

## Program Set For Soil Conservation Society's 28th Annual Meeting

Leading natural resource conservationists from the United States and Canada will be on hand when the 28th annual meeting of the Soil Conservation Society of America convenes Sunday, September 30, at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Theme of the meeting will be "Plants, Animals and Man." Opening-day activities include

registration and a president's reception.

Andrew Vayda, professor and acting associate dean of the Rutgers University Department of Anthropology, will keynote the meeting during the opening general session on Monday, October 1. Vayda, a graduate of Columbia University, has studied human ecology and culture in New Mexico, several South Sea locations and eastern Long Island.

Society President A. B. Linford of Bozeman, Montana, will deliver his president's address during the opening session also.

Featured speaker at Monday's luncheon will be Arkansas Senator J. William Fulbright.

General sessions are also slated for Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Afternoon programs on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday will feature concurrent technical sessions sponsored by the Society's 10 resource conservation divisions.

Among the nationally known speakers who will appear on the meeting program are John Gray, director of the University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation; L. S. Pope, associate dean of administrative affairs at Texas A&M University; E. L. Cheatham, director of the University of Georgia Institute of Natural Resources; Jack Carlson, assistant to the director for economic policy, Office of Management and Budget; and Lance Marston, director of the Office of Regional Planning, U. S. Department of the Interior.

The Society's House of Delegates will meet on Wed-

nesday afternoon. An awards banquet will conclude the meeting that evening.

During the four-day event, the Society will name the recipient of the first Hugh Hammond Bennett

Award. Fellow, Honor and Merit Award winners for 1973 will be announced also.

Official hosts for the meeting are members of the Society's Razorback Chapter.

## Yield Grade Stamping Procedure Changed

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is notifying retail grocers, trade groups, and meat packers, of a change in procedure for identifying beef carcasses which have been officially graded for yield of cuts.

Yield grading is a voluntary service which is provided for a fee, as is quality grading. Both services are provided by the Meat Grading Branch of the Livestock Division, Of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service.

Yield grades indicate the percentage of salable meat in a carcass and range from Yield Grade 1, which indicates the highest yield, to Yield Grade 5, the lowest. The amount of waste fat on a carcass is the most significant factor affecting the yield. Of the waste fat, the kidney and pelvic fat makes a significant part of the total.

In recent months, some meat packers have begun presenting carcasses for yield grading after removing the kidney and pelvic fat. This practice results in a higher carcass yield grade,

reflecting the higher yield of cuts for the entire carcass. Previously, a carcass which was yield graded was stamped once on each quarter or primal cut with the identifying shield shaped yield grade stamp. To distinguish between those carcasses yield graded with the kidney and pelvic fat intact and those yield graded after removal of those fats, the meat grading service now is identifying the latter by double stamping the yield grade shield on each quarter or primal cut. Carcasses yield graded with kidney and pelvic fat intact will continue to be identified by the single yield grade stamp on each quarter or primal cut.

Meat grading officials emphasize that for buyers of whole carcasses, it makes very little difference whether the yield grade is determined before or after removal of kidney and pelvic fat, but for those buying quarters or primal cuts, it does influence the yield of salable product. Therefore, those buying cuts or quarters need to note the marking procedure used.

## Anticipate Rise in West European Corn Production

Increased corn production in Western Europe could cause a drop in U. S. corn exports there by 1980, according to a report by

the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service. Output may increase to 33.4 million tons—

slightly more than double the 1969-71 calendar year average.

West European utilization of corn is projected at 45.0 million tons by 1980. With domestic production at 33.4 million tons, the implied net import requirement is 11.6 million tons, a decrease of 13 percent from the 1969-70-71-72 crop year average. An implied net import requirement of 11.6 million tons of corn is also projected for 1975-76, so that a stabilizing of corn imports is foreseen for 1975-76 to 1980-81. Assuming the United States shares proportionately in the decreased import need, U. S. corn exports to Western Europe would fall to a level of about seven million tons during this period.

The U. S. share of net corn imports into Western Europe was 60 percent from 1960-61 to 1971-72, or an annual average of 8.2 million tons. In 1972, however, due largely to shortfalls in corn output in other world suppliers, U. S. corn sales to Western Europe rose to 12 million tons valued at over \$600 million.

French corn production would account for the bulk of the expanded West European supply. France accounted for 46 percent of the region's output in 1969-71, and is expected to attain 56 percent in 1980.

A copy of "Growth Potential of Corn Production in Western Europe Through 1975 and 1980," FAER 88, is available free on postcard (please include zip code) or telephone (447-7255) request from the Office of Communication, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

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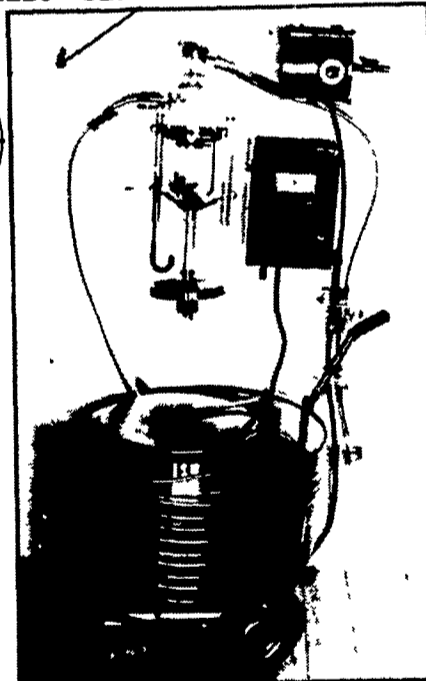
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