

Forage Council Reports Membership

The American Forage and Grassland Council, an organization devoted to promoting better utilization of grassland resources in agriculture, recently reported an all-time record membership.

William E. Barksdale, President, made the an-

nouncement in connection with the publication this week of the organization's 1974 membership directory.

"Developments in world food supplies during the past two years have placed new premiums on efficiency in American agriculture," said Barksdale, "and this

trend is reflected in AFGC's expanding membership.

"As feed grains and protein supplements to animal feeds have become more costly, increasing importance has been placed on pasture, hay and silage. We think this is only the beginning of a long-term trend emphasizing forages and grasslands. Efficient production and use of these resources is the obvious means through which agriculture can provide adequate supplies of meat and milk for Americans in the future."

Barksdale, of Cook Industries, Inc., Memphis, Tennessee, pointed out that corporate membership in the organization had soared in recent months. AFGC serves as a clearinghouse of information in the forage and grassland industry.

The Council currently lists 53 corporate members, 10 associated state and provincial forage councils, and 285 individual members, including forage producers, research scientists and extension specialists and agribusinessmen nationwide.

The organization's annual Research-Industry Conference, at which the newest developments in forage farming are discussed, is scheduled for February 11-13, 1975, at the Omaha Hilton in Omaha, Nebraska.

Bum Joke

Stories about hoboes aren't the only bum joke floating around these days

Webworm Infestation

During the late summer and early fall, an insect found on many forest, ornamental, and fruit trees in southeastern Pennsylvania is the fall webworm. The insect forms a web or tent in the trees and may cause severe defoliation. The Bureau of Forestry in Pottstown has received many complaints from local homeowners, many calling the insect the gypsy moth. The appearance of the web immediately indicates the insect is not the gypsy moth. The gypsy moth caterpillars feed individually on the tree without a web.

The webworm is found throughout the United States and its hosts include over 100 different species of trees. The caterpillars are usually pale yellow or green in color with broad dusky stripes down the back and a yellowish stripe down each side. Their bodies are covered with long, silky, gray hairs arising in tufts from the body. The gypsy moth caterpillars by contrast are dark brown or gray in color and have 6 pairs of red spots and 5 pairs of blue spots on their backs.

The webworms spin a silken web over the foliage on which they feed and as they grow enclose more and more foliage. Several branches may be enclosed by the webs and small trees are sometimes entirely enclosed.

The webworm is ordinarily of no great importance to forest trees, but can be a serious pest of shade and

ornamental trees detracting greatly from their aesthetic values. Serious physical damage to the trees at this time of year is questionable because trees within this area will become dormant shortly and growth as of now has almost ceased.

Control can be achieved by removing the webs or nests when they first appear or by spraying the nest with Sevin (carbaryl).

Income Increase

During 1972, for the first time in history, more than half of the families in America realized \$10,000 or more in annual income.

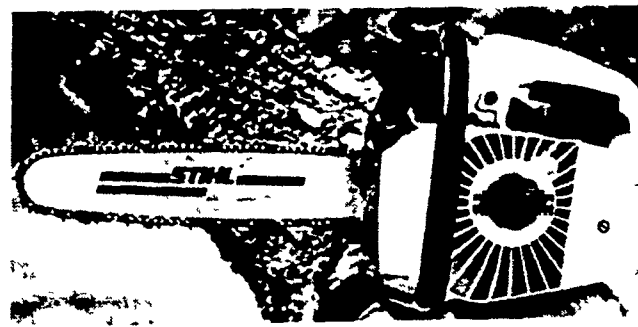
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