

Ida's Notebook



Ida Risser

For me there are always mixed emotions with the changing of the seasons. I dread to see the results of the first killing frost on the flower and vegetable garden - the leaves are black and the plants droop. Yet, I know the extra time in the winter can be spent reading in a warm house and tending the many houseplants which I've put on all the window sills.

The garden did very well this year and there are more soybeans than I'd expected. And even after the frost, there will be carrots, swiss chard, cabbage, broccoli, parsnips and celery cabbage. Guess I really should plant less but I can't seem to break old habits of using all the space available.

xxx

A recent wind and rain storm left us without electricity for over twelve hours when a tree blew down across the road. What I miss the most is lack of water. We were lucky to have lots of milk and cider to drink. Cindy suggested that the potatoes be washed in the Conestoga River before she baked them in the coals of the fireplace. They were quite delicious and added to browned frankfurters and carrot sticks made a nice meal.

Sitting around the kitchen table and talking, with a kerosene lamp in the center, brought back thoughts of

long ago when this was the only light in my parents home. There was no hurrying through the meal in order to dash to the television and watch a news program. Maybe the discussions weren't always amiable but at least you knew what others were thinking and planning.

Poultry disease alert issued

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - Pullorum, an infectious, costly disease of poultry continues to present a potential threat to breeding flocks in Maryland, even though it is no longer widespread and is susceptible to control.

This is the opinion of Dr. Hugh Binks, chief of the Animal Health Section, Maryland Department of Agriculture, who advises poultry farmers not to become complacent about the disease simply because the incidence is quite low.

Animal Health laboratories of the Maryland Department of Agriculture are continually checking for the presence of pullorum. The Salisbury laboratory for instance, performed tests on 125,000 chickens last year.

The greatest reservoirs of infection are the small "back yard" and exhibition flocks, some of which have never been tested. The Department

Soviets purchase more grain

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a sale of 350,000 metric tons (14 million bushels) of U.S. corn and 100,000 metric tons (4 million bushels) of U.S. Hard Winter wheat to the Soviet Union.

The corn will be shipped in the 1976-77 corn marketing year (Oct.-Sept.), and will count against the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Long-Term Grain Supply Agreement. The wheat sale is for the 1976-77 wheat marketing year (June-May).

The corn sale brings total sales of U.S. corn to the Soviet Union for shipment in the 1976-77 corn marketing year to 3,803,000 metric tons (150 million bushels).

The wheat sale brings sales of U.S. wheat to the Soviet Union for shipment in the 1976-77 marketing year to 2.6 million metric tons (95 million bushels) and total sales of grain and soybeans out of the 1976 crops to 8.1 million metric tons.

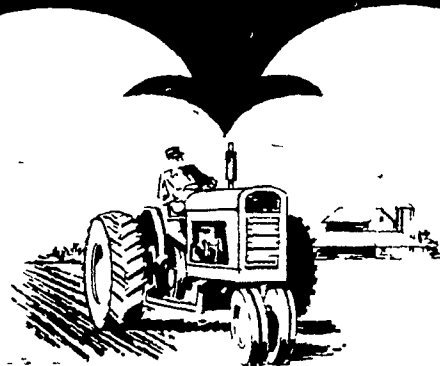
Total sales of U.S. grain and soybeans to the Soviet Union out of the 1976 crops now stand at 7.8 million metric tons.

The above sales bring total sales under the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Long-Term Grain Supply Agreement to 6,348,000 metric tons, including 3,803,000 tons (150 million bushels) of corn and 2,545,000 tons of wheat (93 million bushels).

The agreement calls for the Soviet Union to purchase no less than 6 million metric tons of U.S. corn and wheat in approximate equal quantities for shipment each year (Oct.-Sept.) for a 5-year period beginning Oct. 1. Up

to 8 million metric tons of corn and wheat can be purchased each year of the agreement without consultations between the two governments if the U.S. supply of total grain is more than 255 million metric tons. The U.S. supply of total grain is currently estimated at 276 million metric tons for 1976-77.

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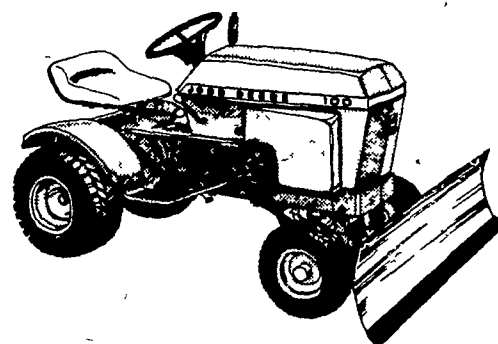
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