

Dr. Robert Gentry to Speak on Poultry Condemnations

Dr. Robert Gentry, Penn State poultry disease researcher, will address Pennsylvania poultrymen and poultry processors at a meeting at 1:30 p.m. January 12 in Room 309, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Building, Harrisburg.

In order to maintain our position in the poultry industry, positive steps must be taken to reduce condemnations to a very minimum, according to Dr. Gentry.

Records show that most broilers are condemned under three categories, namely 1) Marek's Disease, 2) airsacculitis, 3) septicemia-toxemia. The first two categories are specific disease problems.

Marek's Disease is a virus infection and birds are condemned due to the presence of tumors. This can now be greatly reduced by vaccination. Therefore, Marek's Disease condemnations need not be a problem for anyone that is willing to vaccinate.

Airsacculitis usually results from a combination of Mycoplasma and a respiratory virus infection. When combined with poor management, condemnations can be extremely high. Mycoplasma free chicks are available and proper vaccination controls respiratory virus infections. When used with



Dr. Robert Gentry
To Discuss Condemnations

good management, airsacculitis condemnations can be minimized.

The last important category is septicemia-toxemia. Unwholesome birds, for which there is no specific disease evident, are placed in this category. Low grade or secondary infections are usually involved. Such birds have usually been under severe stress such as poor ventilation and overcrowding. Management is the key to reducing septicemia-toxemia condemnations.

An in-depth discussion of the condemnation problem, causes and corrective measures will highlight the January 12 meeting.

Condemnation can be reduced if we are determined to pinpoint the problems and then take the steps necessary for their elimination, according to Dr. Gentry.

All broiler growers and poultry processing operators are invited to attend this very important presentation. Dr. Edward Mallinson of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry and Dr. Dwight Schwartz, Penn State University, will also be present to answer questions.

All arrangements for the meeting are made by the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation, Harrisburg.

Co-Op Business Volume Grows

Business volume of farm cooperatives totaled \$19 billion during 1969-70, according to Eric Thor, administrator of the Farmer Cooperative Service. That's up 9.1 per cent from 1968-69.

At the same time, California, Minnesota and Iowa maintained their one-two-three rankings in total volume of marketing, purchasing and the related-service business, reports the USDA.

Though business was up, both the number of cooperatives and memberships in cooperatives declined.

The number of co-ops, at 7,719, was down four-tenths of one per cent; memberships in co-ops, at 6,350,000, were down fractionally from the 6,400,000 of 1968-69.

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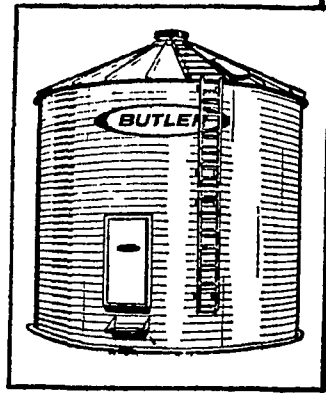
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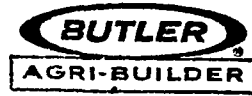
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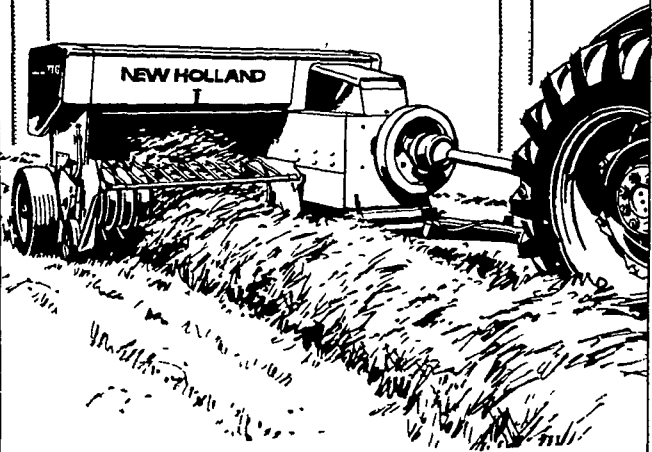
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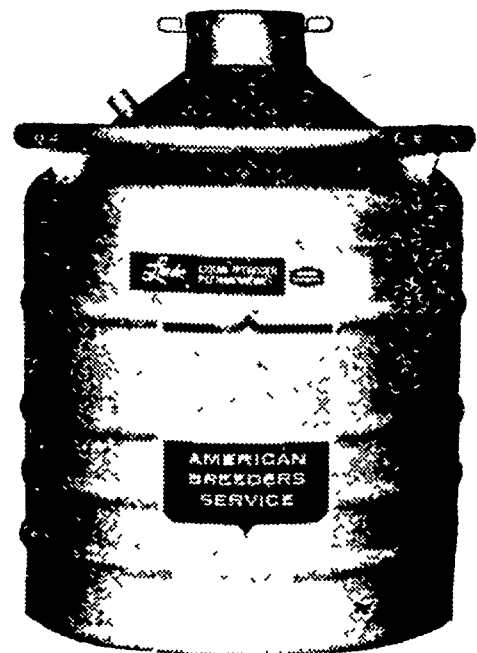
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