

# Livestock Health Council works toward Brucellosis control

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The search for effective disease management guidelines for brucellosis "got off to a good start" at the recent annual meeting of the United States Animal Health Association, the chairman of the Livestock Health Council said.

Raymond Schnell said he was encouraged by proposed changes in the federal Uniform Methods and Rules for brucellosis that were

made by USAHA's Brucellosis Committee. But, he added, "Much more needs to be done before these federal guidelines are workable in today's livestock industry."

The changes in the UM&R recommended by the Committee to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service came as a result of a "tremendously unified livestock industry

pointing out the flaws in the current UM&R," Schnell said.

"These changes will reduce some of the red tape, particularly in the areas of dealer licensing and 'S' branding.

"The recommended revisions also endorse the use of a reduced strain of brucellosis vaccine, ease the quarantine requirements on adult vaccinated cattle, and

give states more flexibility in dealing with disease."

However, Schnell said, "While we have every indication from APHIS officials that these changes will be incorporated in a new draft of the UM&R which should be released in early December, there are other critical points we want to see incorporated into the federal guidelines." These include:

The reduction of unnecessary restrictions on the legitimate movement of livestock in marketing channels which, Schnell said, are a "tremendous hindrance to the vast majority of honest marketing businessmen and the entire industry."

Placing more responsibility for control of the disease on the buyer and seller.

Stricter penalties for repeated violators, and less time spent "harrasing those persons who make honest mistakes."

Better performance by federal and state agencies

charged with monitoring the disease.

"We also want increased emphasis on vaccination, and more research into the economic realities of the brucellosis program. This latter point is often overlooked by the regulatory authorities," Schnell said.

The marketing sector "is keenly aware of its responsibility to all sectors of the livestock industry to obtain a brucellosis program that is effective, workable and economically feasible," Schnell said.

"We gladly assume that responsibility. We will be working and speaking out for such a program — for marketing businesses, the

beef sector and the dairy industry — in the months ahead."

The Health Council is the arm of the Livestock Marketing Association which speaks for the marketing sector in matters of animal health. In addition to Schnell, of Dickinson, N.D., the other members of the Council who attended the week-long USAHA meeting in San Diego were Vice Chairman Dr. George Stiles, Windsor, Mo.; Keith E. Myers, Grundy Center, Ia.; W.V. "Bus" Emrich, Norfolk, Neb.; E.D. "Buddy" Neel, Chipley, Fla.; J.R. Taylor, Amarillo, Tx., and Executive Officer Clifford R. Boucher, Austin, Tx.

## How to top 100 bushel wheat

UNIVERSITY PARK — What steps do you need to follow to increase your wheat yield to 100 bushels per acre?

Pennsylvania wheat yields have increased dramatically over the last two decades as top yields reach 60 to 70 bushels per acre while the state averages over 32 bushels. This compared unfavorably with yields as of over 200 in the midwest and 125 in Europe.

To push those top yields over the 100 mark, Elwood Hatley, extension agronomist at Penn State, says that it is going to take a maximum research effort. Included on his check list to maximize your yield are:

- finding the best varieties of wheat;
- examining the number of bushels planted per acre;

-working out the best uniform planting depth;

-determining the earliest optimum planting time;

-watching soil fertility, especially aluminum concentration and maintaining a pH greater than 6.0;

-selecting proper fertilization, which means checking the Agronomy Guide, applying the fertilizer before the growth starts, and having a top dressing of nitrogen;

-planning effective weed control and applying herbicides at the correct times;

--monitoring insect population, especially aphids;

-curbing diseases including, soil born fungi, powdery mildew wheat scab and septoria Glum blotch.

Dr. Hatley emphasizes that there is no recipe for growing 100 bushels of wheat

per acre in Pennsylvania, however, following his checklist will maximize yield and continued research will someday enable growers to surpass the 100 bushel mark.

Dr. Hatley made his remarks as the concluding speaker at the 1979 Forage, Corn and Seed Conference held at Penn State.

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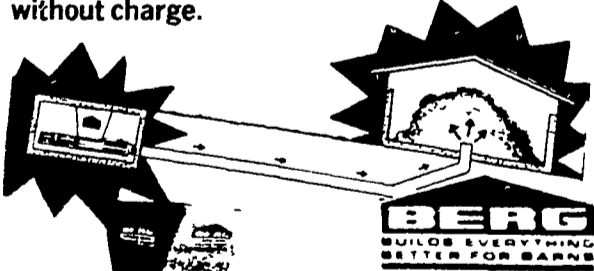
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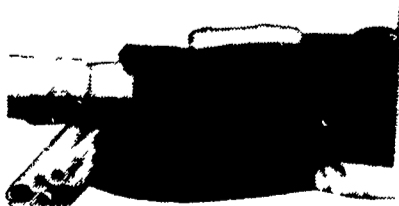
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