

## 1973-Crop Honey Program Announced

Loan and Loan and purchase rates for the 1973 crop of honey will average 16.1 cents per pound, 2.1 cents more than in 1972, it was announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The 1973 level represents 60.2 percent of the April 1973 adjusted parity price of 26.7 cents per pound.

The value of the 1972 honey crop is about \$65 million.

Loans and purchases will be offered on 1973-crop honey stored in bulk and other eligible containers, on or off farms. Producers may request loans through March 31, 1974. Loans will mature June 30, 1974. Producers having eligible honey not under loan who wish to offer it for purchase by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) need to

deliver to the applicable county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office an executed purchase agreement not later than the maturity date. This agreement must specify the approximate quantity the producer desires to sell.

The 1973-crop loan and purchase rates for extracted honey in 60-pound or larger containers, by color and class, are as follows: White or lighter, 16.9 c lb.; Extra light amber, 15.9c lb.; Light amber, 14.9c lb.; Other table and non-table honey, 12.9c lb.

Honey delivered to CCC by beekeepers to satisfy loans will be used for domestic donation programs. Honey is a valuable food item because it is composed of simple sugars which are easily digested and give quick body energy.

The honey bee is vitally important to the U.S. economy in that it is a major pollinator of legume seeds and fruit and vegetable crops. About \$1 billion worth of agricultural crops are completely dependent on pollination by insects before crops can be produced. Honey bees pollinate an estimated 85 percent of this total. An additional \$3 billion worth of agricultural crops benefit to some extent from insect pollination.

## HOME HEATING HINTS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND DOLLAR SAVINGS

Pennsylvania Electric Association's heating engineers have come up with a number of practical suggestions for householders to improve the efficiency and economy of their home electric heating systems. It's all part of the state-wide campaign to encourage prudent use of electricity and to help stave off shortages until new generating plants, now under construction by Pennsylvania's electric utilities, can be completed.

Electric heating has become increasingly popular as a clean, convenient and carefree source of energy for home heating. When used wisely, electric heating is not only efficient, but economical in terms both of installation and operation.

Here's how experts say you can save money on your electric bill and help insure there'll be enough power to go around in the face of the energy crisis:

- Keep thermostat setting at 72° or under, above this temperature, energy consumption rises rapidly.
- If away for a few days or on vacation for longer periods, lower setting to 55°. At night by lowering the thermostat by 10° you can save up to 15 percent of your heating costs.
- Close off rooms, such as a guest room, when not in use, turn thermostat completely off (or down to 55° if danger of freezing).
- Keep radiators or baseboard panels clean; a coating of dust acts as an insulator and wastes heat.

- Check filters in your heating system, clean filters permit efficient operation and mean cleaner air flowing through your home, too.
- Be sure decorative covers or drapes don't trap heat, thereby causing the heating unit to work harder.
- If the radiator unit or baseboard panel is on a cold wall, put a sheet of aluminum or aluminum foil behind it to reflect heat into the room.
- Make sure the thermostat is not in a draft or on a cold wall, otherwise this will cause the thermostat to increase the heat when the room temperature is already comfortable.
- During sunny daylight hours in winter, raise the window shades or blinds to let the sun's energy help heat the room.
- Be sure weatherstripping around doors and windows is tight and doesn't let in cold air.
- Most important, insulate your house over ceilings (remember, heat rises); also insulate walls inside basement and floors over crawl spaces 18" below ground level; weatherstrip windows and doors, install storm windows and doors (or use double-pane glass windows and doors — they're lots less work, too).

It makes good sense and good cents to follow these hints, say utility experts. You'll not only help save our valuable energy resources but you could cut your bill for electric heating by as much as 15 percent or more.

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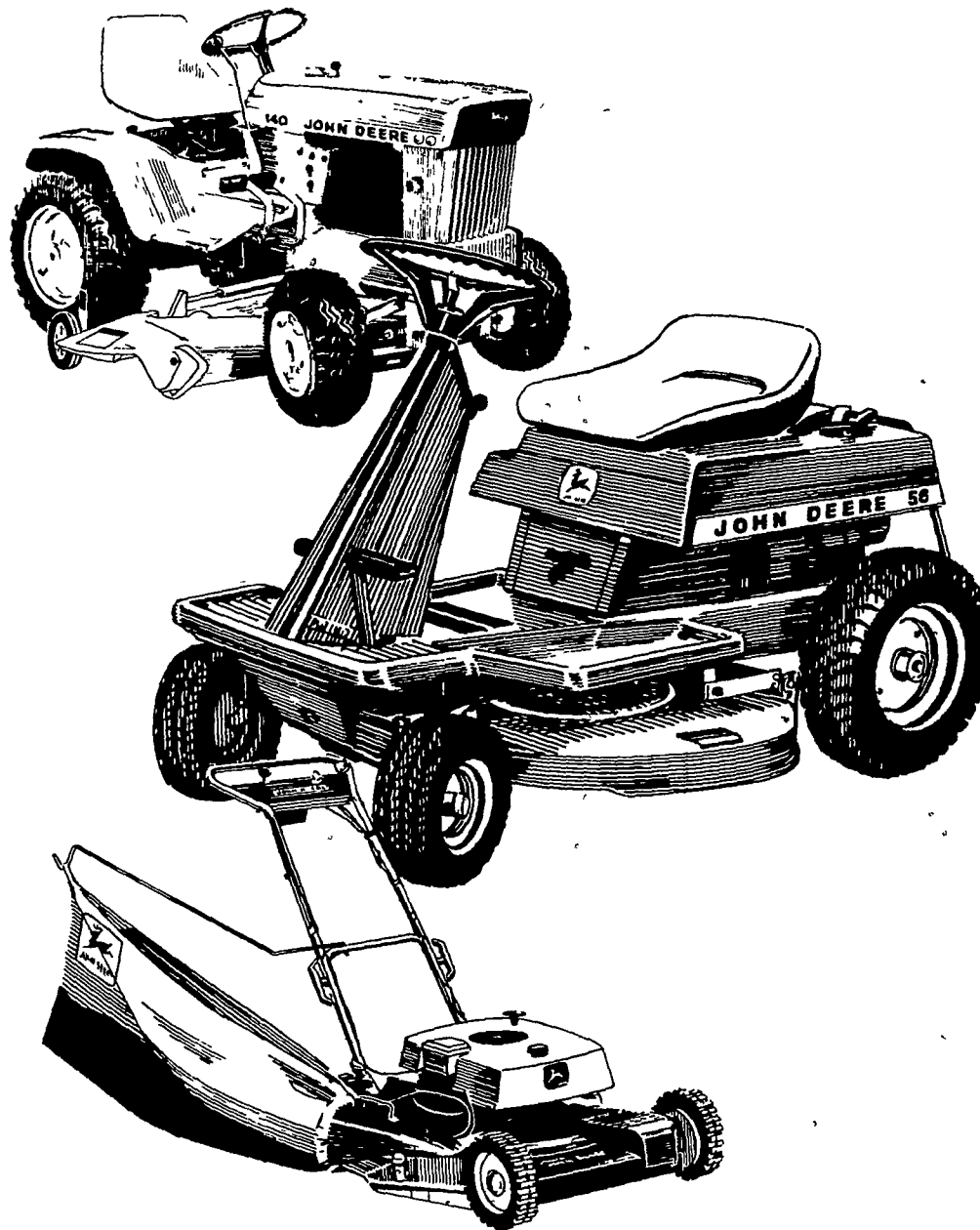
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