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Smith Warns of Prussic Acid

Farmers producing sudan grass or one of the sudan sorghum hybrids have been cautioned about the formation of prussic acid in plants which have been frosted.

The acid can result in poisoning livestock, Max Smith, Lancaster County ag agent, warned. There's more danger from the hybrids following a killing frost, he said.

Smith offered the following advice:

First, do not graze or green chop the forage following a frost for at least one week and until the

plant is entirely dead and brownish in color. After that, the plant may be used in any way without danger.

Second, if the plant is frosted, it may be made into silage at any time and allowed to go through a 30 day fermentation period before use.

If warm weather returns after the frost and new growth occurs at the base of the plant, this aftermath growth is also high in prussic acid and should be treated with the same precautions as the originally frosted plant.

Virulent Newcastle Strain Reported

Over 90 percent of some unvaccinated laying flocks affected by a new strain of Newcastle disease have died, according to Dr. Gene C. Masters, director of statistical analysis, United Egg Producers.

The highly virulent strain was reported to have first appeared in Mexico and later showed up in four states of the United States, Dr. Masters reported.

It has been reported in five commercial flocks in Texas and New Mexico. It has been reported in caged exotic fowl in Florida and New York. It has also been reported in Canada and Europe. Losses in England are reported to be severe.

"All poultry producers should be alert to the danger of the disease and of steps which should be taken if it occurs," Dr. Masters warned. "Although the present cases appear to be contained, the possibility of a serious problem in the U.S. appears to be evident in the severity of the problem in England."

Vaccination with presently available vaccines appears to be an effective means of containment of the new strain, he said. The best protection is offered by repeated vaccination including at least one individual vaccination.

Of the individual methods, the

intra-muscular method is possibly slightly preferred to intraocular and intra-nasal methods. The spray method is preferred to water treatment for repeated vaccinations.

"A careful vaccination program would appear to be one of the best forms of insurance against the new strain where Newcastle is a problem," Dr. Masters emphasized.

The impact of widespread occurrence of the disease would be to reduce egg supplies and to increase price. Although the present U.S. flock size is declining as compared to last year, the rate of lay is higher. This continues to result in egg supplies in surplus of needs.

In summary, Dr. Masters said each firm should protect itself from possible losses from the new strain of Newcastle. Present vaccines properly used appear to offer good protection from the new virulent strains of the disease.

Pa. Young Farmers Schedule Convention

The Pennsylvania Young Farmers Convention will be held November 10-11 at Lebanon.

James McHale, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, is scheduled to speak.



Linda Kauffman, Elizabethtown RD1, shows her grand champion Holstein at the Manheim Fair Thursday night.

Kauffmans' Cows Win at Manheim Fair

The Kauffmans of Elizabethtown RD1 took most of the top spots in the dairy show at the Manheim Fair Thursday night.

Young Linda Kauffman led the family with the grand champion in open Holstein competition, as well as in the 4-H - FFA event.

Father Robert had the reserve grand champion in the open Holstein competition.

Entries in the other breeds were limited.

In Brown Swiss, Donald Wenger was grand champion with his senior calf, followed by Kerry Boyd, reserve champion with an intermediate calf.

In Guernseys, John Miller was grand champion with a junior calf and Marlin Becker was reserve champion.

In the highly sought after fitting and showing showmanship awards, Kerry Boyd was named top fitter and Raelene Harbold won the showmanship trophy.

A breakdown of approximately the top one-third of the winners in the Holstein classes is as follows: Holstein Bull, Clarence Stauffer; junior calf, Paul Horning; intermediate calf, Bob Kauffman and Clarence Stauffer; senior calf, Robert Kauffman and Martin Becker; junior yearling, Susan Kauffman and Russell Kline; senior yearling,

Earl Stauffer and Linda Kauffman. Stauffer's senior yearling was also named junior champion.

Two year old, Linda Kauffman and Robert Kauffman; three year old, Robert Kauffman; four year old, Clarence Stauffer; aged cow, Robert Kauffman and Clarence Stauffer.

Senior get of sire, Robert Kauffman, best three females, Robert Kauffman and Clarence Stauffer, produce of dam, Robert Kauffman; best three females in milk, Robert Kauffman; breeders young herd, Clarence Stauffer; best udder, Linda Kauffman and Robert Kauffman, three generations of females, Clarence Stauffer

Farm Calendar

Saturday, October 9
North American Dairy Show, Ohio Exposition Center, Columbus, Ohio, October 9 - 14.

Tuesday, October 12
6:30 p.m.—Southeastern Pennsylvania Poultry Association fall meeting, Holiday Inn, Pottstown

Joint conference, Soil and Water Conservation Commissioners and District Directors, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, October 12 - 14.

Wednesday, October 13
National FFA Convention, Kansas City, Mo., October 13 - 15.

Thursday, October 14
6:30 p.m.—Lancaster County Poultry Association annual dinner meeting, Plain and Fancy Restaurant, Bird-in-Hand

Newspaper Farm Editors Association convention, Kansas City, Mo., October 14 - 15.

Saturday, October 16
8 p.m.—Fulton Grange meeting, Fulton Grange Hall, Oakryn

Local Persons Will Be Honored at FFA Convention

Local youths and adults will be among hundreds to be honored at the National FFA Convention next week as several thousand FFA youths from all over the nation gather at Kansas City, Mo., October 12 to 15 for the 44th Annual National FFA Convention.

Alvin L. Schlouch, Grassland FFA Chapter of New Holland, is one of four regional winners competing for the National Placement in Agricultural Production Award. The award is one of 15 agricultural proficiency awards presented annually by the FFA Foundation. Each regional winner receives travel funds to Kansas City and a cash award of \$200. The national winner receives an additional \$50.

Robert P. Simon, superin-

tendent, Eastern Lancaster County School District, New Holland, is scheduled to receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree. This award will be given to a total of 119 persons from throughout the U.S. who have given outstanding service to the FFA.

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Also receiving the Honorary American Farmer Degree is J. Roy Bickel, Northern Lebanon High School.

Lloyd John Wenger, Myerstown RD1, is one of four regional FFA Star Agri businessmen of America competing for the Star Agri businessman award. Last year, the 19-year-old Wenger sold nearly half a million dollars worth of farm machinery, making him one of the top agricultural machinery salesmen in Pennsylvania.

Allen S. Maclay, a 1971 graduate of Garden Spot High School, will be a member of the 1971 National FFA Chorus.

American Farmer Degree candidates from Pennsylvania include Larry L. High, 2490 Creek Hill Road, Lancaster. Two other American Farmer

Degree candidates from Lebanon County are: Richard R. Troutman Jr, Richland RD1, Conrad Weiser FFA Chapter, and Wenger, the Star Agri businessman candidate.

The Cloister FFA Chapter of Ephrata is one of 30 local chapters nationally to receive Gold Emblem Safety Awards. The award recognizes efforts by the FFA Chapter to promote safety in the community.

Other local FFA members will attend and participate in the national FFA Convention.

The convention is an annual event to conduct the business of the national FFA and give awards for outstanding accomplishments of FFA members on the national level. More than 11,000 FFA members are expected to attend.