

## Residues In Meat And Poultry Reported

Laboratory tests of meat and poultry products showed 122 illegal residues in 4,072 random samples taken by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) during the second quarter of 1973. Of 3,385 samples tested during the first quarter, 64 contained above tolerance residues.

A total of 25,849 tests was run on the 4,072 samples, according to meat and poultry inspection officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) During the quarter, APHIS took samples of liver, kidney, fat and muscle from bulls, steers, cows, heifers, calves, hogs, goats, lambs, young and mature chickens, and turkeys. Each sample was tested for one or more residues of pesticides, growth promotants, antibiotics or other animal drugs.

USDA's residue survey is a continuing program that helps to assure the wholesomeness of our food supply. When above-tolerance residues are found, the test results, portions of the sample and the name and address of the owner of the animals or birds involved are turned over to the Food and Drug Administration. FDA regulates the use of animal feed additives and drugs.

Except for the report on diethylstilbestrol (DES), the following figures are from the APHIS national random sample survey of livestock and poultry slaughtered in federally-inspected plants. Results of this survey give an indication of residue problems in the total livestock and poultry population. A special DES survey is limited to selected areas where there is the greatest likelihood of finding residues and does not reflect the national picture. APHIS also monitors for DES nationally.

DES - The Use of DES was banned by FDA for fattening cattle and lambs APHIS continued to monitor for this synthetic hormone with 759 samples in the area survey and 460 samples in the national survey. Traces of DES were found in six steer livers

This brings to 15 the number of DES violations found by APHIS laboratories since January 1, 1973 APHIS monitors animals coming from premises where violations have been found to make sure that no additional animals contain DES residues.

Arsenic - Drugs containing organic arsenicals are used for disease control and growth promotion in poultry and hogs During the second quarter, APHIS laboratories found 43 percent (43) of 1,001 chicken liver samples with more than one part per million (ppm) of arsenic, the FDA tolerance level No residues above 2 ppm, the FDA tolerance, were found in hogs Of 902 chicken liver samples analyzed

during the first quarter, 5.3 percent (48) exceeded FDA tolerance. No above-tolerance residues were found in hog livers.

On June 28, 1973, FDA raised the arsenic tolerance in poultry to 2 ppm, the same as that in hogs. Had this been in effect during the entire second quarter, none would have been above the tolerance level.

Antibiotics - Of 1,531 cows, calves, hogs and young chickens tested for antibiotic residues, 16 of 482 cows, 48 of 518 calves and 3 of 479 young chickens were found to contain above-tolerance levels of streptomycin, penicillin or

other antibiotics. During the first quarter, above-tolerance levels of antibiotics were found in two calves.

Pesticides - of 479 animals and birds of all types tested for chlorinated hydrocarbons, violative residues were found in one heifer, one calf, one goat, two turkeys and two lambs. During the first quarter, five above-tolerance residues of chlorinated hydrocarbon residues were found in 558 samples.

Sulfa - Residues of sulfa drugs were found in one cow and two calves. No sulfa residues were found in the first quarter.

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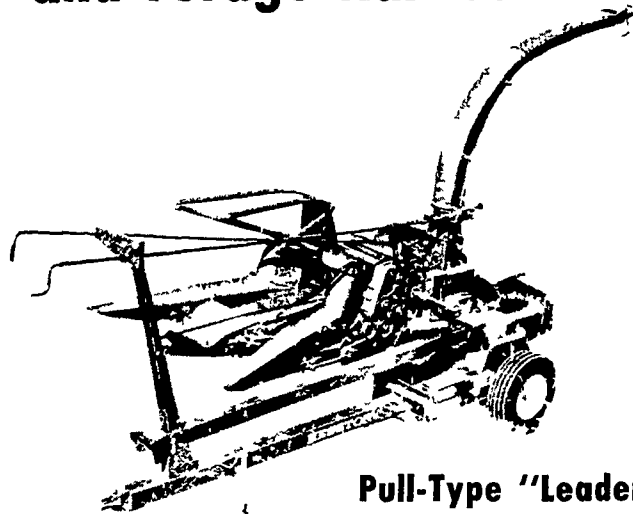
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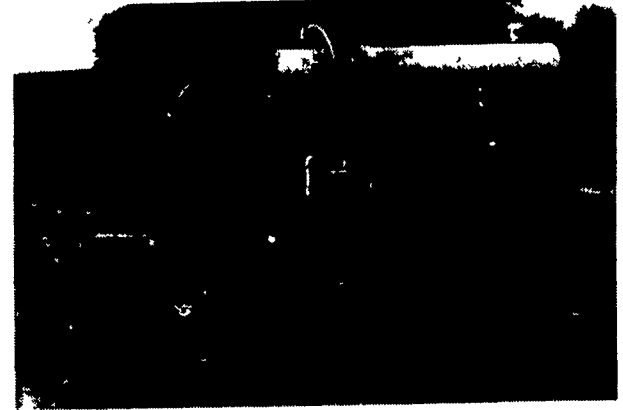
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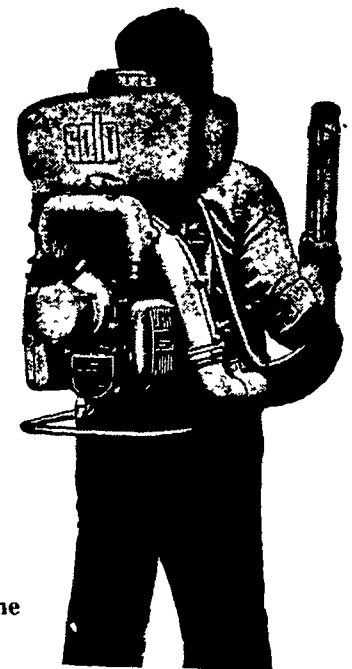
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