

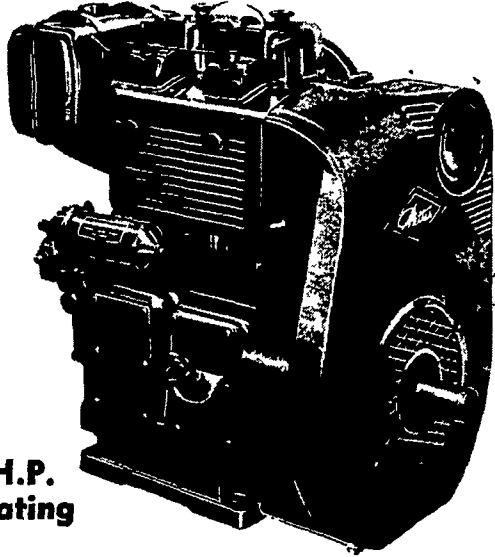
Voluntary Isolation Plan Announced for Swine Disease Control



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A new approach to protecting swine herds against disease—a Voluntary Isolation Plan—was announced recently by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Swine producers who agree to participate in the voluntary plan must set up a special isolation facility on their premises to receive new herd additions and to hold them there for a 30-day quarantine period. The procedures must maintain the rest of their herds independently of this quarantine facility and may divide them into additional isolated units as a further precaution against disease spread.

Although initiated in conjunction with the National Hog Cholera Eradication Program, officials of USDA's Agricultural Research Service said the plan goes beyond offering protection against a single disease. They call it essentially a sound management plan for healthier swine herds, with multiple benefits.

The plan is one recommended by the Secretary's National Hog Cholera Eradication Advisory Committee and the U.S. Animal Health Association. Other groups representing the swine industry have approved of the basic concepts.

While any swine producer willing to meet the exceptionally high health and sanitation standards is eligible, the plan should be of particular advantage to owners of large commercial or purebred swine-producing operations.

An obvious benefit of the plan is the potential limiting of disease spread. If contagious disease strikes the isolated herd, it may only be necessary to treat pigs in the isolated unit affected. Or in the case of hog cholera, it may be necessary to depopulate only the unit affected.

Swine producers interested in enrolling their herds in the plan should apply through the State veterinarian or through the Federal veterinarian in charge of ARS's Animal Health Division office in the State.

To be accepted for Voluntary Isolation Plan swine herd designation, a producer's premises must undergo inspection by a team named by the State's Hog Cholera Committee or equivalent organization. Included on the team will be at least one State or Federal regulatory veterinarian.

The inspecting team will prescribe measures needed to establish and maintain the in-

tegrity of isolated units and to stipulate other sanitation and health measures.

As a further benefit of the plan, buyers or dealers are likely to have greater confidence in the health status of swine produced on such premises; and the Voluntary Isolation Plan designation may be advertised.

Narvon RD2 Girl Killed In Fall From Wagon

Five-year-old Betty Elizabeth Blank, Narvon RD2, died instantly when she fell beneath the wheels of a hay wagon on the farm of her parents, Daniel K. and Sarah Stoltzfus Blank, Wednesday.

The girl was reportedly driving the mule team on the farm north of White Horse near Chester County when the team bolted. The girl fell backwards into the path of the wagon wheels.

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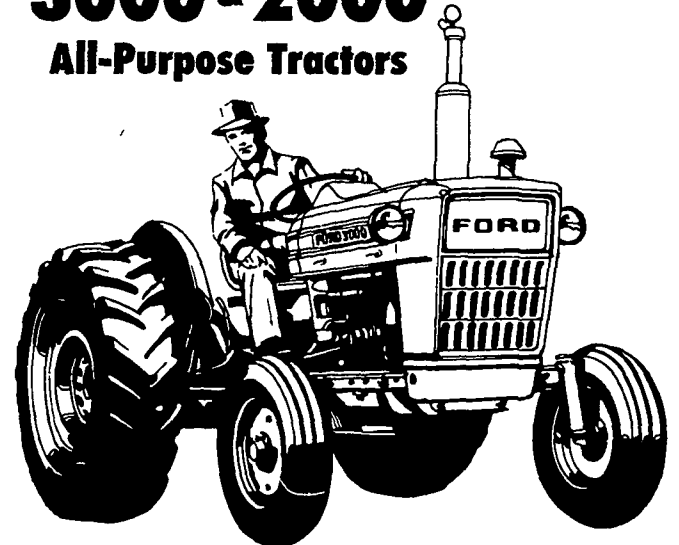
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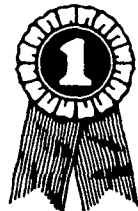
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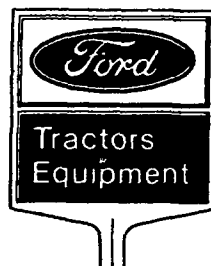
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