

## Grangers call for commodities advisory board

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Executive Committee of the National Grange, meeting at Grange headquarters here this week, recommended that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission appoint an Agricultural Producers Advisory Committee to work with the Commission on developing

new regulations to assure that the commodity futures market works to the benefit of U.S. producers.

Edward Andersen, Master of the National Grange, said, "We support the appointment of an agricultural producer to the Commission, but feel there is a greater need for producers to have continued input into the decision-making process of the Commission. An advisory committee, composed of producer representatives, whose futures contracts are sold on the exchange, would provide the Commissioners with the viewpoint of U.S. farmers who have the greatest financial risk."

The national farm organization leaders also expressed disappointment in the Administration's programs to offset the market-depressing effects of the Soviet grain embargo.

"The Grange supported the embargo action because

we, as farmers, wanted to support the President's foreign policy, but we also took his word that U.S. farmers would not bear the full cost of that decision," they said.

The Grange has called on the Administration to (1) increase the loan levels on wheat to \$4.00 per bu., corn to \$2.50 per bu. and soybeans to \$6.00 per bu. for the 1979-80-81 crops entering the farmer-owned reserve; (2) end the corn purchase program and (3) replace the purchase program by having the Commodity Credit Corporation take possession of the grain covered by the export contracts previously assumed by the C.C.C.

At the present time USDA has under consideration several options for handling

the contract obligations it assumed shortly after the Jan. 4 embargo. The option being favored by the Administration is to retender the contracts back into the market. Jack Silvers, Chairman of the National Grange Executive Committee, said, "It may be less costly to the government to retender the contracts, but it would further depress farm prices and is totally unacceptable to our farmer members."

In other action the Grange leaders voted to support an amendment to the "windfall profits tax" bill being offered by Sen. Robert Dole that would exempt from the tax, oil wells that are producing less than 10 barrels of crude per day.

National Master Andersen said, "Unless these small wells are exempt, the 'windfall profits tax' will reduce oil production because the oil companies, both large and small, will cap the wells rather than pay the increased taxes."

### Mower safety tips are offered for mowing season ahead

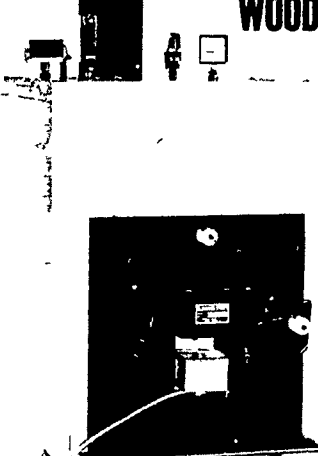
LIMA — Now that it is time to use your lawn mower, here are ten ways to mow your lawn safely, suggests James McKeehen, extension agent.

Know the proper way to start and operate the mower. Do not permit children or others unfamiliar with the mower to operate it. Know how to stop the engine quickly. Never leave the mower running and unattended. Do not permit a self-propelled mower to pull you. Set a pace where you have

control of the mower at all times.

He also suggests you do not attempt to adjust to clean the mower when it is running. Do not refuel gasoline while it is running. Do not attempt to clean or adjust a mower too quickly after shutting it off. Blades may continue whirling, and the engine will be hot enough to cause severe burns. Never attempt to work on a mower until the spark plug is disconnected. And keep hands and feet away from all moving parts.

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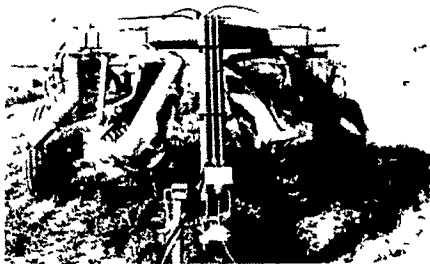


Photo #1

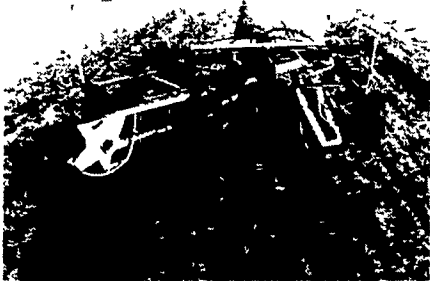


Photo #2

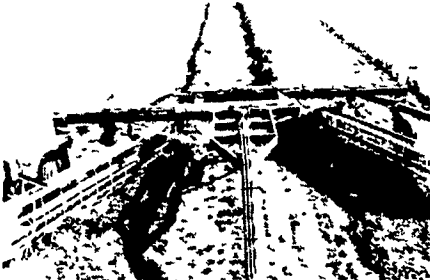


Photo #3

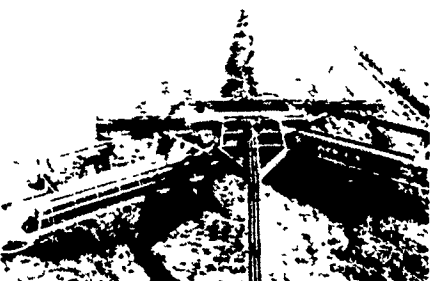


Photo #4

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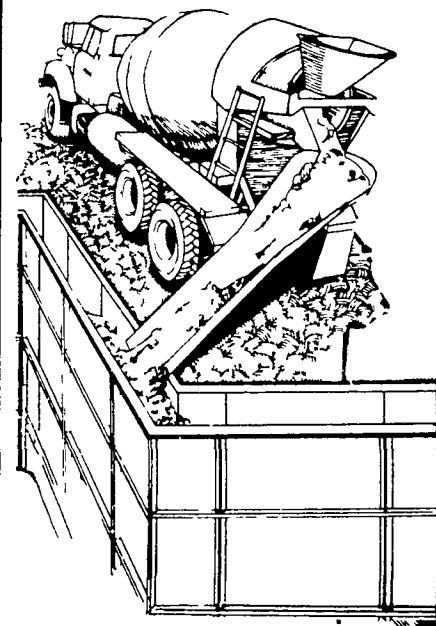
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