

**Pesticides Safe
And Reliable
Specialist Says**

Pesticides, used according to manufacturer's instructions, are reliable and safe, according to John S. McDaniel, agricultural specialist at the University of Delaware.

Pesticides and their use are regulated by strictly enforced federal laws, he explains. So hazards to man from chemical residue on processed food are almost non-existent.

Before any pesticide is marketed, it has been thoroughly and extensively tested for years by qualified experts. Thus home-makers may be assured that the food they buy is safe, nutritious and, best of all, free of insects and disease.

Nevertheless, pesticides are poison, warns McDaniel. They are formulated to kill insects, weeds, fungi, rats, mice and other vermin. Obviously, then, pesticides can be dangerous.

The major cause of pesticide accidents involving children or pets is careless pesticide storage, he adds. Store all pesticides out of reach in a cool, dry place — one that may be locked. To avoid accidental poisoning, never store chemicals near food or medicine.

Keep all pesticides in original, properly labeled containers. And return all unused chemicals to the original container. Without the proper label, there is no way to identify a particular pesticide or to heed directions and precautions. If the original pesticide container becomes unreadable or if the container develops a leak, discard the chemical at once.

Check all printed material accompanying a pesticide, urges McDaniel. Pesticide labels, for example, are carefully reviewed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to make sure information is truthful, not misleading and to insure that directions are adequate and hazards are prominently displayed.

Disposal of empty pesticide containers is also a problem since even the slightest trace of certain chemicals may be hazardous under some circumstances.

Burn paper bags and boxes, advises McDaniel. But be careful to stay away from smoke. Break glass containers and crush cans before dumping to prevent re-use or collection of water in the container. Do not, under any circumstances, throw used pesticide containers in water. Pesticide-contaminated water endangers aquatic life and the life of any animal that may use the water.

Practicing these common sense pesticide precautions will result in freedom from pesticide accidents and in better pest control for farm, home and garden.

The growth of lawn grasses now approaches that of early spring due to the favorable moisture conditions. The question arises about removing the lawn clippings, I realize that is a debatable subject but when growth is heavy, and lawns should be clipped more than once a week it is quite likely that a very heavy thatch will develop unless some of the clippings are removed. In times of lush growth and high humidity, the clippings of last time are not dry before another clipping is needed. In many cases this build-up of thatch will cause trouble and be the start of a decrease in the thickness and thrift of the grass plants. Under present conditions I'd suggest the lawn be mowed two times a week and clippings removed if they are still noticeable after a 24 hour period.

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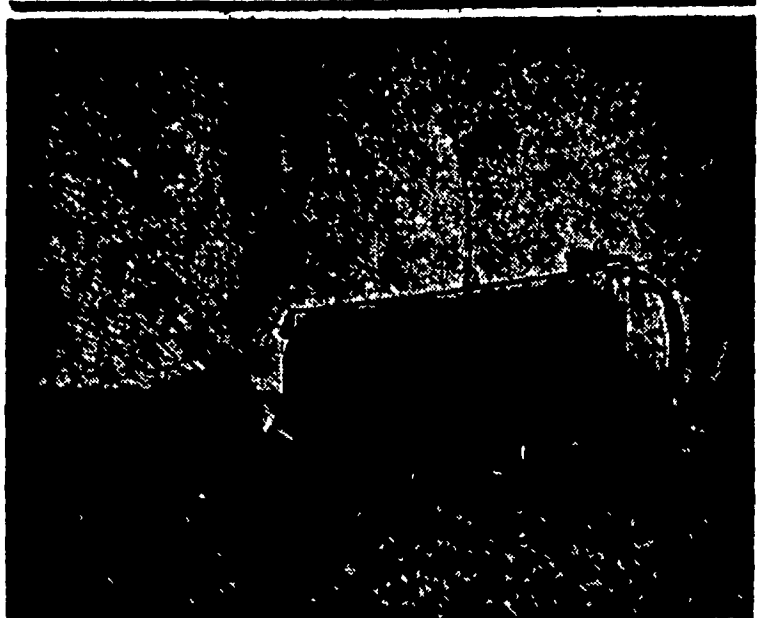
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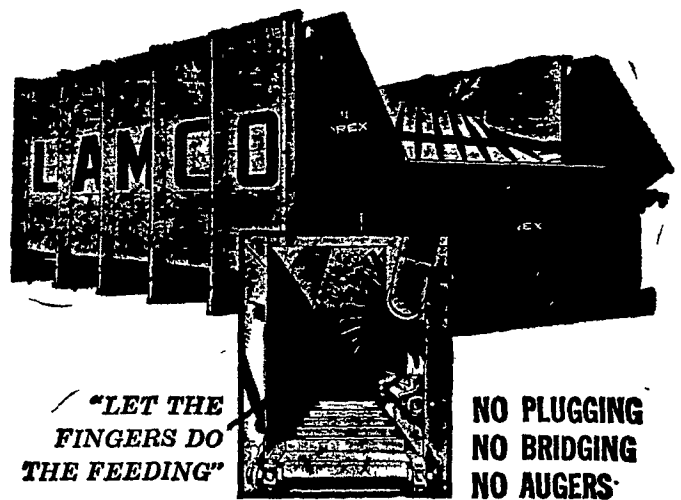
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