

# Speaker Sees Group Effort to Stop Insects

The entire concept of insect control will eventually undergo a drastic change.

Growers and others in affected areas must be prepared to support organized efforts to suppress pests in selected control areas in a community, regional or national effort, a U S Department of Agriculture scientist said in Chicago recently.

Limitations of present insect control concepts, as well as potential applications of biological or biochemical control concepts in the future, were discussed by Dr. Edward F. Knippling, director of entomology research in USDA's Agricultural Research Service, at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"Control measures should be selective for specific pest species so as to obtain maximum help from the pests' natural enemies, which may be killed by conventional insecticides," he said.

Dr. Knippling then outlined a "total population management approach"—one requiring group cooperation rather than patchwork control on individual farms. Such an approach would be particularly adapted to the several dozen key insect species that cause losses ranging up to several hundred million dollars annually, and that account for use of most insecticides.

"Research to develop effective and ecologically acceptable population suppression and management methods will be difficult and, in all probability, will not be feasible for several hundred minor pests," he indicated.

"For major pest species, however, the general approach employing new techniques still under development offers solutions that are more effective, more economical, and ecologically acceptable."

Dr. Knippling described research aimed at exploiting insects' natural enemies, genetic defects, sterilization, crop management practices that aid in control, and possible integration of these techniques with minimal use of conventional insecticides.

"We are still some years away

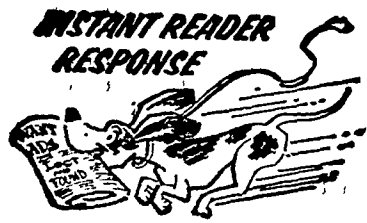
## C&MS Will Administer Ag Fair Practices Act

Responsibility for enforcing the Agricultural Fair Practices Act has been transferred to the Consumer and Marketing Service, the U S Department of Agriculture announced recently.

The Act establishes standards of fair practices for handlers and processors who deal with farmers. It prohibits discrimination by handlers and processors against members of a producer's association or cooperative. The Act had been administered by the Farmer Cooperative Service since its enactment in 1968.

USDA officials said the change was made to provide a closer tie-in with other marketing regulatory programs now administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service.

Claims of violation of this Act may be reported to the Deputy Administrator, Regulatory Programs, Consumer and Marketing Service, U S Department of Agriculture, Washington, D C. 20250.



from development of alternative techniques for a wide range of insects," he said. "We are even more years away from public and grower acceptance and support of the type of programs that will be needed, even after scientists develop and demonstrate the success of these measures."

Dr. Knippling noted that insecticides, despite their great usefulness, have not resulted in permanent or lasting solutions to any of the major pests, which remain as numerous and destructive as ever.

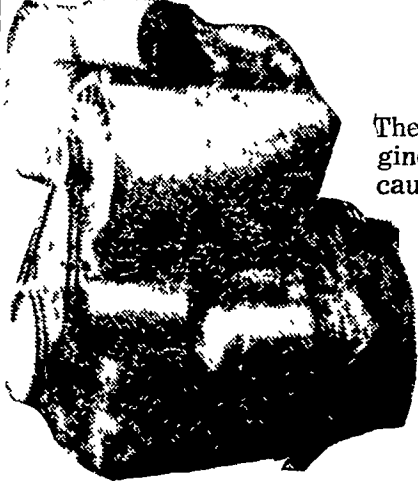
"Today, over three-fourths of ARS research on insect control

methods is devoted to the development of alternative and selective control procedures, and to basic investigations in support of those goals," he said.

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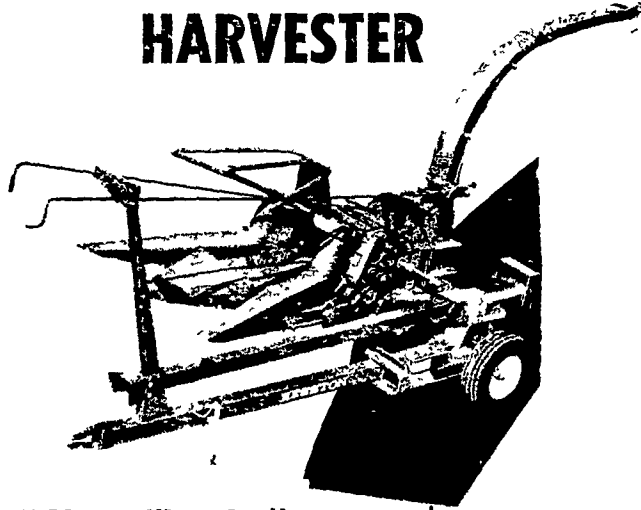
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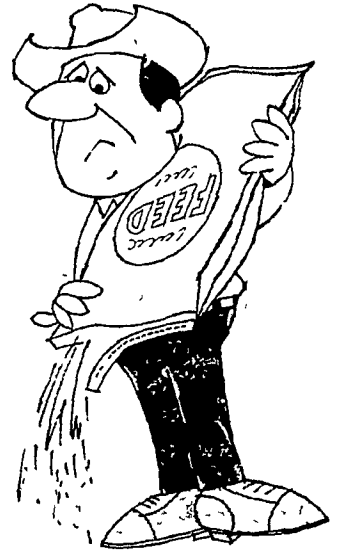
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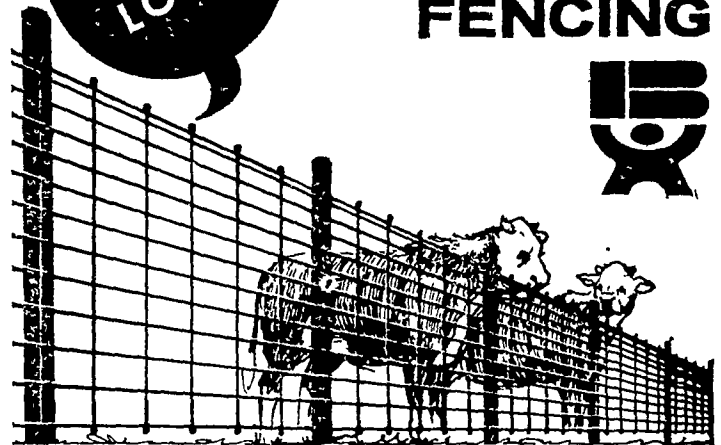
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