

Turkey Virus Shows Promise Of Marek's Disease Control

A virus, newly isolated from turkeys, shows promise for the control of Marek's disease which costs the poultry industry about \$200 million annually.

Discovered in research led by ARS veterinarian R. L. Witter, East Lansing, Mich., the turkey virus causes the chicken's body to produce antibodies similar to those formed in chicken infected with the herpes virus that causes Marek's disease. So far the turkey virus has not caused disease in chickens or turkeys. Tests have shown that chickens inoculated with the non-pathogenic virus were protected against attacks by the Marek's disease virus.

Marek's disease is extremely contagious and produces a high rate of mortality in a short time. At present, there is no preventive or combative treatment. Sanitation has been recommended but, unfortunately, does not assure that Marek's disease will not occur in a new replacement flock.

The causative herpes virus was only recently discovered (AGR. RES. Oct. 1967, p. 6). Formerly, Marek's disease had been grouped with avian lymphoid leukosis, a disease it closely resembles. These two diseases are still easily confused since the clinical signs are very simi-

lar. Marek's disease, however, strikes swiftly and takes a high toll while lymphoid leukosis is a chronic affliction with a low mortality rate. Also, Marek's disease does most of its damage to young broilers and layers, while lymphoid leukosis hits chickens after sexual maturity.

Further investigations will be conducted to determine whether the turkey virus is safe and effective as a vaccine that will confer immunity against Marek's disease. This may require a long time. Laboratory studies and field trials must be carefully planned and conducted to insure proper evaluation of the turkey virus. But the outlook for developing a new vaccine is promising.

The turkey virus may also help scientists to better understand the interrelationship of tumors and viruses in other animals and man. Related but different viruses are associated with many diseases of man and animals and have been isolated from human lymphoid tumors.

Exception to Rule

Rubber is an exception to the rule that nearly all solids expand when heated and contract when cooled. It contracts when heated.

Penna. Farm Show Program By Day

Monday Morning, January 12

- 8:00—Judging starts in all Departments, except where specified hours are indicated.
- 8:00—Judging Southdowns—Small Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Wyandottes including Junior Dairy Classes—Large Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Guernseys, including Junior Dairy Classes—Large Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Chester Whites—Small Arena.
- 8:00-5:30—Vocational Demonstration Contests, Room A (Auditorium), Main Show Building.
- 8:30—Christmas Tree Growers Association Meeting, Penn Harris Motor Inn.
- 9:00—Judging Poland Chicks—Small Arena.
- 9:00—Judging Belgians—Large Arena.
- 9:00—Judging Shrop Shires—Small Arena.
- 9:30—Beekeepers Association Meeting, Room C, Main Show Building.
- 9:30-5:00—Future Homemakers of America homemaker demonstrations, Department of Education Booth, Upper Concourse, Large Arena.
- 10:00—Society of Farm Women, Annual Convention The Forum, Education Building.
- 10:00—Judging Suffolk—Small Arena.
- 10:00—Judging Duroc—Small Arena.
- 11:00—Judging Hampshire—Small Arena.
- 11:00—Chester White Swine Breeders Association Meeting, Room D, Main Show Building.

Monday Afternoon, January 12

- 12:30—Judging Berkshires—Small Arena.
- 1:00—Judging Grade Horses—Large Arena.
- 1:00—Judging Hampshire Sheep—Small Arena.
- 1:00—Beekeepers Association reconvenes, Room C, Main Show Building.
- 1:00—Society of Farm Women reconvenes, The Forum, Education Building.
- 1:30—Judging Yorkshires—Small Arena.
- 1:30—Christmas Tree Growers Association reconvenes, Penn-Harris Motor Inn.
- 1:30—Raw Milk Producer-Distributors Association Meeting, Office No. 2, Large Arena, Second Concourse.
- 1:30—Future Homemakers of America Executive Council Meeting, Room 103, Executive House.
- 2:00—Berkshire Breeders, Association Meeting, Room B, Main Show Building.
- 2:30—Judging Spotted Swine—Small Arena.
- 2:30—Judging Dorsets—Small Arena.
- 3:30—Judging Cheviots—Small Arena.
- 3:30—Ayrshire Breeders Association Meeting, Room E, Main Show Building.

Monday Evening, January 12

- 6:00—Society of Farm Women Banquet, Scot-

- tish Rite Cathedral, 2701 N. Third Street.
- 6:30—Beekeepers Association Banquet, Colonial Park United Church of Christ, 5000 Devonshire Road.
- 6:30—Christmas Tree Growers Association Banquet, Penn Harris Motor Inn.
- 7:00—Cooperative Swine Breeders Association Meeting, Room B, Main Show Building.
- 7:20—Horse and Mule Association Meeting, Room E, Main Show Building.
- 7:20—Secretary of Agriculture's Night—Large Arena.
- 8:00—Suffolk Sheep Association Meeting, Room D, Main Show Building.
- 8:00—Guernsey Breeders Association Social Evening, Penn Harris Hotel Ballroom.

Tuesday Morning, January 13

- 8:00—Judging Vocational Swine Classes, all breeds—Small Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Holsteins, including Junior Dairy Classes—Large Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Corriedales—Small Arena.
- 8:00—Judging Milking Shorthorn, including Junior Dairy Classes—Large Arena.
- 8:00-5:30—Vocational Demonstration Contests, Room A (Auditorium), Main Show Building.
- 9:00—Judging Percherons—Large Arena.
- 9:00—Judging Rambouillets—Small Arena.
- 9:00—Judging Merinos—Small Arena.
- 9:00—Society of Farm Women Meeting, Room F, Main Show Building.
- 9:00—Future Homemakers of America, Executive Council Meeting, Room 103, Executive House.
- 9:00—Christmas Tree Growers Association reconvenes, Penn-Harris Motor Inn.
- 9:30—Future Farmers of America, Executive Committee Meeting, Room 321, Education Building.
- 9:30-5:00—Future Homemakers of America homemaker demonstrations, Department of Education Booth, Upper Concourse, Large Arena.
- 10:00—Guernsey Breeders Association Meeting and noon Banquet, Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2701 N. Third Street.
- 10:00—Yorkshire Swine Sale—Small Arena.
- 11:30—Spotted Swine Sale—Small Arena.

Tuesday Afternoon, January 13

- 1:00—Landrace Swine Breeders Association Meeting, Room E, Main Show Building.
- 1:00—Poland China Swine Sale—Small Arena.
- 1:30—Future Farmers of America Executive Committee reconvenes, Room 321, Education Building.

(Continued on Page 25)

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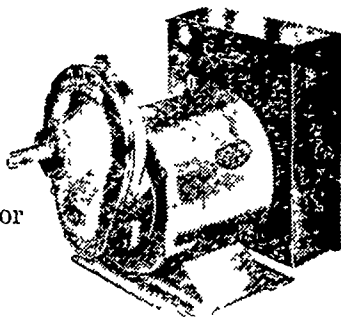
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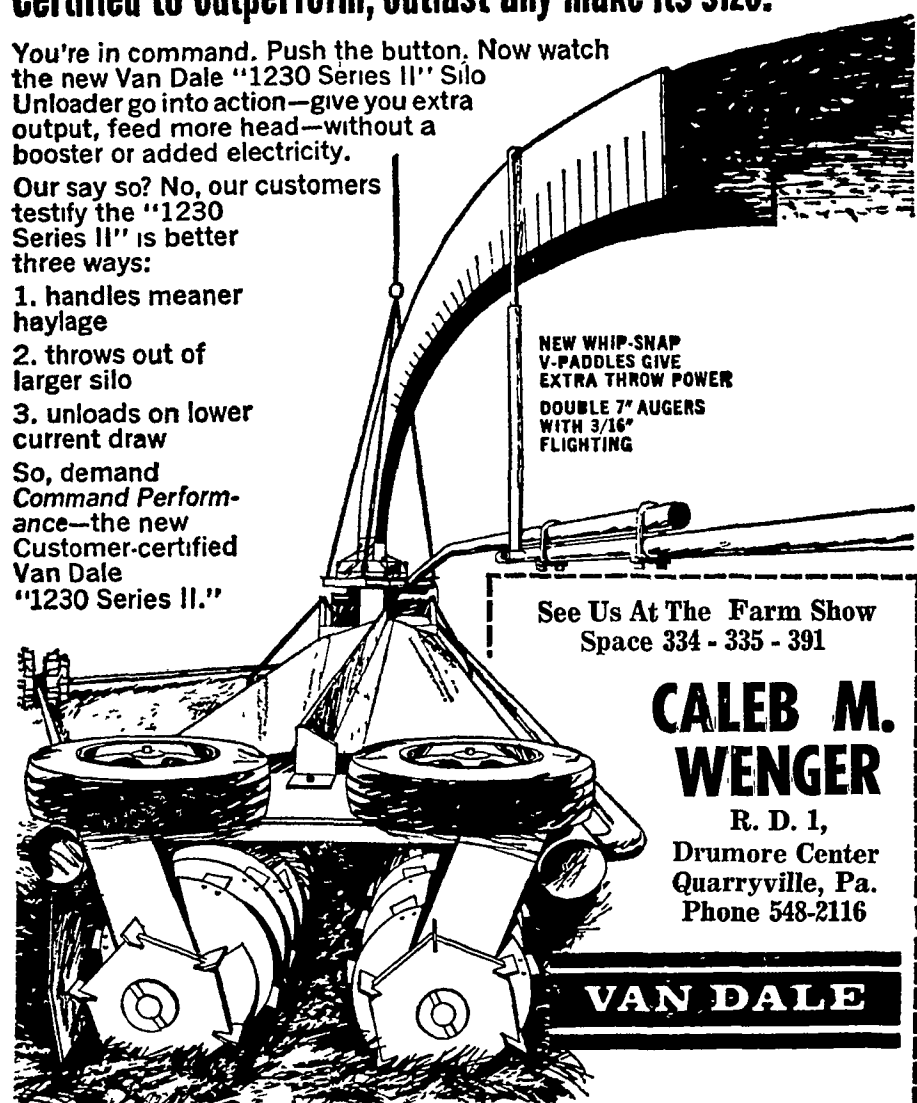
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