



Governor Milton J. Shapp has proclaimed May 15-22 "Resource Stewardship Week." In the above picture, Gov. Shapp signs the proclamation. With him are: (seated, left) Oliver Swartz, chairman,

Resource Stewardship Committee; (right) Clifford McConnell, deputy sec., DER; Standing, (left to right) Kent Shelhamer, Secretary of Agriculture; and Walter Peechatka, DER.

## Poultry health committee to meet

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Poultry Health Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will meet May 12-13 at the Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. The meeting preceded on May 4 with a special subcommittee meeting on

disease outbreak quarantine restrictions.

The committee advises the Secretary of Agriculture on the policies and procedures necessary to prevent or control poultry diseases, and helps obtain cooperation from all segments of the industry to improve the health of poultry and other birds.

At the May meeting, subcommittees will report on proposals on "avian influenza," "mycoplasmosis" and "quarantine restrictions during outbreaks." U.S. Customs Service officials will discuss what can be done to help prevent smuggling of cage birds into the country. Smuggling is the major source of new introductions of exotic Newcastle disease into the U.S. and is a constant threat to poultry, fancy fowl and pet birds.

Chairman of the committee is Bob Meyer, assistant secretary for marketing services. Vice chairman is Dr. Francis J. Mulhern, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Executive secretary is Dr. John W. Walker, APHIS senior staff veterinarian for poultry and swine diseases.

Both the subcommittee and committee meetings are open to the public. Any questions should be directed to Dr. Walker at (301) 436-8487.

## Bees busy

U.S. honey production in 1976 at 199.8 million pounds, a gain of 1 per cent over a year earlier. Three per cent more-or 4.3 million-colonies produced the 1976 crop, average yields dropped nearly a pound to 46.4 pounds per colony. Grower prices for the 1976 honey crop dropped slightly to just below 50 cents a pound, for a total crop valued at \$99.8 million. Meantime, beekeepers averaged \$1.12 for a pound of beeswax-10 cents over the 1975 price.

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## Goats going strong

head jumped \$5.10 from year ago to \$25.

In stark contrast to the dwindling sheep population, the Texas inventory of goats and kids registered a 16 per cent increase during 1976. The Crop Reporting Board

estimates total goats and kids on hand as of January 1, 1977, at 1.3 million. The inventory value rallied for a 46 per cent increase to \$32.5 million, as average value per

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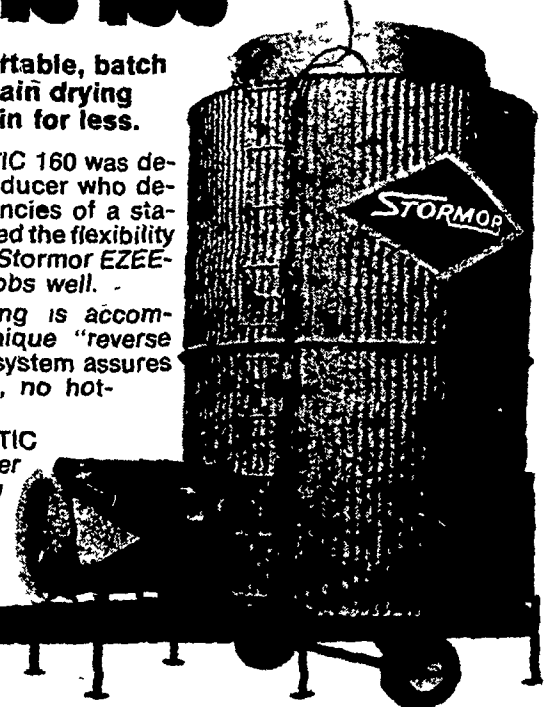
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