#### **USDA Revokes Quarantine on Khapra Beetles**

The Federal quarantine for khapra beetle—the world's most destructive pest of stored products—has been revoked, USDA announced last week.

Khapra beetles were eradicated from the United States in 1966, through a cooperative USDA-state control

program that lasted 12 years and cost more than \$11 million. Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) explained that the federal quarantine was retained after 1966 because the beetles continued to be found in international commerce.

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USDA has revoked the khapra beetle quarantine because quarantine inspection procedures and techniques have advanced to a level where the pests are being intercepted at U.S. borders, before they enter this country. In 1971, for example, APHIS inspectors stopped invading khapra beetles 184 times at U.S. ports of entry and border crossings.

The khapra beetle is a pest of stored grains, cereals and other materials containing protein. It feeds on such products, making them unfit for human consumption. The pest also attacks and ruins the viability of planting seeds.

APHIS officials said that the successful USDA-State campaign to eradicate the khapra beetle was an "enormous achievement." To achieve eradication, Department scientists had to develop techniques for sealing and fumigating huge storage structures. The largest of these required nine acres of tarps as covering and 15 tons of fumigant.

The first khapra beetle infestation in the United States was discovered in California in 1953. Additional infestations were found in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. The federal khapra

#### E-town Ayrshire Leads Pa. in High Fat Test

Masonic Homes Lo Betsy, registered Ayrshire owned by Masonic Homes Farms, Elizabethtown, recently completed a lactation record which ranks highest for fat for all senior four-year-old Ayrshires in the state of Pennsylvania.

Lo Betsy's record of 18,690 pounds of milk and 849 pounds of butterfat, actual, was produced on twice-a-day milking in 305 days. This official record was

supervised by the Division of Records of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association, Brandon, Vt., and the Pennsylvania State University. Lo Betsy has a persistent lactation record, having a daily average of 61 pounds of milk and 27 pounds of butterfat.

Holholm Ninah B, owned by Masonic Homes Farms, was the former registered Ayrshire fat record holder in this division.

#### Pa.Red Meat Output Slides

Commercial red meat production took additional losses in July, according to a report last week from the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Cattle, hogs and sheep slaughter produced 65,134,000 pounds of meat during the period, 17 percent less than July, 1971 and 20 percent less than June, 1972.

Only veal (calves), lamb and

beetle quarantine was enacted in 1955 to prevent further spread.

Revocation of the Federal khapra beetle quarantine was effective upon publication in the Federal Register scheduled for Sept. 2. mutton was able to improve its position but this accounts for less than three percent of the slaughter in Pennsylvania. Lamb and Mutton was up 10 percent from June figures and one percent from a year earlier. Veal showed a 12 percent gain during the month but was still off 35 percent from July, 1971.

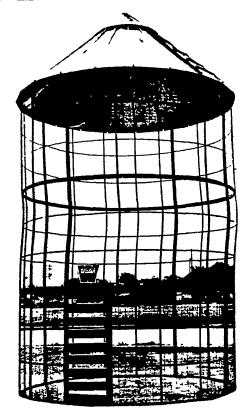
Beef production at 27,841,000 pounds slipped 17 percent during July and pork dropped 14 percent to 35,402,000.

Evidence of changing buying habits is reflected in the US Totals as the 2,660 million pounds marketed ruing July was similarly down from both June production and July, 1971, figures.

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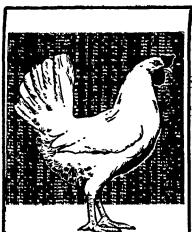
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