



Ladies Have You Heard?

By Susan Doyle

Lancaster Home Economist

USE GOURDS TO DECORATE FOR FALL

Gourds are unusual vegetables and although they can't be eaten, they have many uses.

Long necked gourds can be cut into dippers or scoops. Cylindrical gourds will make excellent bird houses, and there is even a gourd that

can be used as a dish cloth or scouring pad.

Gourds are especially popular during the fall season with those who want attractive, semi-permanent arrangements and don't have much time to put one together. Nothing can be easier than working with gourds. They can be used

with colorful autumn leaves, bittersweet, dried pods and berries, fresh or artificial fruit.

Dried flowers with gourds make unusual displays. Use wooden or metal bowls, trays or pottery jars as containers. You can even string gourds together for a striking wall arrangement.

Preparation of the gourds before they are arranged is desirable for best results. After gourds are harvested, wash and surface dry them. Then they should be "cured" or dried in a warm, dry, dark location for three to four weeks. An attic, closet or warm basement works well. Discard any gourds that have blemishes or spots which become soft or rotten.

Gourds can be displayed in a natural state or they can be enhanced with one of the following techniques:

Waxing — wax gourds with paste wax and buff with a soft cloth to a shiny surface.

Shellac — brush with shellac for a hard, very glossy surface.

Paint — the more unattractive gourds can be painted with a flat or glossy enamel.

Gilt — spray or brush gold or silver paint — or apply a gilt by sprinkling gold or silver powder on a shellac or paint coating that is not quite dry. This treatment is especially effective when gourds are arranged with greens or pine cones.

GIVE HAND-ME-DOWNS A NEW LOOK

Here are some ideas for giving children's hand-me-

downs a new look for the new owner:

* Personalize a T-shirt or dress by embroidering a child's name on it.

* Add a decorative pocket.

* Add appliques here, there and everywhere. Not only are appliques popular but they can conceal worn spots on some garments making them usable for another child.

* Ribbons, fringes, braids and rick-rack offer many possibilities, especially along the line that shows from wear after a hem has been let down.

* If the garment is a light color, consider dyeing it to a darker color to give a new look.

STITCH WASHABLE CAFES - WITH A NEW TWIST

Sewing simple cafe curtains from yard goods and sheets is the normal practice. How about a fresh look via other washable materials? Bath or kitchen towels in bright prints or solids make unique coordinates. For a dining room, napkins can be stitched together to match a favorite tablecloth. Combine a group of colorful handkerchiefs or bandanas in the same sizes for a boy's room; make scarf or doily cafes for a girl's room.

Receiving blankets or crib sheets can be made into cafe curtains to match bedding in a baby's room.

Cafes can be sewn from a variety of materials. Choose washable fabrics which make the curtains easy to care for and unique!

Dog control program available from state

HARRISBURG - A new educational aid entitled "Dog Control in Pennsylvania: An Overview," is now available to teachers and organizations through the State Agriculture Department's Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell said today that copies of the program are available through the state's 29 Intermediate Unit Libraries, the School Safety Office of the Department of Education and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

The program is aimed at improving public understanding of responsibilities as dog owners and stressing the importance of dog control. Hallowell said the program should help fill a void in the educational process.

"Dog Control in Pennsylvania: An Overview" features a 13-minute presentation of 97 color slides, along with a lesson plan for a 30-minute course,

cassette tapes with audible and inaudible impulses, a script and an instruction booklet. The slide presentation is also available on video tape.

Subjects covered in the program include pet ownership, breeds of dogs, the dogs' role in society, dog bite problems, laws regulating dogs and the dog overpopulation problem in the Commonwealth.

"Although there are about three million dogs in the state, less than one million are licensed. Knowledge of one's responsibilities as a dog owner can go a long way toward solving many of these problems," Hallowell said.

The program which is intended for use by ages 12 to adults, is available at no charge. Any organization interested in obtaining a copy should contact the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Pasto honored

UNIVERSITY PARK - Dr. Jerome K. Pasto, Associate Dean for Resident Education in Penn State's College of Agriculture, was honored recently for outstanding service as president of the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA).

The goals of NACTA are to improve higher education in agriculture, to raise the quality of instruction, and to provide a forum for examining weaknesses and for sharing ideas. The organization publishes its own professional magazine, the NACTA Journal.

In recent months, Dr. Pasto has been invited to

serve on the advisory council for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. The 40-member council advises Cornell's agricultural administrators on broad matters of policy and planning. Dr. Pasto is an alumnus of Cornell.

Service on the advisory council is a one-year renewable appointment. Normally, appointments are renewed for five years.

In 1971, Dr. Pasto was named one of the nation's "Outstanding Educators of America" for contributions to higher education. His selection was made by the national group bearing his name.

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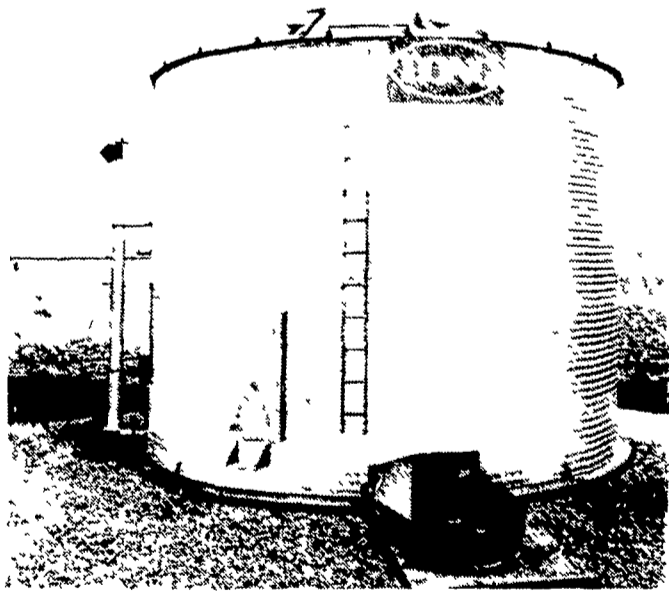
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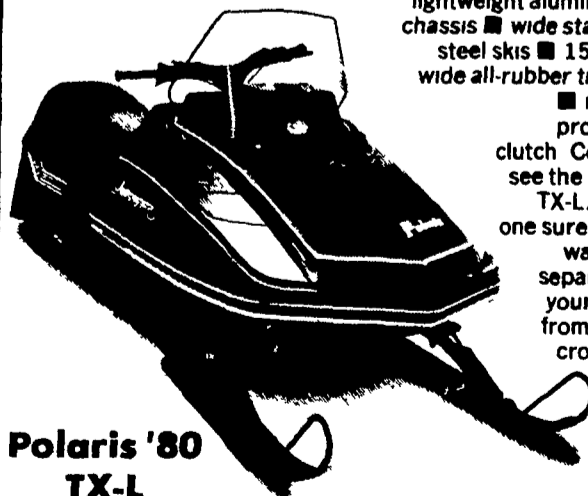
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