

10 Chester Co. 4-H Poster Winners Named



Three sisters, Jenny, Sandy and Becky Robinson, West Grove, exhibited three of the ten best posters at the Chester County 4-H Poster Contest recently at Downingtown.

Some 44 4-H'ers competed in the Chester County 4-H poster contest February 14 at the Downingtown United Methodist Church.

What is 4-H? What does it do? Who is it for? The answers to these and other questions were interpreted in poster form by the 4-H'ers.

The top 10 entries will be sent on to state competition in March. Entries made by Pam Taws, Paoli, Carla Nafziger, Dale Nafziger, Phoenixville RD; Libby Ekdahl, West Chester RD; Jenny Robinson, Becky Robinson, Sandy Robinson, West Grove; Joan Liesau, Spring City RD; Allison Scheib, Phoenixville RD, and a team of Bonnie Shaw, Debbie Ferguson and Karen Ferguson, Downingtown RD, will

USDA Developing Near-Perfect Spray?

Science is steadily working its way toward the perfect chemical spray—one that is harmless to man and animals, does not persist in the environment and one that insects can not build up a resistance to, according to the USDA.

Laboratory tests with an experimental insecticide, designated SBP-1390, show the compound to be the most potent yet of insect sprays in the pyrethroid class.

Pyrethroids comprise a class of compounds which are chemically related to pyrethrum, a natural insecticide found in some plants. There is evidence this natural insecticide was used by man 2,000 years ago.

Researchers at Beltsville, Md., using SBP-1390, have obtained mortality rates approaching or equaling 100 per cent with aerosols against DDT resistant house flies and Japanese beetles, and with sprays against DDT susceptible house flies and German cockroaches. Sprays also killed about 80 per cent of the yellow fever mosquitoes.

For the first week after application as a residue, SBP-1390 killed crickets more effectively than chlordane and took care of German cockroaches better than malathion. It was also more effective than malathion against DDT resistant house flies and far more effective than DDT against face flies.

When tested in insecticidal coils to repel northern house mosquitoes, SBP-1390 was as effective as pyrethrins.

Concentrations of the compound in water as low as .01 parts per million caused 100 per cent mortality of back swimmer

larvae within one day. This indicates a favorable degree of stability for the new spray in a water medium, researchers said.

The chemical is still in the developmental stage and is neither registered nor recommended for the use tested in these experiments. Before a pesticide can be released to the public, it must undergo stringent tests by its manufacturer, who then submits test data to the federal government for evaluation and registration.

A synthetic pyrethroid, resmethrin, is registered and commercially available. SBP-1390 is an isomer of that compound.

New Beetle Lure
Another insect is also getting some attention from researchers—the Japanese beetle which has increased its numbers substantially in the last few years.

A potent new lure for Japanese

beetles is more than four times as attractive as the standard lure.

Odor provides a means for the beetles to find many of some 275 plants upon which they feed. Powerful lures, more attractive than odors to their natural foods, divert the beetles into traps which serve as a survey tool. The beetles may be destroyed in the traps without use of insecticides.

In tests conducted by the U.S. Agricultural Research Service, at Beltsville, Md., the USDA found that effective trapping of Japanese beetles with attractants may ultimately offer a control alternative to milky spore disease, now used as a biological control of the beetles.

The disease, induced by bacteria, has met with considerable success and is now spreading naturally among Japanese beetles. However, even where the disease is well established, there have been local and still not understood upsurges of the insect, researchers say.

represent Chester County in state competition.

Judges for the contest were Joan Lucas, assistant Lancaster County Extension home economist, Judy Longenecker, former Lancaster County 4-H'er and Maria Jekowski, Delaware County 4-H member.

Eats Everything
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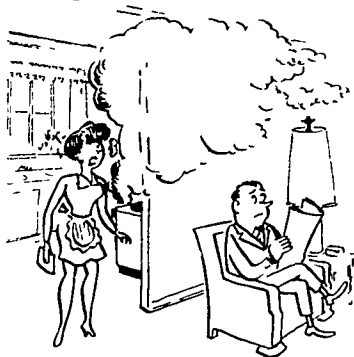
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