

Help Us Serve You

If your organization didn't make our farm calendar this week, it's not because we don't like you or your organization.

We may have missed it in the rush. Or maybe you forgot to tell us.

Either way, we'd like to extend our farm community service to you.

To get on the Farm Calendar, remind us by calling 394-3047 or 626-2191 or by writing to Lancaster Farming, 22 E. Main St., Lititz, Pa. 17543. And help us serve you better.

Imported Meats Examination Proposed

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposed to formalize its detailed instructions for the inspection of canned and packaged meat

imported into the United States.

The instructions, contained in a proposed amendment to the federal meat inspection regulations, would provide for eight separate examinations to be performed, when applicable, on meat samples selected for inspection.

While these examinations have been outlined in inspection instructions, they are not currently a part of the Code of Federal Regulations, USDA officials explained.

Examinations would cover the wholesomeness of the product; condition of the container; accuracy of the label; verification of the net weight; comparison of any pictures on the label with the actual contents; verification of the meat content of certain meat food products; accuracy of the number of units in the container; and, incubation of the sample and a laboratory analysis of the contents.

Officials of the Animal and

Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) said the proposed amendment would help to assure more uniformity of sampling and testing procedures for imported products.

The proposal appeared in the April 2 Federal Register. Persons desiring to comment should submit their written views in duplicate before May 18 with the Hearing Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Persons desiring to make oral comments should address their requests to the Systems Development and Sanitation Staff, Scientific and Technical Services, Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, APHIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. All comments will be open for public review in the Hearing Clerk's office.

Copies of the proposal may be obtained from the Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, APHIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.



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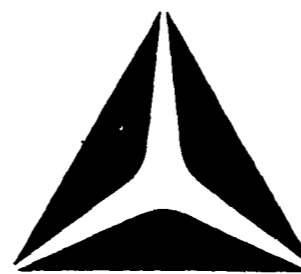


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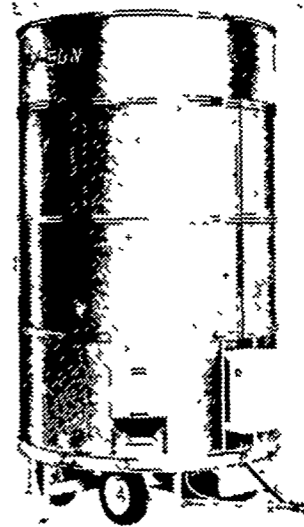
Strikes Curb Farm Sales Outside U. S.

Strikes caused losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars to American farmers from reduced 1971 sales, lower prices, and also from reduced future sales as buyers turn to other supply sources for the commodities they need, according to Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz.

Agricultural exports increased six per cent in calendar year 1971, compared to a 22 per cent increase in 1970. The increase gave agriculture a favorable trade balance of \$1.9 billion in a year when the total U. S. trade balance had a deficit of \$2 billion.

"We are naturally very pleased at achieving this record level in the face of a very difficult export situation because of the strikes," the Secretary said, "but we are also disappointed because it would have been a great deal higher if our farm products had been able to move freely to foreign markets."

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