

Food inspections save consumers over \$1 million in 1976

HARRISBURG, Pa. - Kent D. Shelhamer, Pennsylvania's Acting Secretary of Agriculture, today announced that seizures made by food agents of the Department's Bureau of Foods and Chemistry amounted to over two million pounds of food in 1976. He said that the food removed from the market, assuming it was intended for sale, amounted to a savings of \$1.55 million for Pennsylvania consumers.

The Bureau of Foods and Chemistry serves as a consumer protection agency in regard to possible health hazards and economic frauds connected with the sale of food, whether for human consumption, domestic and farm animals, or plants.

Food agents made more than 24,000 inspections of food processing plants, warehouses, food vehicles and retail food establishments, and investigated 1,380 consumer food complaints during the year, Shelhamer said.

Seizures of food are due to suspected contaminated and adulterated foods, lack of

registration or licensing and a lack of labeling. Most of the suspected foods were voluntarily destroyed, Shelhamer said, by denaturing and burial in landfills. Unregistered products were returned to out of state distributors in some cases. Unlabeled or mislabeled products were returned to the shipper, relabeled or destroyed.

Inspection of the food

distribution process is only one of the jobs of the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry, Shelhamer said. The Bureau also licenses bakeries, frozen dessert manufacturers, bottlers, cold storage plants and milk producers.

The Bureau also conducts inspections of fruits and vegetables, milk, meat, pesticides, feed, fertilizers and limes, and grades poultry and eggs.

Agway local meets

MOUNT ZION, Pa. - Members of the Lebanon and Hanoverdale Agway held their annual meeting here on Feb. 4 and elected four farmers to the store's member committee.

Elected to three-year terms were: Robert Oellig, Jacob Smith, Kenneth Sellers and Ray Sattazahn.

Elected to the petroleum committee were Marlin Hitz and Orville Stauffer.

Member committees were responsible for guiding local

management, evaluating the store's service to members and other customers, and nominating candidates to the 18-member Agway board of directors.

A report covering the Lebanon and Hanoverdale store's operations for the past fiscal year was given by manager Jack Reed. He told the 200 members present that sales volume for 1975-76 amounted to \$4,316,324.

The Agway petroleum operation for the year was

have a
nice weekend...

Say hello to a neighbor...



reviewed by plant manager Dave Schwoyer.

Committee chairman Robert Oellig, who presided at the meeting, reported on the Agway annual meeting held in Syracuse and a recent Agway Council meeting. The Agway Council serves as an advisory group to the Agway Inc. board of directors and is made up of chairmen of Agway store and representative committees.

A report on developments within the entire Agway system was given by Director Ralph Heffner of Pine Grove, Pa.

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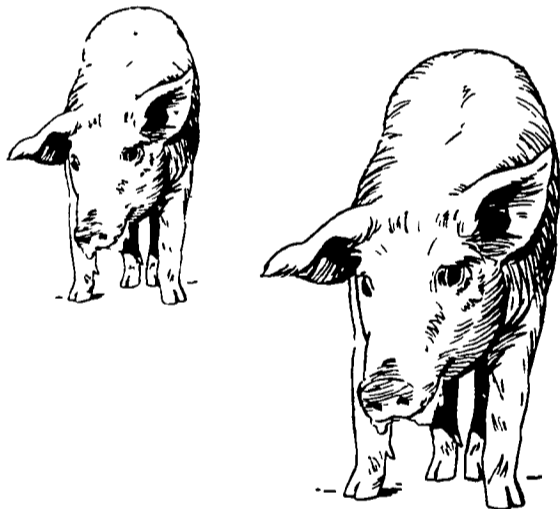
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