection.

In addition to lowering milk production, ringworm makes animals unsightly for show purposes. The disease can spread to man, although human infections usually are short.

year Farms, a 14,000-acre general farm operation near Phoenix.

Lancaster County district has taken part in the competition 8 times in the past and was given the state's Exceptional Service Award in 1953-1954, 1956-1957, and 1958-1959. The district also received an award for Prominent Activity in 1955-1956. District supervisors are Amos H. Funk, R.D. #1, Millersville, Henry H. Hackman, R.D. #2, Manheim, Aaron Z. Stauffer, R.D. #1, Ephrata, Everett Kreider, R.D. #1, Quarryville, Kenneth Depoe, R.D. #1, Mount Joy, Bob Mowrer, Willow Street, D. Richard Hackenberger, Sec. Treas. R.D. #1, Millersville.

Funk said the district's outstanding cooperator will be selected from over the 1400 farm operators enrolled in the district program. Nationally, over 2,000,000 farmers in over 2,950 districts have signed cooperative agreements with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

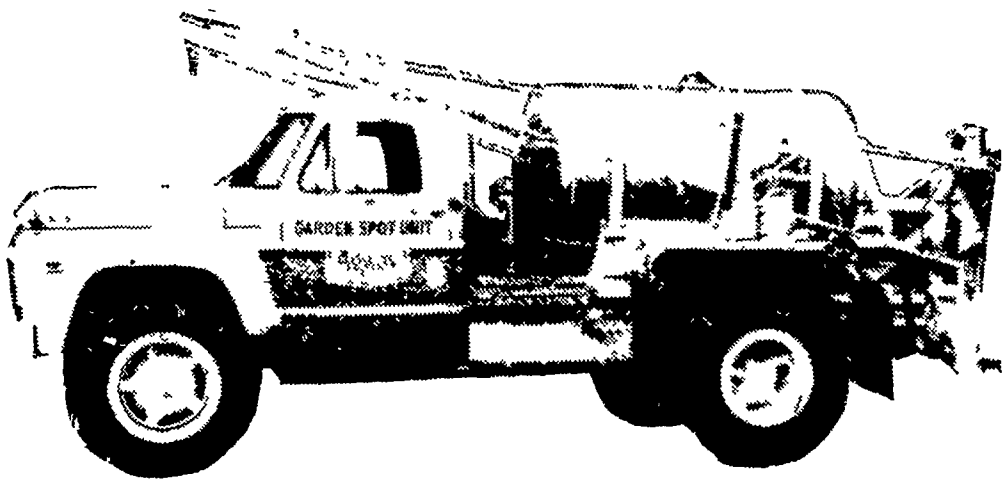
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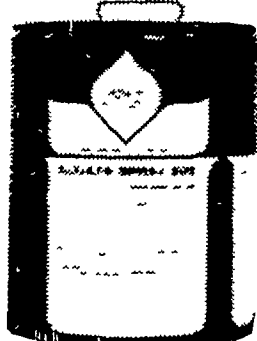


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