

Dairy champion chosen at Maryland Fair

TIMONIUM, Md. - Again this year, a teen-ager named Smith with a Holstein cow has won the J. Homer Rensburg memorial plaque for supreme champion over all breeds in the 4-H and FFA dairy show at the Maryland State Fair.

The 1979 winner is Harold E. Smith II, a Harford county 4-H member who lives in the Sutton Manor area northeast of Monkton. Last year's winner was Oren C. Smith of Jefferson (Frederick county).

Harold Smith's supreme

champion was "Ladys Manor Happy Charmstar," an aged cow. On August 28 "Happy" had been named senior and grand champion of the 4-H and FFA Holstein show in the Cow Palace at the Timonium fairground.

Harold also exhibited Happy's daughter, "Ladys Manor R A Ivan Charmstar," a senior yearling heifer, to junior champion honors in the breed show. And the mother-daughter combination won top honors for Smith in the dam and daughter breed class

Competing against Smith and his champion Holstein for the supreme champion award were winners in the colored breeds competition, selected earlier. They were as follows:

Ayrshire - Steven Hobson of Taneytown (Carroll county) with "Plainview Suzanna," an aged cow.

Brown Swiss - Allen Bassler, 18, of Rocky Ridge (Frederick county) with "Rolling Knoll's Jolly Dee," an aged cow. Allen had also exhibited the breed champion in 1978.

Guernsey - Dale Garst of New Windsor (Carroll county) with "Garstlyn W. Nona," a two-year-old cow. Dale also exhibited the junior breed champion, a senior yearling heifer.

Jersey - Kathy Lynn Kahler of Keymar (Frederick county) with "Gaywinds Golden Crystal," a two-year-old cow. Kathy and her cow had their picture taken during the Jersey show with Maryland's governor, Harry R. Hughes. Milking Shorthorn - Dawn

Bell of Manchester (Carroll county) with "Trickle Brook D. J. Lorrie," a three-year-old cow.

In addition to exhibiting breed champions, Dawn Bell and Kathy Kahler were also named champions in fitting and showing for their respective breeds.

David Hill of Emmitsburg (Frederick county) won top honors in Holstein fitting and showing. He was also named grand champion over all breed winners in this category.

Kathy Patrick of Dairy (Howard county) was breed champion in the Ayrshire fitting and showing competition.

Marie Bassler of Rocky Ridge (Frederick county) won similar honors for the Brown Swiss breed. Her brother, Allen, had been breed winner and over-all grand champion at last year's Maryland State Fair.

Donald Anderson of White Hall (Baltimore county) was named Guernsey fitting and showing champion.

Nutrient starved corn plants need help

FAIRFAX, Va. - Shortages of plant nutrients to the growing crop result in low yields, poor quality and low profits. Liming and fertilizing according to soil test recommendations normally will supply the needed nutrients. However, too often the growing plant shows the affects of poor nutrition - the lack of some nutrient.

Some of the deficiency symptoms in corn are

dramatic and easy to read. A lack of nitrogen causes firing or yellowing, of the leaves starting at the leaf tips and proceeding along the midribs in an inverted "V" fashion. Ear development is small and sharply pinched on the top. Pollinated kernels fail to fill.

Phosphorus deficiencies first show as purplish-tinted leaves. Small, weak, spindly stalks develop, producing small, twisted ears with part or entire rows of kernels missing.

Potassium starvation shows its first effect along the outer margins of corn leaves. The edges "fire" and turn brown, but the center area long the midrib is green. Eventually, the entire leaf turns brown and dies. This begins with the bottom leaf of the corn plant. Plants

develop chaffy-like nubbins with dull-colored kernels. The kernels are loose on the cob, and the ears don't fill to the tip.

Deficiencies of other elements also give visual signs. A lack of magnesium shows a white stripping effect first on the lower leaves. Leaf veins are green, but the remainder of the leaf is yellow. Plants deficient of sulfur are a pale green color starting with the younger, top leaves.

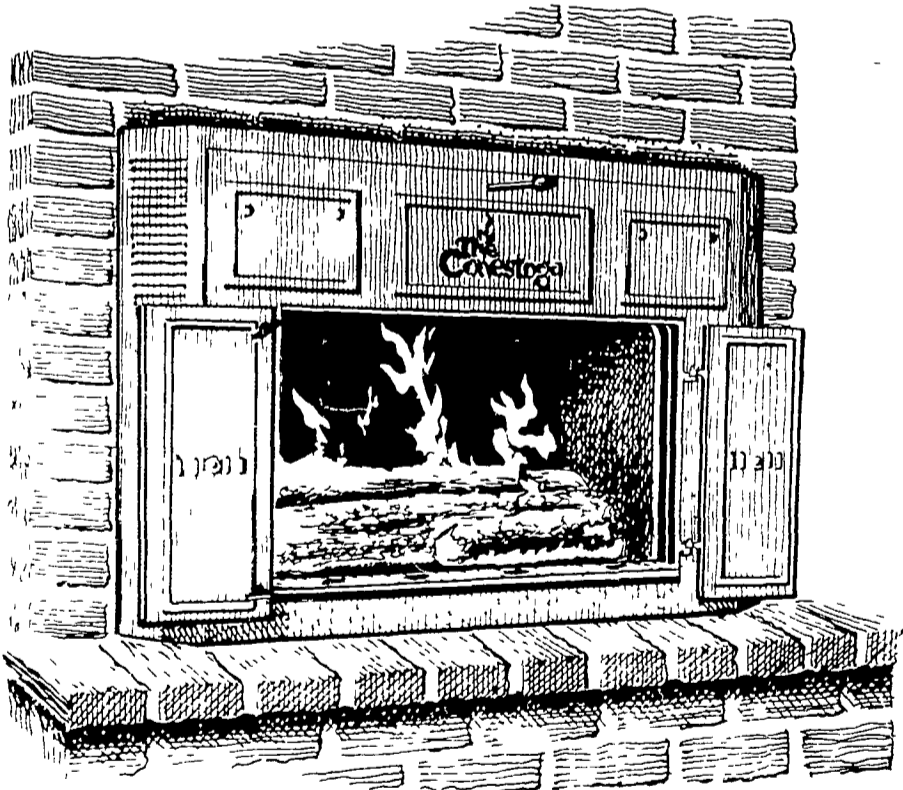
Very often, a plant will take on the appearance of all of these deficiencies. In addition, the stunted plants have poorly developed, short and blunted root systems. The cause is soil acidity. An acid soil affects the uptake of all nutrients. In addition, toxic amounts of manganese and iron can restrict the

development of the root system.

If any of these symptoms appear in your fields, it is too late for this year; yields have been reduced. But, plan ahead for next year. Diagnose the problem by having the soil and plant tissue analyzed. Apply limestone and fertilizer according to recommendations.

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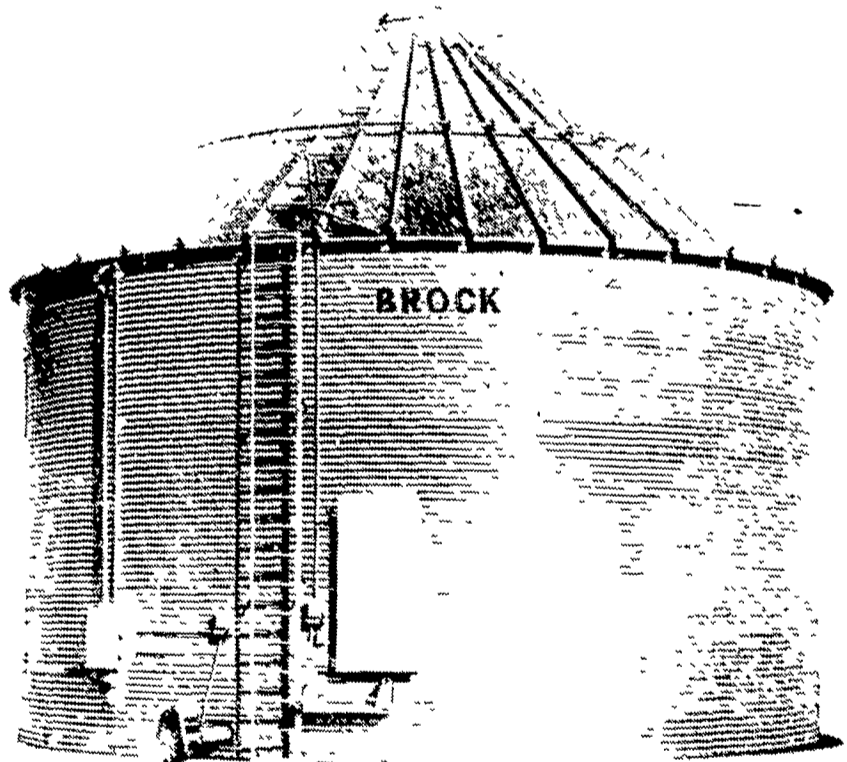
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