

Blight Spreads, Infection Is Light

Southern Corn Leaf Blight (SCLB) has now been reported in approximately 581 counties in 28 States, the National Federal-State Information Center for Corn Blight reported last week. This is an increase of about 159 counties and 2 States from the 422 counties and 26 States reported a week ago. New States reporting are New York and New Jersey.

However, the Information Center emphasized that counties are reported when the disease has been identified — even though it may involve only one plant in one field — and that because of the inability to observe all corn fields, SCLB in-

fection may currently exist in counties not yet officially reported.

Plant pathologists generally indicate that the overall infection level is light in most counties where the disease has been identified. However, some pathologists also report somewhat heavier levels of infection are now occurring, including some field-to-field spread of the disease.

This situation is largely limited to localized areas where heavy concentrations of SCLB susceptible T cytoplasm seed were planted, and where volunteer corn or diseased debris from the 1970 crop remained in fields, or where farmers carried on crib shelling or corn loading operations.

States reporting locally severe occurrences of the disease include Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

The Blight Information Center reported that although the most frequent reports of Race T SCLB infection are from the Corn Belt States, some increase in the disease has been noted in the Southern corn producing States of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Overall infection levels throughout the Southern States are substantially below those occurring during the 1970 crop season.

Wiles Gets Research Post

Jack A. Wiles, 180 Holland Road, New Holland, has been named New Product Research Administrator at Victor F. Weaver, Inc.

Wiles, a native of Terra Alta, W. Va., joined Weaver in 1970 as an Entree Development Supervisor, the position he has held until his promotion.

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman

16th District—Pennsylvania



If you were asked to paint a picture of poverty, how would it look? I suspect that you might paint a picture of a ghetto—a bleak, rat-infested tenement in the midst of a city containing thousands of unsmiling, depressed people.

You would probably choose to use the ghetto as your concept of poverty because that is the picture that has been promoted by the news media and by many politicians. We tend to think of poor people as a big city problem. And, therefore, we tend to develop poverty and welfare programs costing billions of dollars around the idea of dealing with the urban poor.

But a picture of a ghetto would not reflect the national poverty problem. Using the figure most often to convince us that America has a poverty problem—25 million people with incomes below the poverty level—my research shows that far less than half the poor in the United States reside in the cities. In fact, only thirty-two percent of the Nation's poor live in our urban centers.

That means that sixty-eight percent of all persons considered poverty-stricken are to be found in rural suburban areas. Specifically, fifty percent of all poor live in rural environments and eighteen percent dwell in the suburbs.

Rural poverty is a greater problem than urban poverty proportionally speaking too. Even if the suburban poor are lumped in with the city poor, rural poverty is the greater blight.

These statistics are important because they show the extent to which the real nature of the poverty problem in the United States has been ignored. Although most of the poor are country poor, the concentration of attention has been on city poor. Because most of the poor have found ways to provide a subsistence for themselves, we forget them and design programs around the minority of poor that live in the cities and in many cases do nothing for themselves. The only time the country poor are included is in the statistics to justify the spending of more billions of dollars. The majority of poor people in America get listed but not listened to.

My point is that its high time that we begin to face problems as problems really are. The poverty problem would be a good place to start since much could be and should be done to help people to help themselves. But in putting forth that effort let's start with the fact that most people in this country already are doing a great deal to help themselves. They are poor in possessions but rich in spirit. It is the minority of poor, mostly in the cities, who are poor in both possessions and spirit. And no amount of welfare or poverty programs can conquer the poverty of spirit. That a man must do on his own. Our efforts should encourage him to do so and further encourage the rural poor who are already doing so.

Local Sheep Producers Show in 23rd Keystone

Several local sheep producers were among participants from 14 states and Canada in the Twenty-Third annual Keystone Ram and Ewe Sale last Saturday, July 10, at the Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

Milton K. Morgan, 1916 New Holland Pike, Lancaster, was show manager. He reported that a total of 203 sheep sold averaged \$102. This included 38 wethers which averaged \$30.

A Dorset ram of Robert Herr, Narvon RD, was first place ram lamb and reserve grand champion. The animal sold for \$530, second highest price for a Dorset in the country this year. One of Herr's ewes placed third in a class of 22.

Forget Jogging?

Forget jogging.

All that panting and puffing is for nothing, according to news reports of a study at Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, Hines, Illinois.

Drs. Alexander P. Remenchik and Gissur Brynjolfsson have been unable in animal experiments to find any evidence that exercise is beneficial to normal rats or those with high blood pressure. In fact, the rats with highest blood pressure rate showed the highest mortality rate after a program of running on a rotating drum.

The physicians said they were surprised at the result, since exercise has been touted as an answer to cardiovascular disease.

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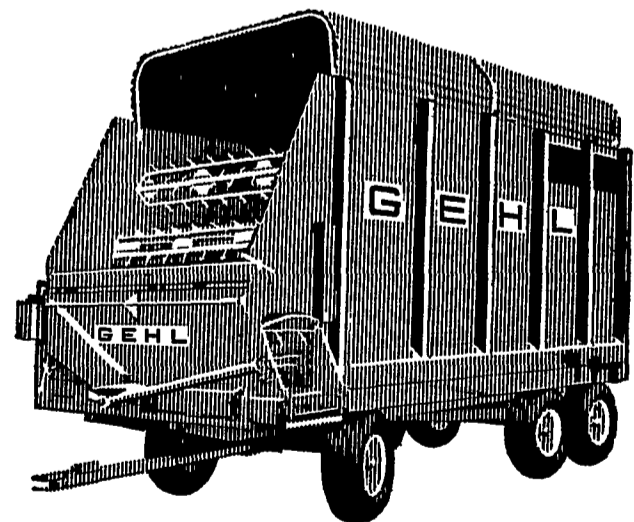
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