

Farmers Help More Wildlife

America's farmers feed not only cattle, hogs, and poultry, but everything else that flies, swims, runs, or crawls on farm and ranchlands - an estimated 80 percent of the nation's wildlife.

And, says Kenneth E. Grant, administrator of the Soil Conservation Service, (SCS) U.S. Department of Agriculture, his agency's end-of-the-year figures show that farmer encouragement of wildlife is on the increase.

In fiscal year 1972, according to Mr. Grant, SCS assisted farmers, ranchers and other landowners in improving more than 7½ million acres of land and water areas for the benefit of wildlife - a 28 percent increase over last year.

Further, SCS reports, more than half a million acres of other rural land was converted from crop or rangeland into wildlife and recreation areas during 1972. SCS helps landowners improve food, water, and cover for wildlife. Improved habitat, says Mr. Grant, increases wildlife populations even faster than stocking.

He points out that the 7½ million acres of habitat improvement is only a small part of the American farmer's aid to wildlife.

"Such widespread farm and ranch conservation practices a stripcropping (alternating banks of crops and grass), building ponds, protecting woodland areas, planting windbreaks and improving rangeland also attract many wild creatures," he said.

"These and many other conservation practices indicate that American farmers and ranchers continue to be the 'host with the most' for wildlife," said the SCS administrator.

Wish I'd Said THAT



"An ounce of prevention costs what a pound of cure cost a decade ago."—Lee R. Call, Star Valley (Wyo.) Independent.

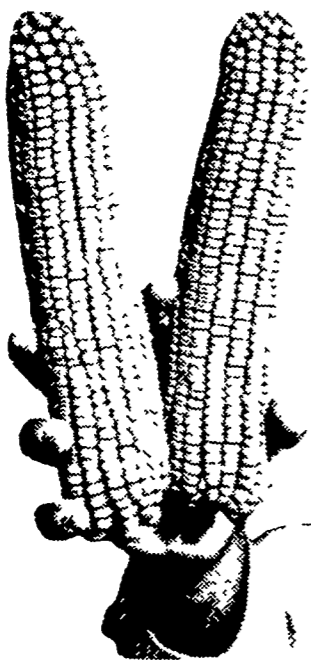
"The man who has everything usually has a calendar on the wall to remind him when the payments are due."—William R. Lewis, The Lynden (Wash.) Tribune.



H. Grant Troop of Quarryville, left, won a \$300 William D. and Clara Calhoun Phillips scholarship recently at The Pennsylvania State University. A senior in agronomy at Penn State, Troop is shown with Ms. College of Agriculture, Mary M. Lloyd of

Levittown, center, and Howard C. Leslie of Enon Valley, right, who received a similar scholarship. This year's agricultural scholarships and awards at Penn State came from 56 donors and totaled over \$34,000.

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