

Multiflora rose control started

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - If you see a sower going out to sow in Maryland or Pennsylvania pasture lands this summer, the hand-scattered "seed" may appear somewhat similar to ordinary wheat kernels. However, close inspection might reveal cylindrical, extruded pellets that dissolve faster when moistened than a sugar cube in hot coffee.

And when the "seed" falls "among thorns," it will be the thorns - not the seedlings - which wither.

The picture just portrayed is no pastoral parody, declares Dr. James V. Parochetti, Extension weed control specialist for the agronomy department at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Although it will be seen only a limited scale in 19 states this year, it is a realistic description of a limited and restricted weed control program which will

permit some farmers to recover pastureland being choked out of useful production by the spread of multiflora rose.

Still considered a useful roadside safety barrier and fencerow beautifier, this typically white-flowered, early summer-blooming, multi-stemmed shrub can reach heights of eight to 10 feet. Since it has turned into a pastureland pest in recent years in many areas, it is no longer being planted by state highway crews in Maryland and several other states.

In fact, there have been efforts, in Maryland and elsewhere, to have multiflora rose declared a noxious weed. But nursery men have successfully - in most cases - argued at public hearings to block this move because of the shrub's continued importance as an understock in the commercial rose business.

(West Virginia and Ohio have recently passed

legislation which, in effect, places multiflora rose in the noxious weed category. There are special exemptions for nurserymen.)

To meet the needs of livestock producers, however, the Maryland Department of Agriculture approved on April 21 a "Special Local Needs (SLN)" state label submitted by the Dow Chemical Company for its herbicide formulation bearing the trade name, Tordon 10K Pellets.

Similar action was taken by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in early June. And Ohio is gearing up for a statewide control or eradication campaign against multiflora rose to begin, hopefully, in 1977.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had previously granted a federal label authorizing use of Tordon 10K Pellets in pastureland situations in 17 states. This group included Virginia and West Virginia at one end of a crescent-shaped band of states sweeping through the South and ending in New Mexico and Colorado.

But Ohio, Maryland and Delaware - and the entire Northeast, including Pennsylvania - were not included on the list.

The "Special Local Needs" label granted by Maryland agriculture department officials for control of multiflora rose represents a new type of interim registration for a

pesticide in states not included under a federal label for its use. The Maryland action is subject to review by the EPA. But final approval can be assumed, unless the EPA expresses disapproval within 90 days of the April 21 filing date.

So reported the University of Maryland's Dr. Parochetti at two "centers of influence" educational meetings on successive days during mid-June in Frederick and Easton.

The label is unique, he said, because it requires the user to be trained before the chemical can be applied. A similar requirement has been established for the state label in Pennsylvania.

The Cooperative Extension Service at both Penn State and the University of Maryland has accepted primary responsibility for the training program in the respective states.

And the two state organizations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) will function as a possible source of cost-sharing payments - up to 50 percent of the total expense - to farmers who purchase and apply the Tordon 10K Pellets for multiflora rose control on pastureland.

Tractor pullers compete

THE BUCK - The high-powered tractors roared down the track on the eve of the Fourth of July, making plenty of noise and even spitting some sparks and fire. Following are the results for the pulls held on July 3.

7000 Super Stock

1. Mark Stauffer, Ephrata, Deutz 9006, 288 feet, four inches; 2. Marlin Brubaker, Quarryville, AC-D-21, 256-10; 3. Craig Leggett, Boonesboro, Md., JD 4020, 244-3.

7000 Modified

1. Lester Landis, Lititz, 241-2; 2. Richard Zimmerman, Mt. Joy, 231-1; 3. Lester Houck, Kinzer, 210-8.

9000 Super Stock

1. Mike Wright, New Freedom, IH 1066, 268-11; 2. Harry Savage, Damascus, Md., JD 4010, 259-11; 3. Clarence Leggett, 256-5.

5000 Super Stock

1. Tim Stauffer, Ephrata, Deutz 9006, 256-11; 2. Dale Smoker, Cochranville, AC 180, 240-6; 3. Dave Moore, Boonesboro, Md., JD 4010, 240-4.

9000 Open

1. Mike Wright, 281-11; 2.

David Becker, Mt. Joy, 277-2; 3. Lester Landis, 265-0.

5000 Modified

1. Coleman Wheatley, Bethel, Del., 284-11; 2. Galen Spickler, Elizabethtown, 251-10; 3. David Becker, Mount Joy, 249-1.

12000 Open

1. Mike Wright, 258-3; 2. John Terry, Westport Mass., 257-6; 3. Harry Griest, Coatesville, 257-2.

Penn Willow 4-H

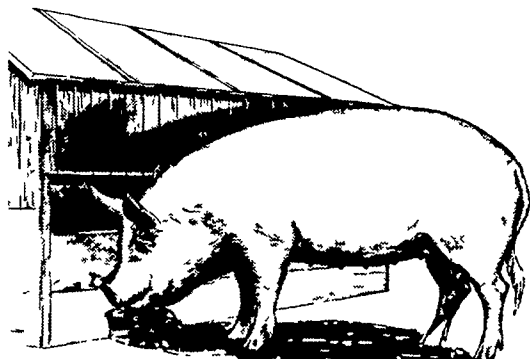
The Penn Willow 4-H Club held its monthly meeting at the Conestoga Elementary School on July 9. This month's meeting was an educational meeting. The scheduled speaker was Officer Reis, a state police officer, who told the club good bike safety rules. Afterwards he demonstrated his equipment and car.

For the second half of the meeting the Conestoga Ambulance was present and demonstrated to the club the equipment used and a few of the procedures.

A topic discussed was the next meeting which will be a round-up on Aug. 11, 1976. A place and time will be given at a later date. Also discussed was a splash party to be held August 13 at the Conestoga Community Swimming Pool. A rain date was set for August 16.

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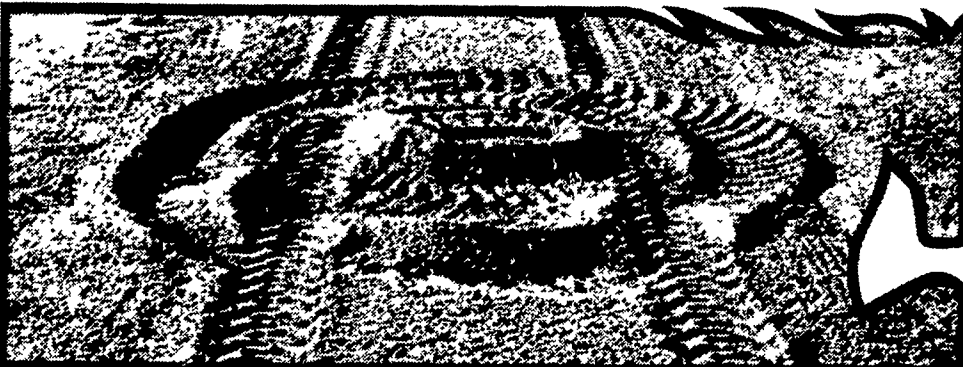
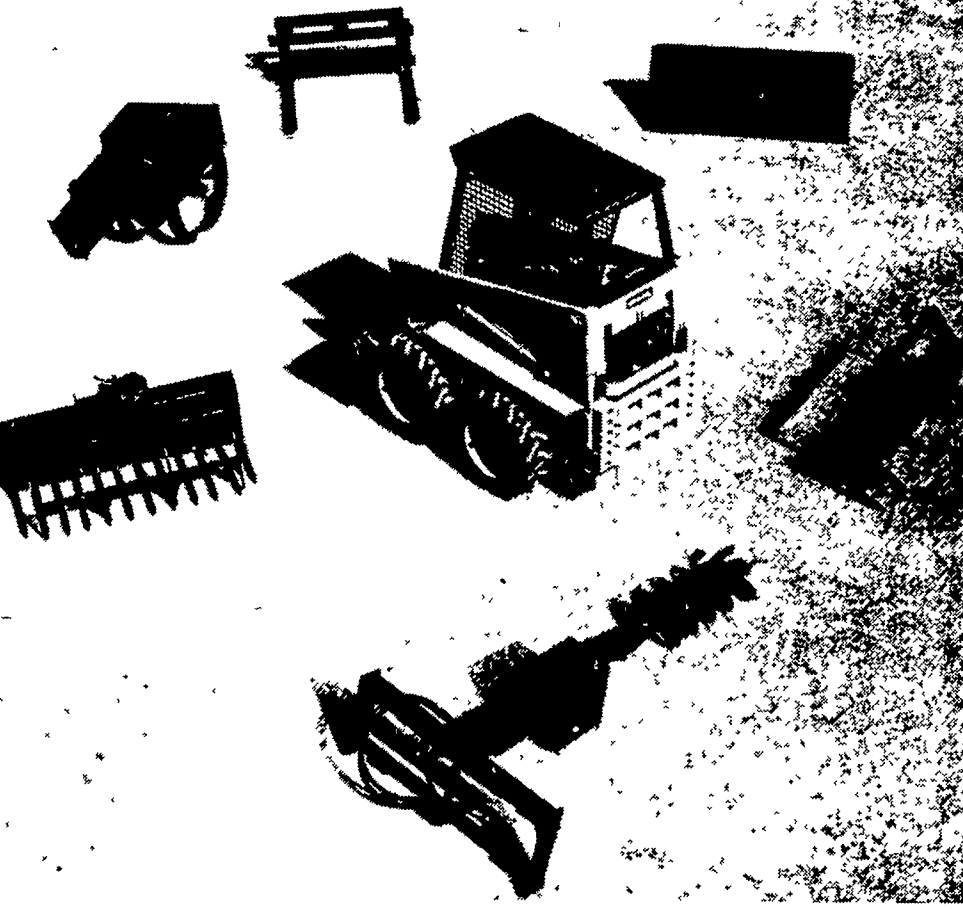
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