

4-H leaders banquet set

HARRISBURG - The second annual 4-H leaders banquet will be held Friday, March 30, at the Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Harrisburg. For more information contact the Dauphin County Extension Service at 717-652-8460.

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Wheat protein testing rule proposed

NEW YORK, N.Y. - A proposal by the U.S. Department of Agriculture would, for the first time, require all private and state official grain agencies to provide testing services for protein content of wheat.

The protein content of wheat is the single most important index of its value for baking purposes.

Leland E. Bartelt, administrator of the department's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), said the added function would take effect August 15, if adopted. Official agencies which inspect little or no wheat may be exempted

from the provisions.

Bartelt said the proposal would require inland official agencies to be able to test for protein in all classes of wheat except mixed and unclassified.

"The industry responded favorably when FGIS began offering protein testing services for hard red Winter and hard red Spring wheats at export elevators in May 1978," Bartelt said. "We expect requests for official protein testing services to increase considerably when testing is available at all specified service points, and is extended to soft red winter durum and white wheats."

The proposal would also require that only the near-infrared reflectance (NIR) method be used to determine official protein content in wheat, effective May 1981. Other approved testing methods could be used until then. Bartelt said the requirement that only NIR testing equipment be used to determine protein content in wheat should improve nationwide uniformity.

Official agencies will be responsible for training their own employees to use approved protein testing devices. FGIS will provide testing for official personnel who wish to become licensed

to perform wheat protein testing.

To avoid public confusion, after August 15, no official agency would be permitted to perform unofficial testing for protein, except for mixed and unclassified wheat. Independent laboratories could continue to provide unofficial protein testing services for all classes of wheat.

Comments on the proposals should be sent, by April 9, to the FGIS Compliance Division, Room 2405, Auditors Bldg., USDA, Washington, D.C., 20205. The proposal appeared in the March 8 Federal Register.

Lawn care booklet offered

NEWARK, Del. - A weed-free lawn is a rare sight indeed. Most of us will never have one, but that doesn't keep us from wishing for a little more "real" grass in our lawns, just the same. Somehow, uninvited weeds always seem to flourish better than the beautiful grass we want to grow there. Each spring is an excellent

time to deal with these persistent lawn pests. To help homeowners cope more successfully with them, University of Delaware Extension garden specialist Dave Tannal has drawn up a list of 25 plants he considers to be your lawn's worst enemies. He's put this list in a fact sheet, together with some suggested controls for them.

A look at his inventory helps to explain why the average home gardener gets so frustrated trying to grow an attractive lawn.

For one thing, the weeds you're fighting fall into several categories, each requiring a different kind of control. There are annual broadleaf weeds like henbit, chickweed, knotweed, and black medic. There are perennial broadleaf weeds such as cinquefoil, dandelion, ground ivy, nutgrass, plantain and sorrel. There are annual grassy weeds like annual bluegrass, crabgrass and foxtail. And finally there are the perennial grassy weeds, including bentgrass, Bermudagrass and course fescue.

Keeping your lawn properly limed and fertilized and the soil well-drained is your first line of defense against many of these pests. Hand-

weeding will also help in some cases. But for serious infestations you may have to go to some type of chemical control.

In order for herbicide treatments to be successful, however, the chemicals you use must be targeted for the weeds you're trying to get rid of. Some herbicides work selectively on broadleaf weeds only; some provide selective control for crabgrass and other annual grasses; while in the case of perennial weed grasses the only available materials are those which will kill everything in your lawn, including the grass.

For a free copy of this informative fact sheet, write: Mail Room, Agricultural Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, Del. 19711. Ask for the fact sheet on "Your Lawn's 25 Worst Weed Enemies."

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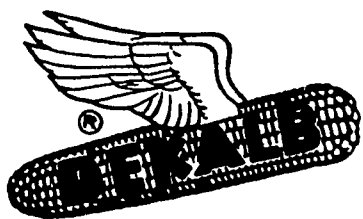
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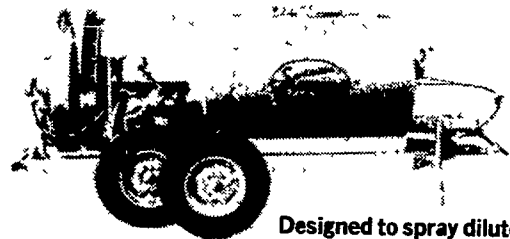


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