## Garden Spot Agway elects committeemen

Garden Spot Agway Zone Members annual meeting was held November 21 at the

Center, Lancaster, Pa. Reports on the operations for the past year were given and following results were an-

New committeemen elected at the recent Garden Spot Agway annual

members meeting included: in front, Melvin G. Rohrer, Lititz R3; and Paul M.

Herr, Quarryville R1; and in back row, Henry G. Shenk, Manheim R7; James G.

Kreider, Quarryville R4; and Clair M. Hollinger, Mount Joy R1. Also elected but

not present was J. Larry Hess, Lancaster R6.

LANCASTER -- The Lancaster Farm and Home new Agway committeemen elected.

In the annual report, the



Speaker for the evening was Richard Resig, director of safety, Syracuse office, Agway, Inc., who spoke on the safety of Agway employees and farm safety.

Lancaster R6.

department,

Resig stated that farming is one of the most hazardous

nounced. In the volume occupations known, with the use of safety being a fulltime business. Farms have always had potential hazards, and often workers become oblivious to the dangers they face. With farming becoming more complex and a larger business every day, Resig stressed the importance of constant safety practice.

> Touching on the areas of flamable liquid handling, confined space entries, silo fermentation, dust explosions, and farm vehicle safety, Resig demonstrated some of the results that can occur when proper safety is ignored, using special safety demonstration equipment.

> Resig concluded that each person's life and safety is up to them, and that an individual effort must be made for safety standards to be followed.

Approximately 280 people attended the meeting which was followed by refreshments.

## Mares affected by light

DOVER, Del. - If Mother Nature had her way, the breeding season for thoroughbred mares would begin in mid-April and peak in late May or early June.

But since Mother Nature is rather easily fooled, horse owners have found that they can actually change their mares' breeding season to fit their own schedules. All it takes is a little knowledge about horses and some artificial lights.

According to University of Delaware extension equine specialist Mel Reitnour, the reproductive ability of a mare is influenced by season. The heat cycle and subsequent ovulation will be initiated when there are approximately 16 hours of light per day.

Thus the natural breeding season doesn't begin until spring. Since the gestation period for horses is about 11 months, the following spring is the earliest the mare would probably foal. However, when artificial lights are used in the barn to simulate daylight, the breeding season can be induced even during the dead of winter.

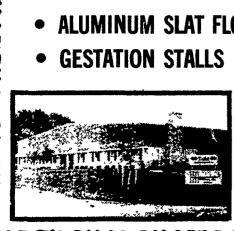
"This practice is most commonly used to help problem mares show a normal estrus cycle," says Reitnour. "And even then it's best not to begin using lights until about mid-January."

When the breeding season is speeded up, there's a greater possibility that the mare will foal earlier in the year. This is advantageous for horse owners who plan to show or race their horses since, for these purposes, the thoroughbred foal is considered a year old the following January no matter when it was born during the year. The more time a foal has to grow, the better equipped it will be for performance.

"No controlled fertility studies have been conducted to determine just how much sooner mares may become pregnant, says Reitnour. "But studies indicate that the use of lights to increase the daylength over a designated period of time will induce estrus and ovulation in the mare."

Reitnour emphasizes, however, that these studies apply only to thoroughbred

horses. For more information about the use of artificial lighting to induce estrus in mares, contact Mel Reitnour at the University of Delaware or your local county Extension office.

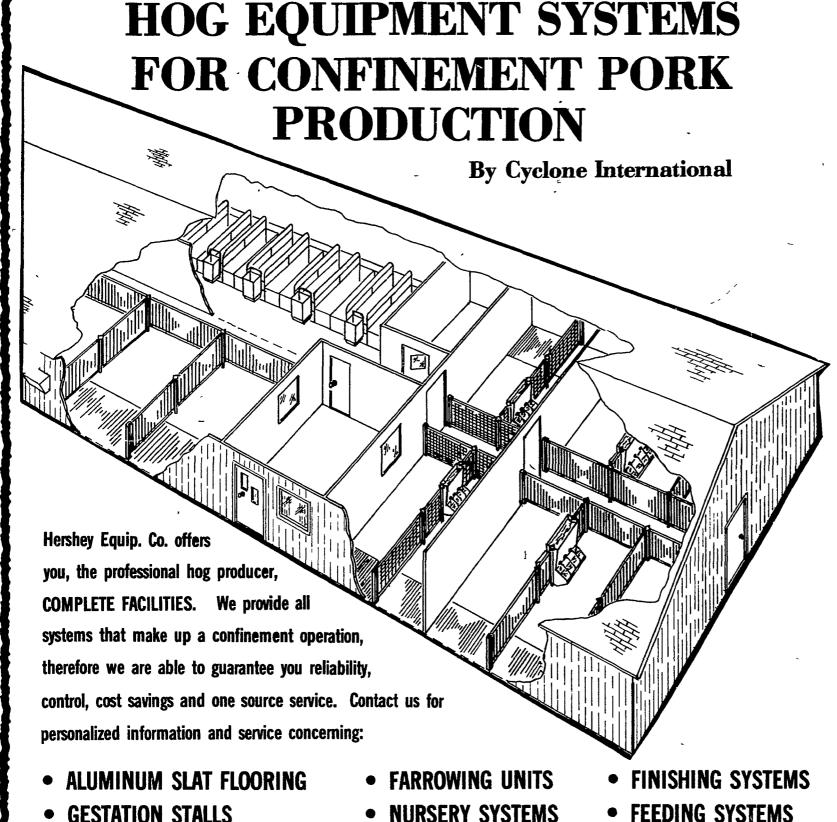




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