

### Check Corn For Management Effects

The period between "lay-by" and tasseling is a critical stage in the development of corn plants because the potential number of kernels is determined during this time. Irv R. Deihl, area agronomist for a leading Hi-Bred Company, says that farmers should use this period to examine areas where practices were different. This way, he reports in the June-July (1969) issue of *Crops and Soils Magazine*, farmers can determine the effects of weed, rootworm, and corn borer control, as well as fertility and soil conditions.

Corn plants should be vigorous and dark green in color. Stunted plants with thin stalks and fired leaves may indicate improper placement of fertilizer, too little fertilizer, poor soil drainage, excessive plant and weed population, or rootworm damage. Stunted plants with spindly stalks are evidence of phosphorus shortage.

If plants are short, with the leaves close together and the lower leaves fired along the outer edges, potassium may be inadequate. Signs of nitrogen deficiency include pale, yellowish-green plants with firing of the lower leaves from the tip along the midrib. Wilted leaves indicate water shortage.

Excessive weed populations accentuate moisture and nutrient problems. If annual broadleaved weeds are numerous, corn growers should consider spraying after pollination.

Tightly rolled top leaves usually indicate a reaction to 2,4-D applied during the "grand growth" period. This herbicide applied with drop extensions at "lay-by" can cause abnormal curling of brace roots and make the stalks brittle. If strong winds occur within two weeks after application, severe stalk breakage is likely. Also, smut may form on leaves or stems after 2,4-D storm damage forces plant tissue to rupture.

Corn borer tunnels weaken stalks and make the plants more susceptible to diseases such as stalk rot. Grasshoppers, armyworms, common stalk borers, and hail also cause major damage.

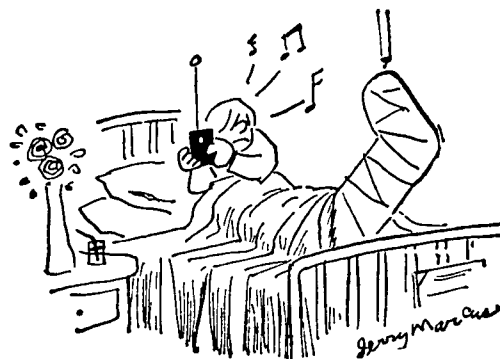
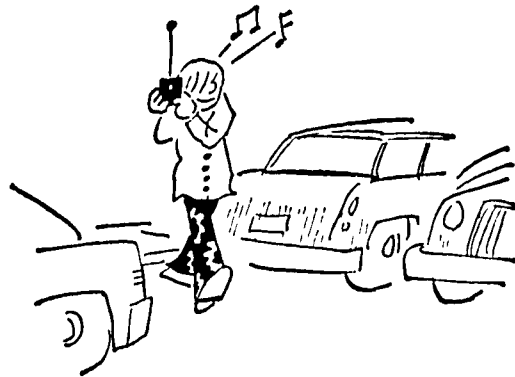
Since many field problems are the result of a combination of factors, farmers who have difficulty interpreting them should consult their extension agronomists. Apparent nutrient deficiencies may be caused by disease and insects, or vice versa.

In diagnosing problems, major attention should be devoted to the bulk of the acreage rather than to the small trouble areas. It is unwise to make radical changes in practices until small scale trials or widespread observations indicate that the changes are feasible.

The giant flamingo of southern Mexico is one of the very few animals whose knee will bend backwards.

### Alcoholocaust

Jerry Marcus



The Travelers Safety Service

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#### Farm Calendar

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Continued from Page 1)                                  | 12:15 p.m. — (noon) Interstate Young Cooperators Banquet, Downingtown Motor Inn |
| Thursday, June 19                                       | Friday, June 20   |
| 7:00 a.m. — Cumberland Wool Pool, Carlisle Fair Grounds | 7:30 p.m. — 4-H Saddle Cinchers meet, Harry Watts, Mannheim R2                  |



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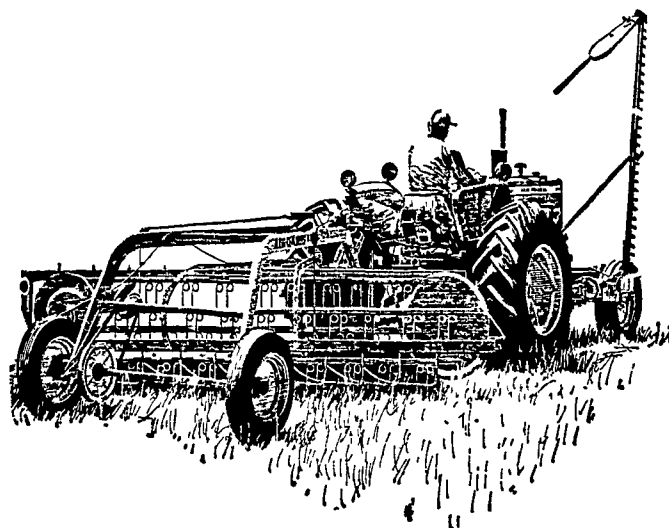
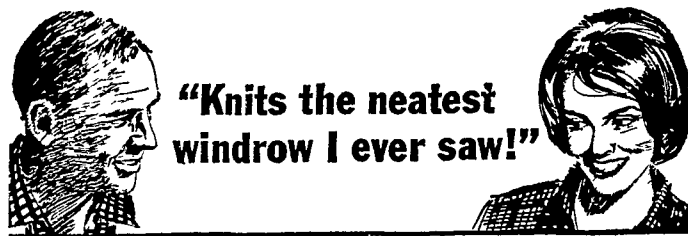
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