

Delaware schedules farm management course

FELTON, Del. — It takes a lot more than a green thumb to be a successful farmer these days.

Unless you can keep production costs to a minimum and sell what you produce for a profit — or at least break even — you're not going to be in business very long. And this calls for careful management.

Farmers interested in improving their skills in this

area can enroll in a five-week Farm Management Short Course being offered by the Delaware Extension Service.

Classes will be held Monday nights from 7-10 p.m. at the Lake Forest High School in Felton on the following dates: February 18, 25; March 3, 10, 17.

University of Delaware extension farm management

specialist Don Tilmon will teach the course.

The first session (February 18) will cover the general economic situation and the effect on farming of such things as inflation, exports, consumer preferences and the relationship between prices of agricultural inputs and farm products.

Tilmon also will discuss the effects of national policies on agriculture and

how political decisions alter management down on the farm.

Working from assigned materials from the previous week, the next session (February 25) will cover the concept of the production function and related cost principles, using specific examples from agriculture.

The March 3 session will cover the principles that permit a farmer to maximize his output from a given level of inputs, or to minimize his inputs for a given level of output. Again, specific examples will be used.

During the fourth session (March 10), farmers will learn a method for analyzing the financial risks they face when making different management decisions.

At the final session (March 17), Tilmon will briefly discuss ways to keep farm records and then will talk about how these records can be used as a management tool.

There will be a fee of \$5 to cover costs.

Individuals interested in registering for the course should contact Don Tilmon at 302/738-2511

Jobs opened to rural elderly

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Department of Aging and Green Thumb Incorporated are cooperating in a demonstration project to provide part-time employment opportunities for five older workers.

Individuals placed in the Department of Aging will be paid by Green Thumb Incorporated, and will be given various jobs compatible with their interests and previous experience and training. Each person will work 24 hours weekly.

Green Thumb Incorporated, a nationwide program sponsored by the National Farmers' Union, usually provides public service employment opportunities to low income elderly persons in rural areas

Under the demonstration project, the Green Thumb employees will receive on-the-job training to improve their job skills.

In addition, the Department will, in cooperation with the Civil Service Commission, provide test-coaching sessions to assist the workers to successfully compete in the merit system examination process. The Department will also hold several orientation meetings to explain State operations

and systems, merit system policies and procedures.

"Green Thumb is especially pleased that the Department of Aging has expressed its concern for older citizens in this tangible way," said Orville R. Car-

ver, Regional Representative.

"Frequently, older persons feel they have been exposed to bureaucratic and negative aspects of government. However, this is one instance when government has proven it can work for the benefit of its citizens."

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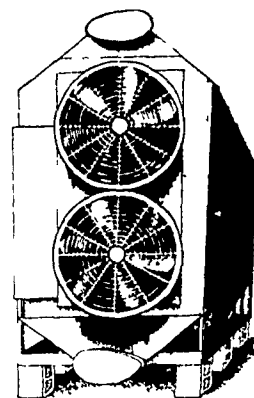
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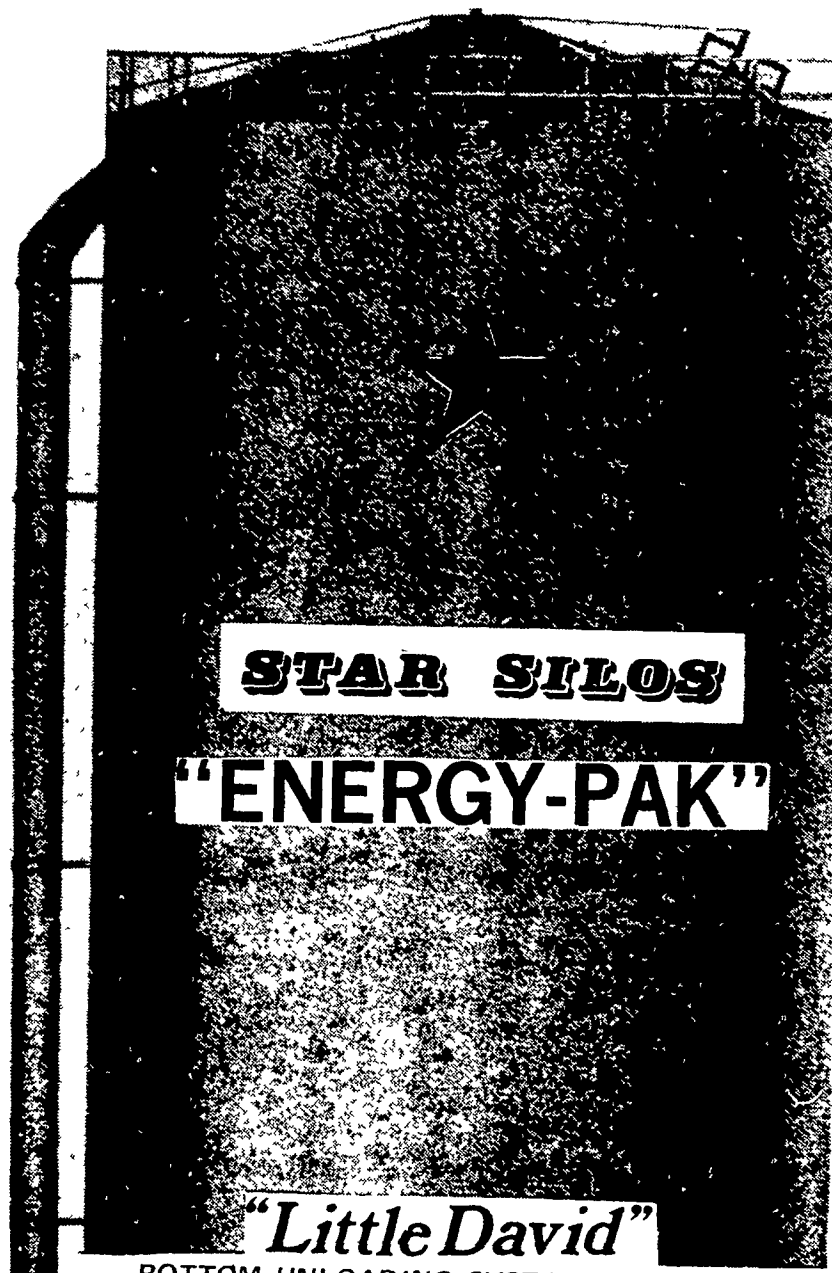
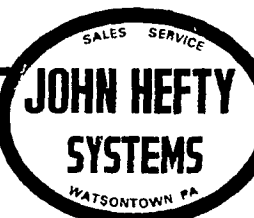
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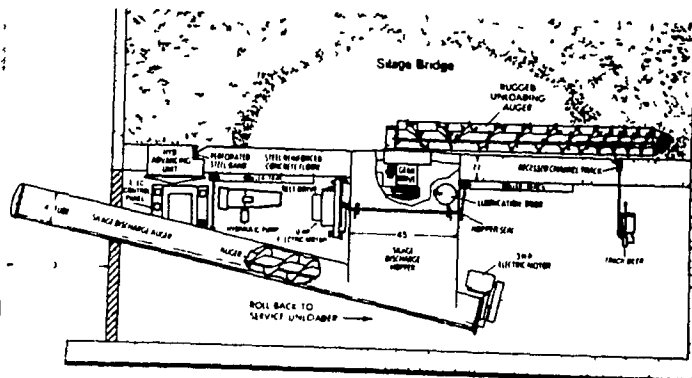


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