

# Pa. Vegetable Production Must Be Mechanized, Researcher Says

The Pennsylvania vegetable industry faces a grim future unless it mechanizes its operations to improve efficiency, Dr. August E. Kehr, administrator of the Plant Science Research Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, declared at University Park, Pa., February 7.

Keynote speaker at the annual Vegetable Conference held on the Pennsylvania State University main campus, Dr. Kehr pointed out that there is still much of our vegetable crop that is planted, cultivated, and harvested by following old traditional methods. All things point to the fact that these methods will not provide adequate profits in future years.

"Although grain farmers have improved their efficiency several-fold, vegetable growers, with the exception of those in California, are not moving toward full-scale mechanization," the federal research administrator said. "With the double squeeze of competition from abroad and unionization in the industry at home, no one needs to point out that adjustments are necessary."

Another problem vegetable growers must cope with, Dr.

Kehr emphasized, is annual losses from pests which represents up to 30 per cent of the crop. Although research and technology have been effective in lowering these losses, the problem remains because pests, being biological entities, mutate and change in response to most of the controls man can devise.

New methods and techniques, not yet dreamed of, will continue to come from research of agricultural colleges and experiment stations, he noted. Vegetables, being foods used entirely for human consumption, will always be subject to close scrutiny in regard to pesticide tolerances, and we will need to couple safe chemical controls with biological ones.

"Vegetables represent one of

the major farm crops in the United States and ranked fourth in farm value in 1969," Dr. Kehr said.

The per capita consumption of vegetables has remained constant at about 200 pounds per year for several decades. A slight overproduction results in marked price declines, while an even slighter under production sends prices upward, at least for the consumer.

Dr. Kehr emphasized that, in spite of industry problems, the land area devoted to vegetable production has decreased, yet production has increased. This change, he pointed out, has resulted largely because vegetables are being grown in areas where high yields can be obtained.

## USDA, FDA Agree on Egg Products Act Enforcement

The U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in a memorandum of understanding, have agreed on their respective areas of responsibility in administering the Egg Production Inspection Act.

The Act (Public Law 91-597) provides for mandatory inspection of egg products and control over disposition of "restricted" shell eggs. It also provides for uniformity of standards and grades for eggs shipped in interstate commerce.

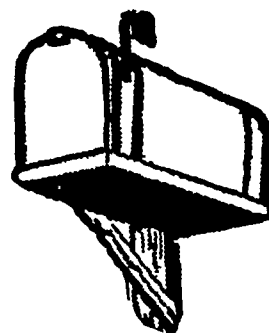
The first phase of the Act, which deals with egg products,

went into effect last July 1. The second phase, dealing with requirements for shell eggs, will go into effect July 1, 1972.

The two agencies have agreed that USDA will have exclusive jurisdiction over the inspection of egg products and will be responsible for checking egg producers, egg packers, and hatcheries to make sure that eggs moving into consumer channels meet requirements for U. S. Grade B or better.

FDA, in turn, will have exclusive jurisdiction over restaurants, institutions, food manufacturing plants, and similar establishments that break and serve shell eggs or use

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For Sale - Wheat and Barley straw. Also would like to buy 4 bottom semimounted 16 inch plow. Phone 717-927-6580.

For Sale - Ear Corn, \$43. per ton. Phone 653-5710

For Sale - 6 hole Star hog feeder, good condition; Also 5 Kero-Gas Brooder stoves. Phone 665-4329.

Wanted to Rent - 10 to 15 acres more or less of pasture for beef cattle. Christian K. Miller, Box 350, Strasburg RD1, Pa.

For Sale - Milk Cans. Henry S. Fisher II, Paradise, Pa., Black Horse Road.

them in their products.

FDA will make sure, among other things, that the eggs used do not contain more "restricted" eggs than are allowed, under USDA standards, in U. S. Consumer Grade B eggs. "Restricted" eggs are defined by the Act as checks, dirties, incubator rejects, inedibles, leakers, or loss eggs.

Each agency has also agreed to provide the other with any information that would help in carrying out its responsibilities under the Act.

The memorandum of agreement between USDA and FDA was slated to be published in the Federal Register on February 4.

### Mail Box Market

For Sale - John Deere 1010 Row Crop tractor, new condition, Farmhand loader, front-rear cultivator, hydraulic cylinder, Narrow gauge wagon; John Deere 246 corn planter. Phone 656-6906

For Sale - Used Poultry Equipment-Fans, feeders, nests, waterers, etc. Make offer. Phone 1-717-529-2601 or 529-2126

For Sale - 20 bred Gilts due Feb. and March, 3 service age boars, all Yorkshire-Cross; 1st, 2nd and 3rd cutting alfalfa and mixed hay, no rain; Corn fed capons, no medication, alive or dressed, 40c to 65c per lb. Large brown fertile eggs. Amos K Beiler, RD3, Quarryville, Strasburg South to Mount Eden Church, 1st road, 2nd farm.

For Sale - Win Power 12,000 watts generator with outlet box for 110 or 220 volts, never used, \$450. Phone 626-7414

For Sale - Holstein Heifer with calf \$250. Two Duroc Service Boars. Rodger Bankert, Hanover RD3, Phone 637-2932.

For Sale - Wheat straw, bright at barn \$35.00 ton, 59 used cultipacker wheels size 1 3/4 shaft 14 inches high, good \$1.25 each. Marvin C. Wrigley, Cochranville, Pa 19330, Phone 215-869-9267.

Will bake pies, bread or buns on order. For Sale - Combine cupboard, chicken equipment-nests, feeders and roosts. Samuel K. Lapp, 96 Glen Brook Road, Leola, Pa. 17540.

For Sale - 16 ft Dion Forage box with New Idea 7 ton running gear with foliation tires. New Holland 404 crusher. Both in A-1 condition. Phone 367-6064

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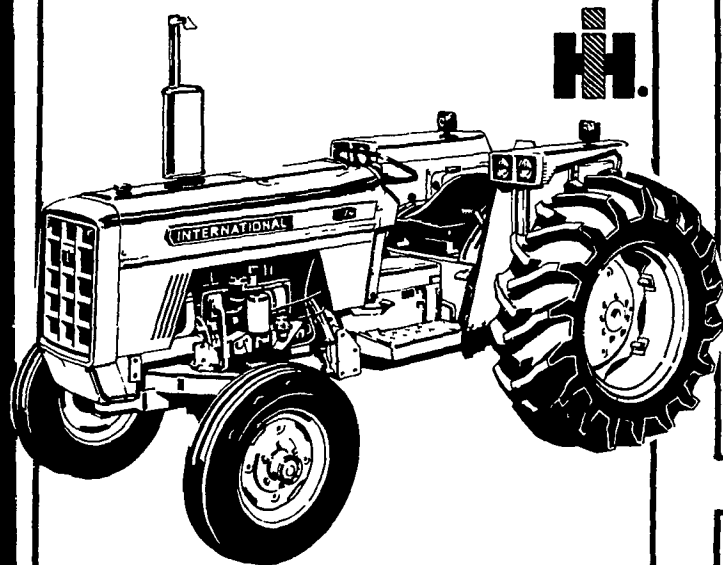
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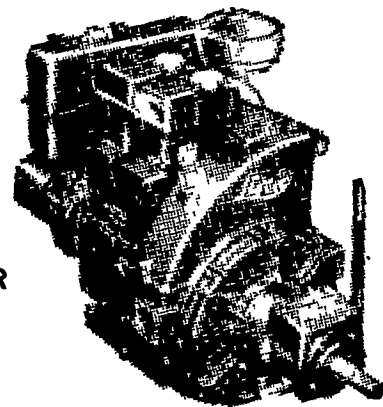
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