

Change Feed to Fight Phosphorus Shortage

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz said this week that current shortage of phosphorus supplements used in livestock and poultry feed could be eased considerably if the livestock and feed industry would reduce phosphorus use to levels recommended by the National Research Council. The Secretary made this observation in announcing that a

17-man Task Force on Phosphorus Requirements of Livestock and Poultry met this week to determine whether further reductions in phosphorus supplements can safely be made.

The Task Force was set up by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. The Task Force is comprised of members of the Council's Animal Nutrition Committee and livestock experts of the Department of Agriculture.

"We are confident that feeding of phosphates can be reduced to levels no higher than the current recommendations of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences without any adverse affect on the animals," said Secretary Butz. "Further, we think this level of usage would go a long way toward balancing out the current shortage of phosphorus."

Chairman of the Task Force is Dr. T. J. Cunha, of the University of Florida, who is chairman of the Committee on Animal Nutrition of the National Academy of Sciences.

The current shortage, the Secretary emphasized, amounted to an estimated 300,000 tons of dicalcium phosphate equivalent, or about 20 percent of the total U.S. need of 1,600,00 tons annually. The shortage is anticipated to last from 6 months to 18 months and perhaps longer.

Secretary Butz said a working session will be held with industry representatives in the near future to discuss recommendations in the report being prepared by the Task Force. In addition, he said the Department's Energy Office will be directed to make copies of the full report available to the Cooperative State Extension Service offices as soon as possible and to hold meetings with industry to implement necessary action.

The Secretary cited a number of causes for the tight phosphorus situation: Demand for phosphorus has increased five fold in the past 25 years, and production of late has not been able to keep up. Some of the phosphoric acid normally used to produce feed phosphates has been diverted to fertilizer production recently. Imports of Curacao phosphate rock have been cut in half because of more profitable markets in other countries. And recent reductions in fish meal imports are the equivalent of 60,000 tons of dicalcium phosphate. Shortages of gas, oil, electricity, rail cars, and other transportation have also affected production.

The Secretary said that in addition to the recommendation that use of supplemental phosphorus not exceed NRC requirements during the shortage, the Task Force is considering the validity of such measures as:

USDA to Determine '75 Wheat Allotment

The U.S. Department of Agriculture called for public comment on the proposed size of the 1975 national wheat allotment.

Under current legislation, the allotment would be used to determine what payments should be made to wheat growers if the market price for wheat falls below \$2.05 a bushel. Currently, wheat is selling for about \$6 a bushel. The allotment in no way contrains, nor sets a limit, on the amount of wheat that may be planted.

Legislation provides that the Secretary of Agriculture proclaim a 1975 national wheat acreage allotment not later than April 15, 1974. The national allotment shall be the number of acres which the Secretary determines on the basis of the estimated national average yield will produce the quantity (less imports) that he estimates will be used domestically and for export during the marketing year for the crop.

If the Secretary determines that carryover stocks are excessive or an increase in stocks is needed to assure a desirable carryover, he may adjust the allotment by

the amount he determines will accomplish the desired decrease or increase in carryover stocks.

Prior to determining the 1975 national allotment, consideration will be given to data, views and recommendations relative to estimates of the national yield, domestic utilization of wheat, exports, carryover and other data pertinent to this determination which are submitted in writing to the Director, Grain Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Submissions must be received by the director not later than 30 days after publication of this announcement in the Federal Register. These comments will be available for public inspection in the director's office.

TRY A CLASSIFIED AD

- Matching the use of various phosphate supplements to the particular class of animal at different stages of their life cycle. Phosphorus supplements might be reduced in the diets of finishing-slaughter animals, laying hens, and mature livestock not being utilized for reproduction or lactation.

- Mounting an immediate educational effort by the Federal government, research scientists, and Cooperative State Extension Services, and the feed, livestock and poultry industry to counter the effects of a phosphorus shortage on production.

TRY A CLASSIFIED AD



LAWN & GARDEN Equipment & Service

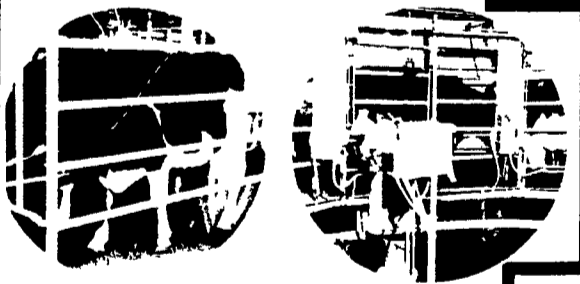
Binkley & Hurst Bros.

FARM MACHINERY and EXCAVATING

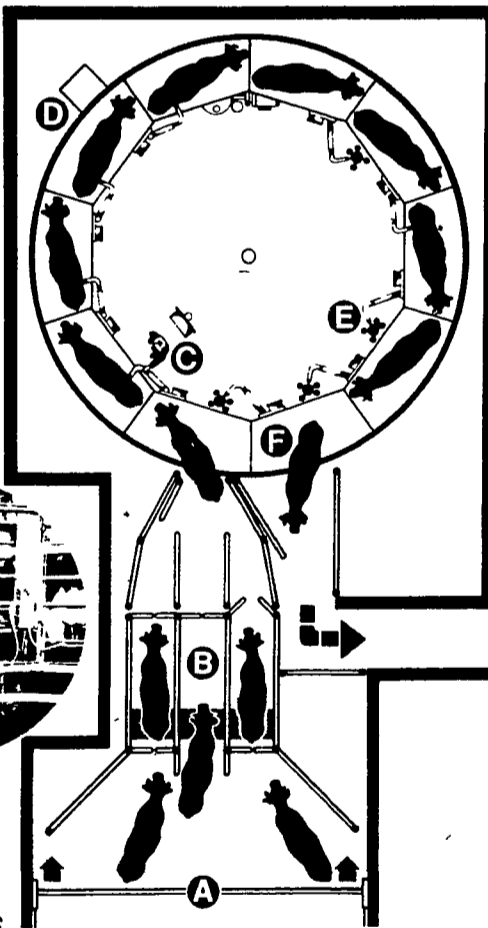
Bh Lititz RD4, Pa. Call 626-4705
Rothsville Station Road

AGWAY

Come Full-Circle with STA-RITE



The ideal system for big-herd operations. Saves on labor, eliminates guesswork—slashes the actual cost of milking.



We're proud to be the official milker at World Dairy Expo

The Sta-Rite Full-Circle Milking System is the rotary tandem parlor that does it all—with 10 cows constantly in the milking cycle. Automatically delivers the cows to the operator. Makes a profitable, high quality, mass production specialty of the milking process. Allows you to increase your herd size in the future, without increasing your investment in milking equipment.

Here's how it works. **A** Cows are firmly but gently moved into prep stalls by the automatic crowd gate. **B** The prep stall automatically washes and sanitizes each cow's udder prior to her stepping onto the rotating platform. **C** The operator attaches the milking unit. He's free to observe each cow's health and general condition. **D** Dependable, heavy-duty components drive the platform. Rotational speed is adjustable. **E** Sta-Rite's Reflex Arm™ automatically shuts off vacuum when milk flow stops, gently removes milking unit, raises it out of the way. **F** At the exit, the cow steps off the platform, another takes her place in this continuous, non-stop milking system.



SUPPLY CENTER

1027 Dillerville Road,
Lancaster, Pa.
24 Hour Service Daily
Ph. 717-397-4761

FOR BETTER MANURE HANDLING



New Holland Model 790 Spreader

International 3200 Compact Loader

Take Advantage - Order Early

USED EQUIPMENT

TRACTORS

Farmall Super M
Farmall H
Farmall Cub with Mower
Farmall 504
International 504 with 2000 Loader

New Holland - Super Hayliner 68 Motor Drive
New Holland - 469 Haybine
New Holland - 461 Haybine
New Idea - 3-Point Mower
International - 46 Baler
New Holland - 1010 Bale Wagon
New Holland - 331 Spreader
John Deere - Model N Spreader
New Holland - 365 Tank Spreader
Hawk B.H. - Tank Spreader
International - 50 Harvester 2-Row
International - 16 Forage Harvester - 1 Row
Westgo Rock Picker

MESSICK FARM EQUIPMENT INC.

2750 N. Market Elizabethtown, Pa.
Ph. 367-1319
John Kreider Home 367-6039