

Use of nitrites in meats modified by USDA panel

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a proposed change in its regulations that would modify the use of nitrate, nitrite and salt in cured meat and poultry products. The proposals are based primarily on recommendations made by the Secretary's expert panel on nitrites and nitrosamines.

In addition to the Panel's recommendations, USDA also proposed other actions, including:

-Banning the use of both nitrate and nitrite in infant and junior foods, and also any meat ingredients processed with such substances.

-Permitting the use of common table salt (sodium chloride) as a curing agent under certain conditions; and

-More concerted efforts to resolve the problem of nitrosamine formation in fired bacon.

"As recommended by the Panel, the use of sodium nitrate will be discontinued in the curing process of all meat and poultry products with two exceptions, dry-cured and fermented sausage products," according to Dr. Harry C. Mussman, Executive Secretary of the Expert Panel and Associate Administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

"In addition, the level of nitrite to be added to curing solutions would be limited to 156 parts per million (ppm) in all processed products except bacon and dry-cured products," Dr. Mussman said.

Any person wishing to submit written data, views or arguments concerning the proposed amendment may do so by filing them in duplicate with the Hearing Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, by Jan. 12, 1976.

Any person desiring to

present his views orally should address such a request to the Product Standards Staff, Scientific and Technical Services, Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, APHIS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

The complete text of the proposed change in the regulations was published in the Nov. 11 1975, Federal Register. Copies of the proposal are available from APHIS, Room 4905-South Building, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

E-town farmers check corn

ELIZABETHTOWN - Early planting knowledge of the soil, and close attention to the growing crop were three reasons for a good corn crop locally, according to John Weidman, Pioneer Seeds representative. Weidman spoke at the Elizabethtown Young Farmers monthly meeting Thursday, November 13.

Yield checks from 36 fields were compared with 10 samples above 150 bushels per acre and an average of 125 bushels per acre overall.

Officers for 1976 were elected as follows: President, Larry Garber; Vice President, Richard Garber; Secretary, Clair

Hoover; Treasurer, Kenneth Myer; Nominator, Leroy Rutt.

The next meeting is on December 11 at the Elizabethtown High School. Boyd Gartley from Inter-State Milk Producers will be the guest speaker.



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PennDOT invites comments

HARRISBURG - The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation today announced a series of revisions in the PennDOT Action Plan and invite comments from the general public.

PennDOT Secretary Jacob Kassab said a number of recent changes, including legislation, the energy crisis and the general state of the economy, coupled with several years of experience in working with environmental protection have prompted the Department to review and update its Action Plan originally adopted in 1973.

The Action Plan, with proposed revisions, may be reviewed at any PennDOT District Office, at selected

Planning Commission offices or at the Office of Environmental Quality in the Transportation & Safety Building in Harrisburg.

The Plan can be reviewed at these locations during normal working hours and at the District Offices on specified evenings.

Copies of the revised Action Plan can be obtained

at a cost of \$1.50 by writing to H.H. Huber, Office of Environmental Quality, Department of Transportation, & Safety Building, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120. Checks should be made payable to PennDOT. Comments on the revised Action Plan should be submitted to Huber's office by January 9, 1976.

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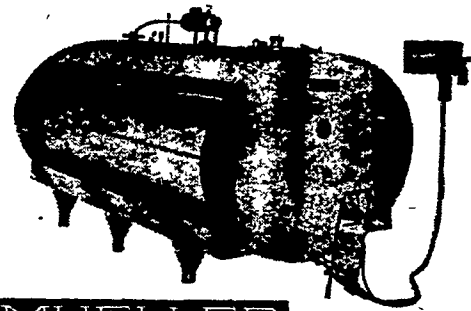
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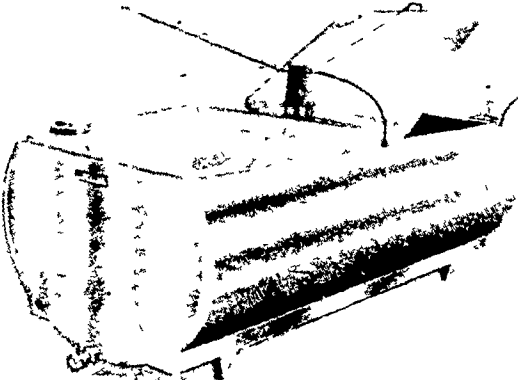
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