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Four DES-Positive Meat Samples Reported

The U. S. Department of Agriculture reported its laboratories found diethylstilbestrol (Des) residues in four liver samples from three steers and a dairy cow analyzed by the Federal meat and poultry inspection program.

Officials of the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said no residues were found in muscle tissue from these animals. The four animals had been certified as meeting the Food and Drug Administration's requirements for withdrawing livestock from DES-containing feed seven days prior to slaughter, officials said. Positive sample results have been reported to FDA, which has

jurisdiction over the use of animal feed additives.

APHIS officials explained that when laboratory analysis reveals a residue in a sample from an animal which was certified by the producer or marketer as having been withdrawn from DES the required seven days, all animals shipped thereafter from the same premises will be detained pending laboratory confirmation that these animals are free of DES residue.

The latest findings bring to 54 the number of positive samples found since the mandatory DES certification program began January 8. These samples, based upon a statistical sampling plan designed to monitor the national incidence of DES, represent 2.3 per cent of the total 2,310 samples analyzed this year.

APHIS officials also reported that a total of 818 samples have been taken since January 8 under a selective sampling program. This special sampling program is conducted when USDA suspects an animal may be contaminated with DES or under emergency slaughter conditions. It is not statistically representative of the national livestock population. To date, 67 DES-positive samples have been found under this program.

In the Kitchen

DEVELOPED PINEAPPLE SNACKS

- 2 English muffins
- 1 (4½-oz.) can deviled ham
- 4 pineapple rings
- 2 or 3 tbsps. brown sugar

Separate the English muffins with a fork and toast. Spread deviled ham on muffins, then add a pineapple ring to each. Sprinkle with brown sugar. Broil until sugar melts (about five minutes). Makes four hot snacks.

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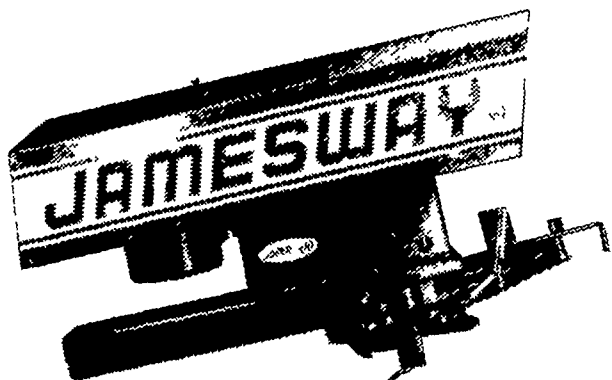
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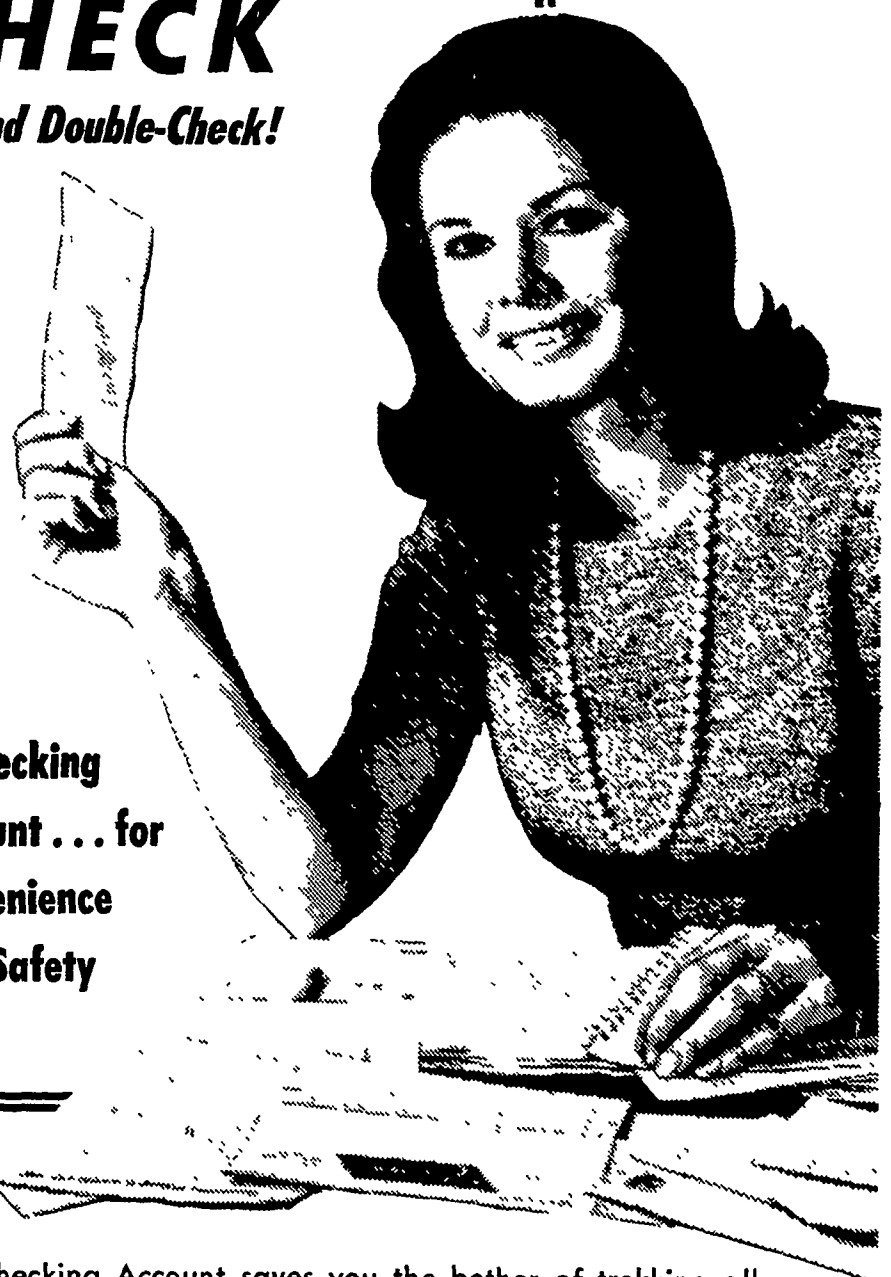
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