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Egg handlers called to register

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NEW YORK, N.Y. - Handlers of eggs who will collect assessments from producers under the Egg Research and Promotion Order are requested to register with the Egg Board as soon as possible.

A poultry official with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service said the Egg Board, which administers the order, has notified some 5,000 egg handlers that they must register before the checkoff begins Aug. 1. Any handler who has not received a notification by June 30 should contact the Egg Board immediately at 205 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, Ill. 60068.

Under rules and regulations - published in the June 8 Federal Register - for implementing the egg order, shell egg packers and egg

breakers are breakers are considered collecting handlers. Additionally, any producer who grades or breaks eggs he produces must remit the assessment on those eggs must also remit assessments to the Egg Board. All of the above collecting handlers must register with the Egg Board before Aug. 1.

The Egg Research and Promotion Order enables the egg industry to conduct a coordinated nationwide program of research, producer and consumer education, and promotion. In a nationwide referendum conducted in November 1975, 73 per cent of the egg producers voting approved the order. Funds for the program will come from assessments of five cents per 30 dozen eggs marketed, collected from egg

producers by handlers and remitted to the Egg Board.

Egg producers with 3,000 or fewer layers and any flock

of breeding hens whose production of eggs is primarily used for the hatching of baby chicks are exempt from assessments.

Pa. cherries drop sharply

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania's 1976 tart cherry production is forecast at 4,100 tons, 29 per cent below last year's total crop of 5,770 tons, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Although the crop escaped significant weather injury, damage occurred when trees bloomed early due to unseasonably warm Spring temperatures and freezes followed. Development of the reduced crop is about a week ahead of last year with harvest beginning about June 28, while harvest in the Erie County area should begin around July 11.

Nationally, prospective production of tart cherries is forecast at a 30-year low. The 1976 crop is forecast at 71,000 tons, down 42 per cent from last year's utilized tonnage, 46 per cent below the 1974 crop, and is the smallest crop since 1945.

Sweet cherry production in Pennsylvania is forecast at 500 tons, down 26 per cent from 1975 production of 860 tons. Bloom was approximately 18 days ahead of 1975. Harvest of early varieties began around June 19 and is expected to be completed about July 4.

This year's U.S. sweet cherry crop is projected at 147,950 tons, four per cent

below 1975's utilized tonnage, but three percent higher than the 1974 production.

Udder jet travelers

In ever increasing numbers, cattle from the United States are becoming full-fledged members of the jet age. Latest figures reveal that a record 24,000 cattle were cleared by inspectors for export to nearly 50 countries, and an estimated 70 to 90 per cent traveled by air. These figures exclude Canada and Mexico, Uncle Sam's biggest customers.

Many of the cattle are transported in a stretched version of the DC-8, refurbished with built-in stalls or portable wire-sided crates. Special ramps are needed for easy and quick loading and unloading. Only 29 U.S. airports are cleared for embarkation of cattle. These facilities require a trained staff plus adequate quarters to assemble and quarantine animals.

AGWAY

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Bob Engle (left), Farm System Salesman for Agway, Wilmer Hostetter (center), R1 Oxford and Wilmer's son, Bill, check on their Sta-Rite Pipeline. Mr. Hostetter had his first Sta-Rite Pipeline installed in 1975.

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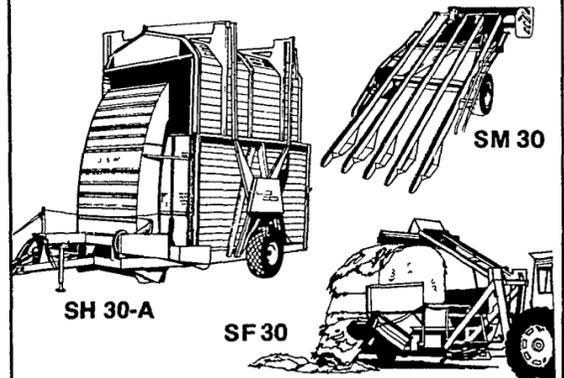
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