

Food additives in the news

Oregano, nonfat dry milk, and citric acid seem too dissimilar to be grouped under one classification. But all three — a spice, a binder, and a chemical preservative — do have something in common. They are food additives, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

According to USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), food additives approved for use in meat and poultry products are divided into three basic categories:

-Flavoring components, which are added to food for flavoring purposes only, such as sugar, garlic, pepper, oregano and other spices and herbs.

-Nutritional substances and substances added to produce a physical effect that also have nutritional value as a food. For example, whey products, nonfat dry milk powder, flours, starches, and other similar extenders help bind together ingredients as well as add nutritional value to meat products such as sausages, luncheon meats, and meat patties.

-Substances which are intended only to affect the product's physical characteristics, such as gums, cures, phosphates, and antioxidants. For example, citric acid, a chemical preservative, may be used in cured pork and beef cuts and sausage

products to maintain color during storage. These substances usually have little or no nutritional value as a food.

The initial safety of food additives is determined by the Food and Drug Administration. However, if an additive is to be used in conjunction with meat or poultry products, it also must be approved by USDA.

USDA must determine that the additive will not cause a meat or poultry product to be adulterated or misbranded; establish appropriate limits or restrictions on the additive's use in meat or poultry products; and determine that the additive is effective and produces the intended result in the product.

Ag fact book out

WASHINGTON - The newly revised Fact Book of U.S. Agriculture has been issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The book is intended to provide reference material on agricultural trends for persons who speak and write about agriculture.

Updated for the first time since 1972, the book is "organized to reflect the structure of modern agriculture." It is divided into five major subdivisions:

-Farm Production Supplies, dealing with the industries, services and goods affecting the agricultural production;

-The Farming Operation, covering the farm business itself;

-Food Marketing, describing the system that converts farm products into consumer products ready for domestic and foreign use;

-Agricultural Services, dealing with activities of USDA and other governmental and private agencies which support modern agriculture;

-Improving the Rural Social Environment pertaining to the populations, environment and social problems of smaller towns and the open country.

A publication of USDA's Office of Communication, copies are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price is \$1.90 per copy.

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Pfizer appointments made

NEW YORK - Charles C. Ratigan has been appointed sales operations manager in Pfizer Animal Health Operations. He will be responsible for administration and coordination of field sales activities in the United States from Pfizer World Headquarters in New York.

The Pfizer Agricultural Division is one of the nation's leading suppliers of animal health products, including a broad range of feed supplements. Its Genetics Operations include Pfizer Genetics Inc., producers of hybrid seed corn and soybean and oat seeds, and

H&N Inc., breeders of broiler and layer poultry.

Pfizer, a diversified manufacturer of products for medicine, agriculture, industry, and the home, was founded in 1849. The company has 126 production units in 39 countries and markets products in more than 100 countries. Sales of the corporation exceeded \$1.6 billion in 1975.

Ag-safety Tip

At least two dangerous gases lurk in farm silos. Take precautions against nitrogen oxide and carbon dioxide when working in silos.

Saddle-up

4-H meets

The Saddle-Up Horse Club recently held their monthly meeting. Among the events of the evening was a discussion on going to Bell's Auction in Dillsburg and also to an Arabian Horse Farm in Mount Carmel, Md.

We also formed a Committee for a rodeo. Also discussed was a request to change the day of the meeting from Thursday to Saturday. After the business meeting we watched a slide presentation by Tony Dobrosky on horse judging.

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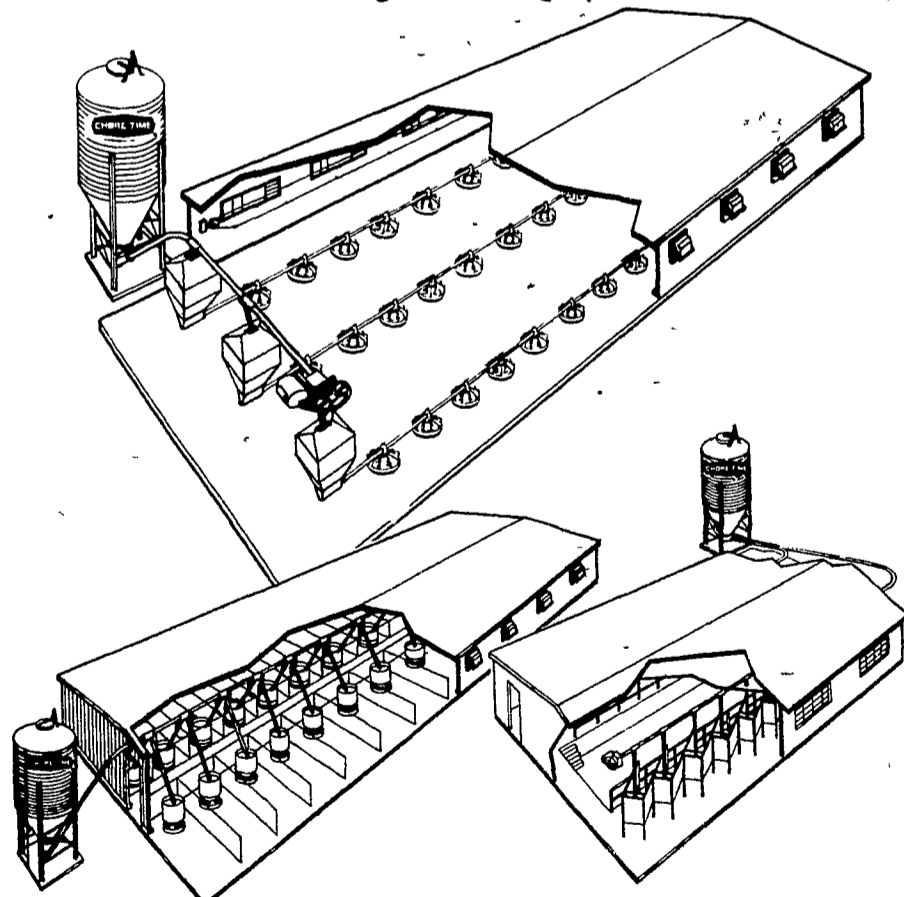
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