

USDA asks uniform schedules for meat poultry inspectors

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A uniform policy has been proposed for providing inspection service to the meat and poultry industry and for setting the work schedules of U.S. Department of Agriculture meat and poultry inspectors, according to Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman.

Foreman said the proposed amendments to the meat and poultry inspection regulations would provide more efficient use of inspection personnel and also establish rules for deter-

mining what constitutes overtime and holiday inspection services.

Under the proposal, specific guidelines are established for the department's Food Safety and Quality Service to determine the assignment of inspectors to meat and poultry plants. The proposal also has guidelines for charging overtime inspection costs to the industry.

The proposal calls for plant operators to submit changes in work schedules so inspection personnel can be assigned as efficiently as

possible. It also allows small plants — which often work on an intermittent basis — to meet their operating schedule to that of available inspection personnel to minimize overtime costs.

Foreman said the present regulations are vague and thus difficult to uniformly enforce. She said the proposal will correct this inequity and be in keeping with the rule that the cost of inspection, other than overtime, is to be borne by FSQS.

Inspectors performing post-mortem inspection duties would be limited to 10

hours of duty daily, and all other inspectors to 12 hours. Foreman said limiting work hours would help prevent inspector fatigue and assure properly inspected products for the consumer.

The proposed regulations would apply to all meat and poultry plants operating

under federal inspection and to official import inspection facilities as well as to exporters requesting and receiving inspection services.

The proposal was published in the Dec. 4 Federal Register. Comments should be submitted

in duplicate to the executive secretariat, FSQS, USDA, room 3807-S, Washington, D.C., 20250, by Feb. 4. An impact analysis is available from William H. Dubbert, acting director of divisions, Technical Services, MPI, FSQS, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250.

USDA wants feedback on consumer dealings

WASHINGTON, D.C. — If you'd like to have a say in how the U.S. Department of Agriculture treats consumer's interests, now's your chance.

More than 30 federal departments and agencies published proposed consumer programs December 10. These proposals spell out how each agency will work with consumers in getting the consumers' point view on agency programs, providing information, handling complaints, and other problems that affect U.S. citizens as consumers.

USDA's office, according to W. Neill Schaller, who is special assistant to the secretary for consumer affairs, will oversee the department's consumer outreach and provide for

consumer involvement in USDA's programs.

"We'll require that public participation plans show specific consumer involvement initiatives," Schaller said. "We'll also require that all agencies follow USDA guidelines on any action affecting consumers."

Each agency of USDA will have to monitor programs so the magnitude of the impact and particular segments of the consumer public affected are known, Schaller said.

"Consumer participation will take place at all stages of USDA rulemaking," Schaller said. "Consumer involvement at the prenotice stage, as well as during comment periods on proposed rules, will be built into public participation plans."

USDA will publish a manual early next year telling consumers how to

participate in USDA actions, Schaller said.

"Under the USDA proposal," he said, "the office of consumer affairs would work closely with the departments decision system and public participation staffs."

"We'll also continue to publish the USDA decision calendar in the Federal Register twice each year — in November and May," he said.

USDA's draft program was published in the Dec. 10 Federal Register. Copies may be obtained from: Linley Juers, acting associate directors, Office of Budget Planning and Evaluation, room 117-A, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250.

Comments should be sent, by March 10, to: Elizabeth Webber, acting director, public participation, OBPE, room 117-A, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

have a nice weekend...

ENTHUSE A LITTLE

HIGH PRESSURE WASHING

OF POULTRY HOUSES AND VEAL PENS

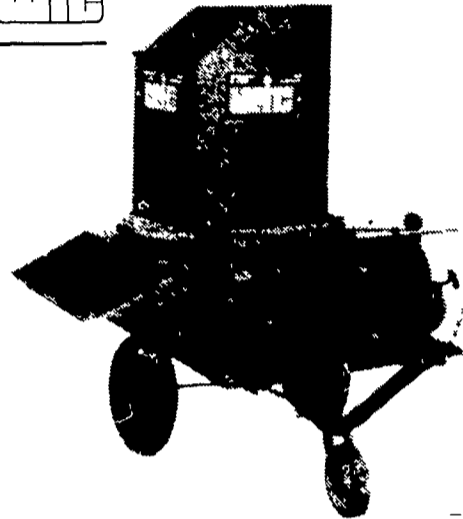
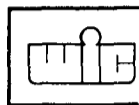
BARRY L. HERR
1744 Pioneer Road, Lancaster, Pa.
Phone: 717-464-2044

Blessings...

Every Christmas candle beams the light of the Star that shone over Bethlehem the night when Christ was born. May the holy, blessed meaning of that Birth be reflected in this Christmas season, for you

HERMAN L. BASHORE
R.D. 2, Annville, Pa. 17003 (717) 865-4053

BEDDING CHOPPER



HOLIDAY SPECIAL

5% OFF

ON ALL 5 HP BALE BEDDING CHOPPERS

Sale ends January 1, 1980

BUY NOW & SAVE

Also In Stock: 7 H.P. & Electric Choppers and Control Feed Wagon at regular price.

The WIC Bedding Chopper chops straw, hay, corn & soybean fodder and spreads it uniformly under your cows whether in comfort stalls or free stalls. When you use chopped bedding you save on straw and your cows stay much cleaner.

It can also be used to chop hay for in mixers and in the manger.

★ The only bedding chopper supplied with a mechanism permitting 3 different cutting lengths.

FEATURES:

Motor	Gas 5 HP, 7 HP 4 stroke, Electric 3 HP Battery
Frame	Steel
Emptying	6' to 8'
Wheels	16" diameter pneumatic
Capacity	1 bale/minute
Dimensions	31" width — 50" length
Weight	460 lb
Guarantee	One year on all parts, except blades

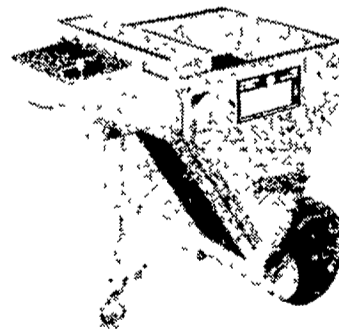
SAVES:

★ TIME ★ MONEY
★ LABOR

- Simple to run
- Highly Efficient
- Easily Handled

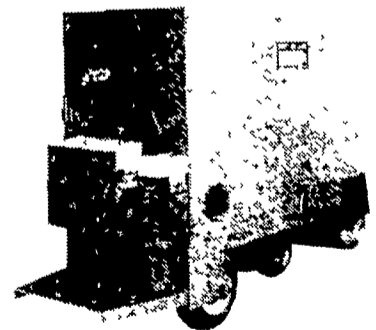
A BALE GOES FURTHER WITH A BALE BEDDING-CHOPPER

CONTROL FEED WAGON



All farmers who care about efficiency and feed wasting should own a feed and mineral distributing wagon and weight control. To distribute right ration of feed, the operator only has to place pointer of indicator at "O" and turn the lever which activates a worm screw until the desired weight of feed shows on indicator.

MOTORIZED SILAGE WAGON



Battery Operated or Gas Hydrostatic Driven, High Gauge Steel Body. Touch of pedal moves forward or backward, brakes automatically the moment the pedal is released.

Let Us Show You What The Bedding Chopper Can Do

PAUL HORNING

RD1 STEVENS, PA 17578

PH: (215) 267-7208