

# Delaware girl

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are affected by inflation just as much as the city people, mainly because they are just as dependent on fuel which is in short supply."

As a final project, Karen compared prices for food, utilities, shelter, hospitalization, insurance and minimum wages from 1969 to 1977. Her research shows that though prices on such items have tripled in the past eight years, salaries have only doubled. She adds that most of the increase in costs had been only in the past year or two.

But her work in consumerism was not the only reason Karen was awarded the national prize. She also

has been active in county and state judging, the county and state Reddy's Food contest, county and state visual presentation contest, county dress revue and public speaking. In addition to her consumer, food preservation and clothing projects, she has completed projects in both bicycle and food and nutrition.

Karen plans to use her scholarship money to go to art school. Having worked with crafts and posters in 4-H and taken many art classes in school, she says that her consumer knowledge has come in handy while shopping for art supplies.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Because of the continuing climb in the price of energy sources used on the farm, agriculture research workers are testing the merits of non-conventional sources.

At the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, scientists have been

And even if she doesn't pursue a career in the field of consumer education, Karen feels that she will always be a smart shopper. "If there's one thing I've learned," she adds, "it's that how much you make doesn't matter, it's what you do with it."

looking into the effects which microwave drying of corn may have on its nutritional quality as a feed ingredient. In charge of the experiments is Dr. Owen P. Thomas, professor and chairman of the poultry science department at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Dr. Thomas utilized an industrial microwave oven at the university's Marine Products Laboratory in Chrisfield, on Maryland's lower Eastern Shore, to dry the corn at five temperature settings, ranging from 150 to 250 degrees F. (66 to 121 degrees C.).

The only variability which he detected in the final

product was a slightly roasted appearance of the corn dried at the upper end of the temperature scale. Microwave drying appeared to have no detrimental effect on the nutritional quality of the corn or its acceptability when fed to broilers.

During feeding trials at the College Park campus, broilers fed corn from the microwave drying process showed no significant difference in growth rate from broilers fed rations containing conventionally dried corn.

Although microwave drying is not a practice that is now economically competitive with conventional practices, Thomas did note some advantages for this spin-off from radar technology.

First, microwave can speed up the drying process by nearly four times the normal rate. Secondly, corn exposed to microwave is dried from the inside out. This does not harden the

seed coat, allowing the diffusion rate of moisture to remain high.

Since the microwave process drives moisture from the inside to the outside regions of a corn kernel, it would be logical to finish a batch-drying job with conventional drying equipment, Thomas explained.

He commented that there is currently no commercial source for microwave grain drying equipment. And the feasibility of its combination with conventional drying equipment needs further study.

The Maryland researcher offers one point for the benefit of others who may try microwave grain-drying on an experimental basis. That is to watch out for "hot spots." He cautioned that the "horns" comprising the energy source in an industrial microwave oven must be positioned so that all of the corn being dried is properly exposed.

# Microwaves used to dry corn

## Herbicide applications broadened

PRINCETON, N.J. - Prowl herbicide and prowl tank mix combination with Bladex and atrazine have been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency for use in field corn on soils with less than 1.5 per cent organic matter and on sands or loamy sands in states east of and including Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, announced the Agricultural Division of American Cyanamid Company.

Preemergence applications of Prowl alone when applied at the recommended rate on soils with less than 1.5 per cent organic matter, will control the following 14 grasses and broadleaf weeds in field corn: green foxtail, yellow foxtail, giant foxtail, baryardgrass, panicums,

crabgrass, goosegrass, signalgrass, seedling Johnsongrass, carpetweed, lambsquarters, Florida pusley, pigweed, and purslane.

According to Dennis McCormick, product manager, "This new registration will allow more corn acres, particularly in the southeastern states, to be treated with Prowl." Preemergence applications of Prowl plus Bladex or Prowl plus atrazine controls common ragweed in addition to the many grasses and broadleaf weeds controlled with prowl alone. The recommended mixtures will also reduce competition from hard-to-control cocklebur and annual morningglory.

Remember to read and follow label directions carefully.

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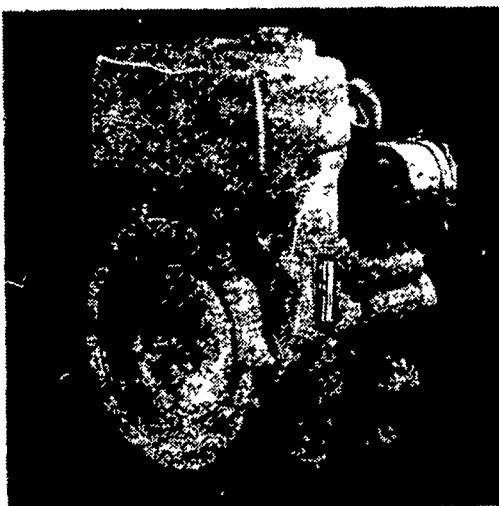


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• Width Approx.*	17 5/8 in.	19 3/4 in.
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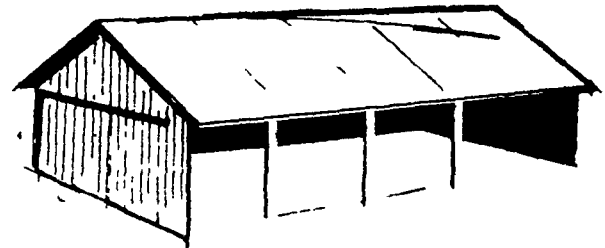
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