

by MARY LEE THOMPSON

If you've been turning your nose up at plastic furniture, do take another look, for plastics are now ranging through all price lines. Students, newly marrieds, families on a budget, and lovers of bright modern home decor are finding plastics more and more appealing.

The plastics field is actually vast, including many types of products from the carpets on your floor to accessories throughout the home, as well as various types of furniture. The biggest problem is learning about the different types of plastics and what to look for when you shop.

Fortunately, it's not necessary to be able to tell polyvinylchloride from ABC (short for acrylonite-butadiene-styrene) or any of the other complex names. Main things to look for are heavy gauge plastics (higher qualities are heavier), smoothly finished edges, flawless surfaces, and even textures.

Most homemakers know how practical laminated table tops and leather-look vinyl chairs and sofas are. They may be less familiar with the fact that some upholstered furniture has an interior shell of plastic. For these purposes and others, plastics are strong, durable, scratchresistant, and they won't rot or mildew.

### Feedlot Heifers Gain with MGA

Feedlot heifers gain faster and more efficiently if fed an estrous suppressant. Estrous heifers attempting to mount one another is a main reason for their less efficient weight gain as compared to steers under the same management.

ARS nutritionist Hudson A. Glimp and geneticist Larry V. Cundiff conducted studies at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Neb., that showed the addition of melengestrol acetate (MGA) to the diets of heifers improved their feedlot performance by 7 to 10 percent. MGA is a synthetic hormone which supresses heat.

Five hundred and forth-seven yearlings and 2-year-old Hereford and Angus heifers were used to compare three treatments: (1) an ear implant containing 120 milligrams (mg) testosterone and 24 mg diethylstilbestrol (DES); (2) an ear implant containing 120 mg testosterone and 24 mg DES plus

There are some 12 major plastics families, and they fall into two basic categories: Thermoplastic and thermoset. The former is extremely sensitive and can be melted down and reformed. Finished products can be damaged easily if subjected to great heat.

Thermosets, however, are not as sensitive and can't be returned to the original form. The most common thermoset plastics are the polyurethanes used in both rigid and flexible forms, polyesters, melamine, and phenolics.

0.40 mg MGA fed daily, and (3)

0.04 mg MGA fed daily.

Result showed that heifers fed only the MGA had a significantly faster rate of gain than those on the other two treatments. Cattle gained 3.10, 3.06, and 3.20 pounds

#### Silver Spurs Reschedules Junior Show

The Silver Spurs 4-H Horse and Pony club has rescheduled its junior show at John Glick's, Bareville, to Saturday, October 7 starting at 12 noon.

There will be english and western classes. The show is open to all youths who are 18 years old as of January 1, 1972 and younger.

Further information may be obtained by calling 626-7869.

My Neighbors



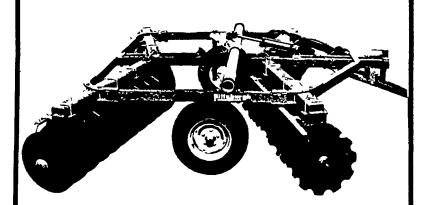
"You sent for me?"

per day for treatments 1, 2, and 3, respectively. Heifers receiving the testosterone-DES implant and MGA dressed slightly higher (60.60 percent) than did those receiving only MGA (59.75 percent). Differences in carcass traits did not show consistent treatment effects.

Feeding MGA to heifers is a

practical and inexpensive way of increasing efficiency when feeding large numbers of heifers penned together. However, Dr. Glimp does not recommend this method when feeding heifers penned with steers since they and feeds would have to be separated. MGA should not be given to steers.

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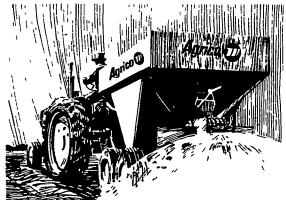
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