

Soybeans as Protein Source

The world will have to depend on soybeans for future sources of protein but farmers will only produce needed supplies with the right incentives including a free market place, according to Carroll Brunthaver, USDA assistant secretary for international commodity programs.

In his talk to the American Soybean Association convention Brunthaver also re-emphasized that the USDA "will not impose export controls short of some unforeseen disaster to this year's growing crops".

"For the long run we do expect the soybean market to be strong. We can further increase farm production when the incentives are there. Farmers will have to

make their decisions in the market place. If there is one thing that the last two years have taught us, it is that the market place makes more effective decisions than the government."

During his talk he summarized the outlook for other protein sources. He said that both world peanut and fish meal production continue to be too erratic to be dependable. At the same time no major increase in sunflower meal is predicted. Rapeseed production will continue to increase "But far too little to meet the protein demand growth".

"We do not want the new farm program to interfere with the farmers' choice of cropping plans. We think the attractive target prices and market prices will work together to encourage full production in 1974.

"Already the export control on old-crop soybeans has severely damaged our position. France has publicly said the Common Market must have an oilseeds policy to protect itself in periods of scarcity when it cannot depend on imports from the U.S.

"Japan and Western Europe have told us they understood they would be free to bid on an equal basis with us and the rest of the world in periods of tight supplies. They have been shocked by the export controls on soybeans, and are terribly fearful controls will be extended in the future. In our position as an exporter, we would pay a very high price for export controls."

Piglet Survival To Be Studied

Scientists at the University of Georgia's Agricultural Experiment Stations, Athens, will study the effects of the dam's diet on the survival rate of piglets under a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will provide \$24,000 for the two year study.

The Georgia scientists will study the effects of dietary energy in the dam's diet on the energy reserves and survival rate of piglets during the first 30 days following birth. Also, the effect of energy source on survival and the effect of source of fatty acids in diets on the performance of newborn and weaned piglets will be studied.

The high death loss of piglets shortly after birth indicates a need for this research.

Dr. Robert W. Seerley, associate professor of animal science at the university, is the project leader and Dr. Lowell T. Frobish of ARS' Non-Ruminant Animal Nutrition Laboratory, Nutrition Institute, Beltsville, Md., is the ARS representative.



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Incentive Program To Improve Forest Stands

President Nixon signed legislation authorizing a program aimed at encouraging private landowners to plant trees and improve existing forest stands in order to help meet the rising demand for forest products expected in the years ahead.

The program, labeled a Forestry Incentives Program, was contained in the Farm Bill which the president signed into law. The incentives effort will be a cooperative program with the Forest Service as the lead agency.

John McGuire, Chief of the Forest Service, said his agency will work through the State Forestry and other agencies in implementing the program. The Forest Service and the states already have a number of cooperative programs which are working well.

Chief McGuire pointed out that the latest National Timber Review made by the Forest Service stressed that the best opportunity for increasing timber supplies to meet future demands at acceptable prices was intensification of growth rates on the nearly 300 million acres of private, non-industrial commercial forest lands. These lands comprise about 60 percent of the Nation's commercial forest land base.

Under the program, landowners will be encouraged both to plant trees on non-stocked land and to perform forestry practices to improve the condition of existing forest stands. The measures are part of a long term effort to insure an adequate

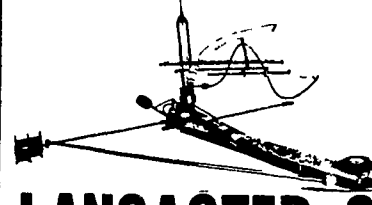
supply of timber and other benefits from the Nation's forests in the years ahead.

The program has a cost-sharing feature under which the government will share the cost of establishing plantations and other approved forestry practices with private landowners who meet eligibility requirements. Details of approved practices and eligibility requirements are being worked out and will be specified in program guidelines.

Chief McGuire said a shrinking forest resource base and rising demand for forest products and related benefits point to the need for more efficient management of the Nation's forest lands. He pointed out that public forests are under increasing pressures to emphasize non-timber uses and that industry forests are producing at near capacity now. Thus, he said, the best opportunity to meet the needs for increased timber supplies that will be needed in the future lies with small, private landowners.

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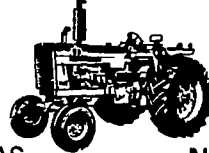
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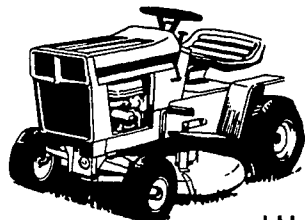
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