

USDA says urbanization no big threat

WASHINGTON — Urbanization is taking some, but not a large acreage of U.S. cropland, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture study released today.

In an Economic Research Service (ERS) study of 53 counties in which 20 percent of the 1960 to 1970 U.S. population increase occurred, urban uses in 1970 occupied 16 percent of the total land area, up from 13 percent in 1960.

Pennsylvania counties included in the study were Bucks, Chester, and Somerset. In New Jersey the report included Sussex, Morris, Monmouth and Burlington counties. Hartford, Prince Georges, Howard, and Montgomery counties were studied in Maryland.

For all counties in the ERA study, a sixth of an acre of rural land was urbanized for each person increase in population. But only a third of this was cropland. Ad-

vancing urbanization has often meant intensification of use in already urban areas. For example, much residential land was converted to commercial, industrial, and transportation uses.

Cropland declined from 33 to 30 percent of the study area during the 10-year period. But, the ERS study indicates that only about one-half of this net decline resulted directly from urbanization. More new cropland was developed, in fact, than was lost to urban development. Other factors were more important in cropland decline than urban encroachment. These include abandonment of marginal cropland to pasture and diversion of cropland to open idle land as changing technology makes farming of some land uneconomic. However, some idling was due to impending urban development. Other non-urban uses—pasture and range, open idle, and forests

—declined very little between 1960 and 1970.

The ERA study of land use dynamics was carried out to help U.S. land use planners assess the regional and national impacts of urbanization on rural land uses. The study, cooperative with Cornell University, was based on interpretation of

USDA aerial photography which captures such significant changes as construction of houses, shopping centers, and road systems. Airphotos are taken at approximately 10-year intervals, thus accounting for the 1960 and 1970 study dates.

Single copies of "Dynamics of Land Use in Fast Growth Areas," (AER-325) are free from ERS

Publications, Rm. 0054-S, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please include your zip code.



ACTION WHERE IT COUNTS

Every different type of lure, whether plug, spoon, spinner or jig, has its own special action. Even within a lure class there is so much variation that most anglers aren't aware of all the possible actions. Realizing this, the fishing experts at Mercury outboards have studied one of the more popular types of lures, the plugs, and offer a few tips that will hopefully make your fishing more successful.

There are four basic types of plugs, each calling for different fishing methods to obtain the best action:

Surface disturbers can be fished at several speeds. Most have spinners at one or both ends of the lure. The idea is to attract attention by churning the water. Vary the speed until you obtain the most disturbance. Those which float with one end out of the water are called "noddors" and should be fished very slowly, stopping occasionally for 30 to 40 seconds.

Darters float horizontally but dive when retrieved. They have a slight "dart" from side to side to create the action, an enticing wobble beneath the surface. Adjust the speed to suit the depth you want to fish. Three feet is usually the maximum.

Floating-diving plugs go under when retrieved, but have a lot more side-to-side action than darters. They also work deeper, some to eight feet. Diving plugs are ideal for fishing steep banks or underwater cliffs. Long casts and fast retrieves take the plug deeper. Most have a large metal lip which can be bent out to make the plug go deeper, or twisted for more erratic action. **Sinking plugs** go down immediately. To find fish, work the lure at various depths and speeds from the bottom up.

Lebanon Co. farmer shows champion steers

NEW HOLLAND — A Lebanon R1 farmer and newcomer to the cattle show circuit captured the grand champion honors for his lot of Angus cattle at the biannual fat steer show held at the Sales Stables here recently.

Willis Martin, who was showing for the first time, swept the first place honors and also took second place

for his other lot of Angus steers. Martin's champion lot weighing 7595 pounds sold to C. H. Thomas and Sons, Inc. of New Danville for a day's record of \$49. per hundredweight. Martin's second place Angus entry sold to Cross Bros. for \$46.25 per hundredweight.

In the mixed steer class, first place went to Joe Reiff with Roger Gehman

finishing second. Elam Ginder, Elizabethtown R3, exhibited the top lot of Hereford steers with Silas Long of Manheim R4 taking second in the class. Titus Beam, Elverson swept both first and second prize in the Holstein entries.

The average of 324 cattle was \$43.25 per hundredweight and judges for the event were Milt and Larry Marchall from Cross Bros.

Poultry personnel honored

STRASBURG — Two retiring employees of Hubbard Farms Hatchery were honored at a dinner meeting held here on Saturday evening. Kathryn Snyder and Jacob Smith who had served the hatchery for a combined 47 years were awarded gifts from both the local facility and the main office in Walpole, New Hampshire.

Wentworth Hubbard, president of the company,

presented both Miss Snyder and Smith with an engraved silver tray, significant of their service to the organization. Hubbard's office in Neffsville presented Miss Snyder with a lounging chair and a citizen's band radio to Smith. The gifts were presented by Robert Garland of the local office.

Eighty employees of Hubbard and their wives attended the dinner meeting held at Historic Strasburg.



Jacob Smith receives radio from Bob Garland, of the Neffsville office of Hubbard Farms. Smith retired from the company recently after 15 years of service.



Working 32 years for Hubbard Farms Hatchery, Kathryn Snyder accepts a representative model of a lounging chair presented to the Manheim woman during a dinner held in Strasburg recently. Miss Snyder was one of two employees honored following their retirement.

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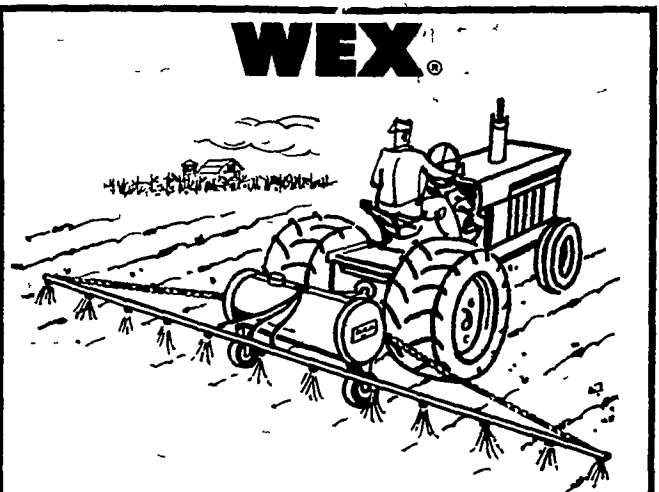
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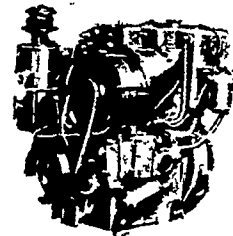
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