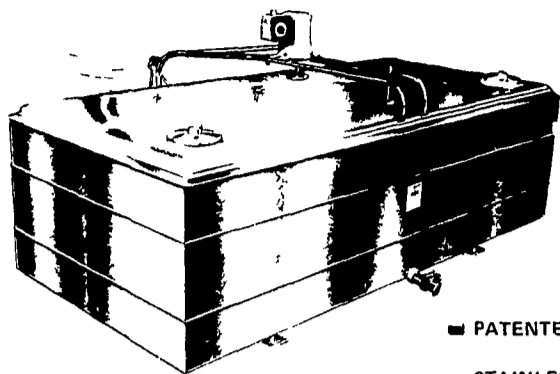
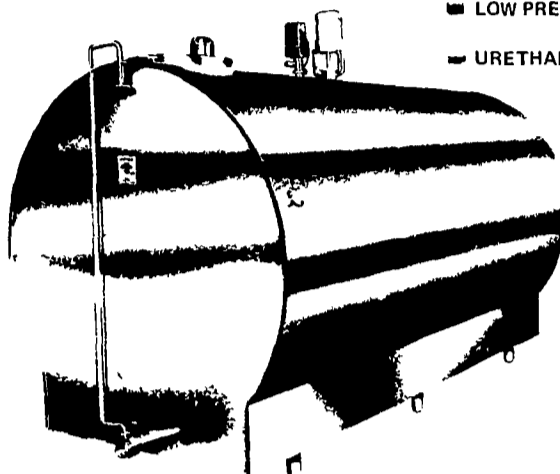


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Lawn & Garden
Questions



Carol and John Munson (left)
Fontana, visit the Penn State
exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower
Show. James Rathmell, Extension
Horticulture Specialist, and
Newton Bair (right) Associate
Lebanon County

Agent, provide answers to lawn
and garden questions.

John Munson is the Area
Resource Development Agent for
the Capital Region of Central
Pennsylvania.

Plants Solving Pollution

Planting trees can be beneficial in combating pollution, particularly air and noise pollution. This was the theme of the Penn State exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower Show which ended Sunday evening, March 16th. The exhibit demonstrated how certain varieties of trees tend to absorb large quantities of air pollutants. Of course, plants can't provide the final solution to air pollution because they do suffer negative effects from the chemicals they take in.

Proper planting of trees and shrubs can also effectively reduce noise pollution from highways, factories, or other noise sources. Evergreens are particularly valuable in reducing noise since they hold their leaves all year. Deciduous plants lose much

of their noise abatement ability during dormant months.

What about simple visual pollution? Vertical gardens can be constructed to block unsightly sight of garbage cans and back alleys. Still rarely seen in the United States, the idea for a vertical garden was brought from Europe several years ago by Penn State Horticultural Specialist Jim Rathmell. Easily constructed from a metal frame, heavy wire mesh lined with polyethylene, and lots of rich soil, vertical gardens of almost any size can grow many varieties of flowers and vegetables. And they are ideal for small yards where space is at a premium.

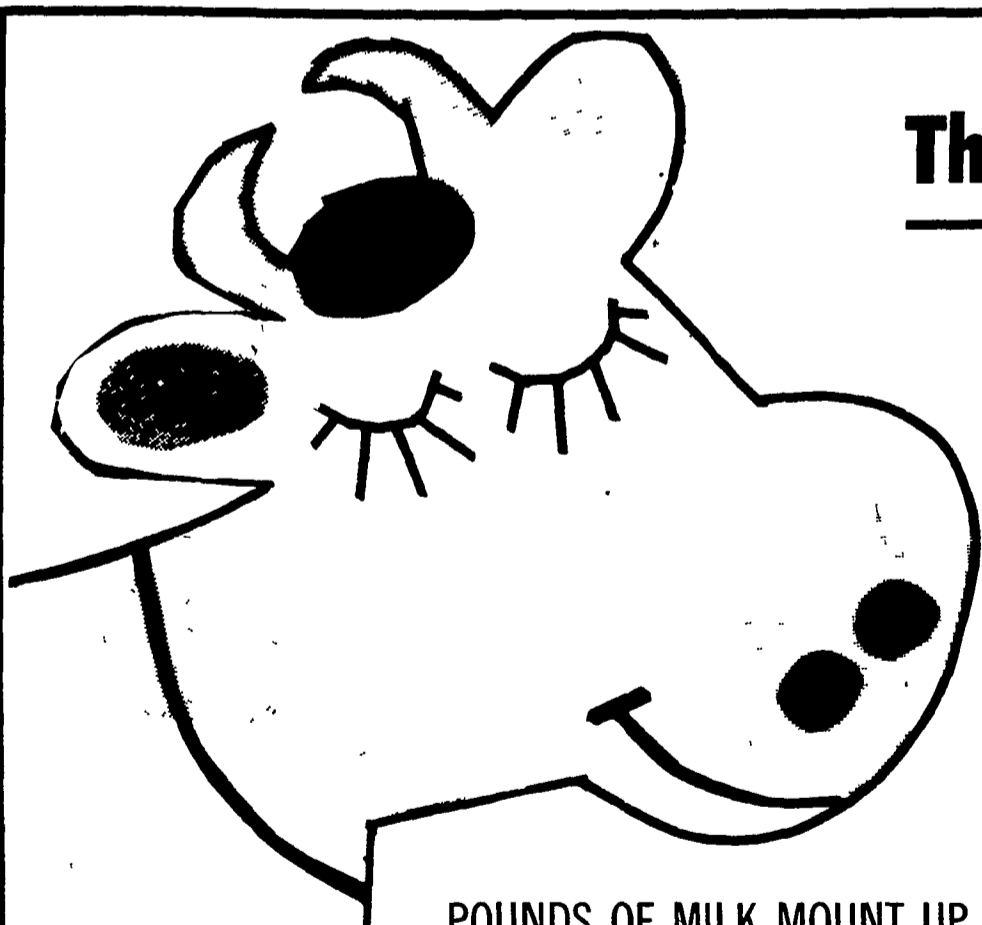
The Penn State exhibit was manned by Cooperative Extension agents from the

counties of Southeastern Pennsylvania, who fielded general lawn and garden questions as well as questions about plants and pollution control on Saturday.

Money Management

Printed as a public service by the Lancaster Farming and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Are insurance benefits taxable? If they are on property losses, only if the proceeds exceed the amount of loss. If they are life insurance benefits, no. If on health and accident insurance, generally only if they are for medical costs you took as a deduction in a previous year.



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