## York 4-H'ers to size up potatoes at Farm Show

yORK - You're not sutfering with Swine flu, Asian flu or Russian flu?

But what about Hollow Heart, Pitted Scab. Rhizoctonia, Shrivelling or Greening?

If you're afflicted from any of those symptoms, chances are that you'll never make it as a US Grade No. 1 potato.

Four York County 4-H'ers have been studying potato diseases and grading standards in preparation for team judging competition at the Farm Show.

Members of the team are Beckie Brenneman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Brenneman, Glen Rock R2; Linda Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Brown, Loganville; Joanne Haskins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Haskins,

Spring Grove R3 and Lisa all teams placing in the top Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Thompson, Shrewsbury.

A two-part competition. the 4-H Club Potato Identification and Grading Contest will be held on Thursday morning, beginning at 9 a.m., in Room E on the second floor of the main exhibition room of the Harrisburg complex.

Team members will examine 100 individual potatoes during the first part of the judging, deciding if each qualified for the US No. 1 grade. In the second portion of the contest, a defect on each of 40 potatoes will be circled and the 4-H judges must identify the defect by name.

Cash awards will be presented to the top five teams, with ribbons going to

ten.

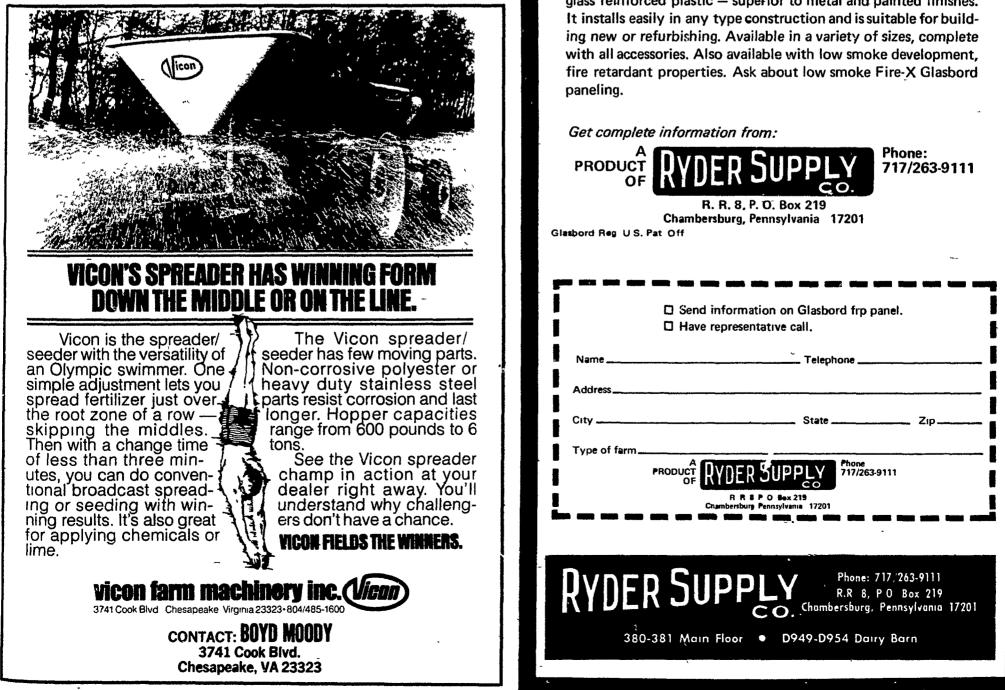
Twenty different common defects affect grading. Some that judges will be looking for include: Blight - browncolored decayed areas that form irregular sunken patches in storage; bruises, cuts and dirt - handling damage is usually caused by droppage during harvest and storage. Some cuts are permitted, according to size. Dirty potatoes do not quality for Grade No. 1.

Some defects are graded according to the unount of waste they cause or how the potato appearance is affected. Dry rot is usually found on the stem end of a potato and may be a whitish mold that is dry and brittle. Rodent injury is identified by holes made by gnawing

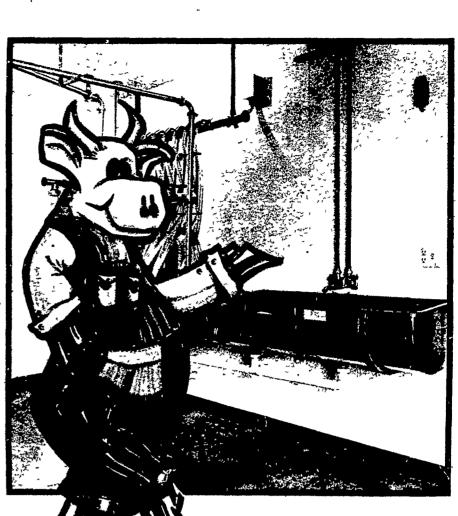
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Common defects of white potatoes are discussed by judging team members, from left, Beckie Brenneman, Linda Brown, and Lisa Thompson, and coach, York Extension Agent Tim Markovits.



## Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 6, 1979-53



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