

Farm Fuel Needs Critical, Says ASA

Farmers must have enough available fuel supplies so they can work whenever the weather allows, W. B. Tilson, president of the American Soybean Association (ASA), told officials in Washington last week.

Tilson represented soybean farmers at a meeting with officials from the Federal Energy Office (FEO) and U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Agriculture is unique in its fuel requirements because weather regulates demand," Tilson said. "Farmers must have fuel so when the weather cooperates they are prepared to work."

"The time is drawing close," Tilson continued, "and we still have a few rough spots to smooth out

before the explosive demand for fertilizer and fuel. We must have the problems solved before the farmers start land preparation and planting. One month from now will be too late."

In response to Tilson's comments, officials from the USDA and FEO said farm production is and will continue to be entitled to 100 percent of current fuel requirements.

"We do not wish to see fields unplowed because of a shortage of fuel," an FEO official said. He indicated measures were being taken to assure farmers' full fuel requirements.

Difficulties have developed in meeting some agricultural objectives, FEO and USDA officials indicated, but solutions are being ex-

plored with every effort to see that fuel needs for farm production are met.

Measures to assure that fuel distributors will have supplies for farm production were surveyed at the meeting and suggestions were made for assuring supplies to the fullest extent.

Government officials also stressed the importance of continued conservation of fuel.

"This nation is too rich in natural resources and too talented in technical ability to allow a recurrence of a fuel or fertilizer crisis," Tilson said.

"If this problem is one we're going to have to cope with for the next few years we need to develop a policy that solves the problem," he added. "We need to use the talents we have to prevent this problem from recurring year after year."

Osborne Named To Head State Market Bureau

Edison W. Osborne, Mt. Joy, RD2, has been promoted to Director, Bureau of Markets, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The 50-year-old veteran dairyman has been on the department staff since March, 1971 as the milk marketing specialist.

The new post pays \$20,342 annually.

A native of Lancaster County, Osborne owned and operated a dairy farm for over 20 years with a prize-winning herd of 132 Jersey cows. In 1962-63 he was cited by the Dairy Herd Improvement Association for the highest milk and fat producing registered Jersey herd in Pennsylvania in the more than 100 cows category.

Osborne is a World War II veteran, having flown 50 combat missions as a bombardier-pilot with the 15th Army Air Force in the European theater. He is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, with a B.S. in dairy husbandry.

The new director's record of public service includes having served as a director of the Solanco School District, chief legislative consultant for the Pennsylvania Farmers Union and board member of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

SCS Offers

Pond Booklet

Ponds and how to build, maintain, and use them are the subject of a new U.S. Soil Conservation Service publication.

The 14-page illustrated booklet "Building a Pond," gives advice on selecting and preparing a site, kinds of man-made ponds, satisfactory pond spillway requirements, sealing leaky ponds, recommended safety measures, and maintaining completed ponds.

The various uses of ponds for livestock, fire protection, fishing, recreation, irrigation, and wildlife habitat also are discussed in the booklet.

Single copies are available from all local USDA Soil Conservation Service offices.

FEO and USDA officials are still considering the problem of how far down the line of distribution to carry the agricultural definition and allocation.

"The fuel priority given to agricultural processors and distributors hasn't been established," Tilson said. "Do we go all the way to the consumer's table with a definition of agricultural processing and distribution, or should there be a definite line drawn? Can you draw a line between the farmer and his market?"

Hints on Selling a House
Whatever its deficiencies, a clean house has more sales appeal. Extension home management specialists at The Pennsylvania State University say if you are planning to sell your home, conduct a clean-up campaign before you show it to prospective buyers. Clean windows, curtains, floors, walls, appliances and bric-a-brac add immeasurably to your chances of a quick sale at a fair price. Remember, people will want to see the basement and attic, too. When you are ready to move, then, you will have clean furnishings ready for use in another home.

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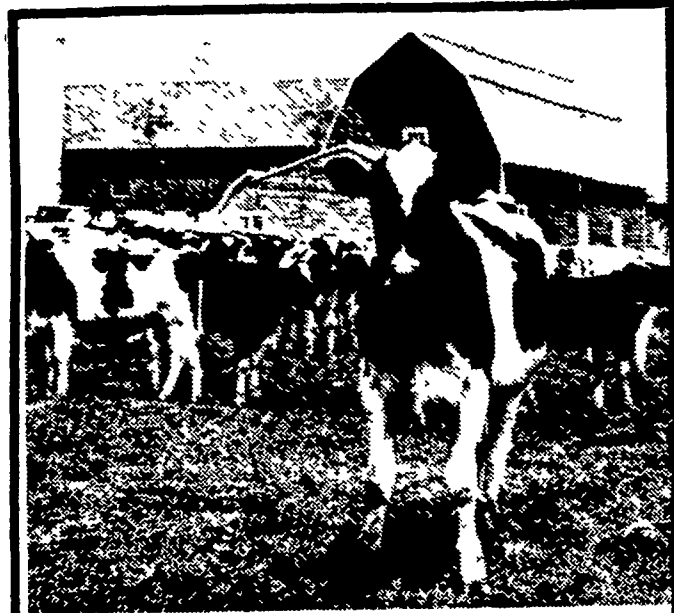
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