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Nitrogen Use Urged

Application of nitrogen to the soil is probably the most important soil treatment from the standpoint of animal health. It was stated during the annual Lime and Fertilizer Conference held recently at Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Dale E. Baker, associate professor of soil technology at Penn State, said addition of nitrogen results in more total production but lower than normal concentrations of phosphorus, potassium, calcium, and magnesium and most other metallic ions in plants. Additional nitrogen also produces higher concentrations of crude protein than otherwise in forage.

He expressed a precautionary note that some additions of nitrogen can produce higher than normal concentrations of non-protein nitrogen under adverse growing conditions.

Such conditions include a prolonged period of dry and hot weather, a severe hail storm, or an early killing frost. Such conditions have produced nitrate poisoning of livestock from corn silage, Dr. Baker said.

"Any condition which causes a plant to carry on photosynthesis at a much reduced rate without decreasing the rate of

Pet Food Inspection

Pet food inspections are being intensified in Pennsylvania, the State Agriculture Department has announced.

A Department official said feed inspectors have been instructed to purchase all types of pet food — dog and cat food, wild bird seed, canary seed, turtle feed, hamster and other pet feed — and send them to the Department laboratories for analysis.

Previously the Department had emphasized dog and cat food in its inspections.

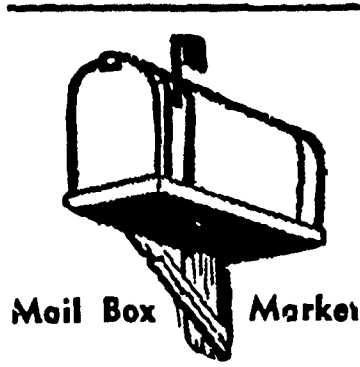
"We want to know if the ingredients listed on labels tally with what is actually in the containers," said Nick L. Turko, chief of the Department's Division of Feed and Fertilizer Control.

"The purchaser of pet food, like any other consumer, is entitled to know that he's getting what he's paying for."

transpiration of water can result in high nitrate nitrogen concentrations, especially in corn stalks," he stated.

From an animal health point of view, addition of phosphorus to soils is an excellent practice for both quality and quantity of feed produced, it was pointed out.

The raising of race horses on the high phosphorus soils of Kentucky was described as one example of the association of good animal health with high availability of phosphorus in soils.



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State Adopts Federal Meat Inspection Guide

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture announced that it has adopted federal meat and poultry regulations in the state's meat, poultry and food inspection programs.

The move was made to establish uniform inspection standards that will not hamper processors and packers nor restrict inter-state trade of meat and poultry products, State Agriculture Secretary Leland H. Bull said. The new standards replace state regulations that had governed the processing, packing and sale of meat and poultry products in Pennsylvania.

The double standard of inspection — under both federal and state regulations — often created difficult and confusing situations for meat processors and packers, Secretary Bull said. "Uniform regulations will be an important factor in easing trade restrictions that stemmed from this double standard," he added.

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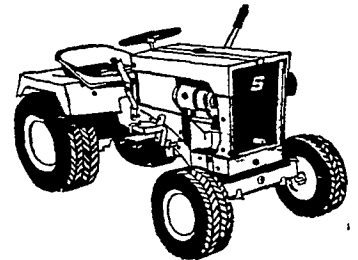
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