

# First aid training urged to cut farm death toll

LANCASTER — The American farmer is engaged daily in one of the most dangerous of all occupations - operating machinery, tending livestock, and using pesticides and fertilizers which may be harmful.

For this reason the American Red Cross recognizes National Farm Safety Week, July 25-August 3, 1980, and urges that agricultural workers and their families be trained in

first aid.

"Latest available statistics from the National Safety Council show that there were 5,400 farm resident accidental deaths and some 470,000 injuries nationwide," says C.P. Dail, Jr., National Director of Red Cross First Aid.

"An important factor in the high death rate and disabling injuries among farmers," explains the safety expert, "is that medical treatment may not

be readily available in rural areas. If first aid could have been administered immediately after the accident, many of these deaths may have been prevented and many of the injuries made less serious."

"First aid training is readily available at Red Cross chapters throughout the country," he said. "The time spent in class is negligible when compared with the loss by death, crippling, or time lost when

an accident does occur."

Common sense prevention measures will go a long way in avoiding farm accidents, advises Dail. Here are some that can prevent tragedy on the farm:

Keep guards and shields in place when operating machinery and power tools of any kind.

Use tractors that have protective frames or crush-resistant cabs.

Install fire extinguishers

in buildings, motor vehicles, on tractors and self-propelled equipment.

Wear gloves and other recommended protective clothing and equipment such as chemical respirators when applying pesticides.

Keep pesticides in a suitable storage area, inaccessible to children and animals.

Protect children and others by covering tank openings and fencing dangerous areas such as manure lagoons and farm ponds. Have flotation aids available at ponds.

Wear safety shoes with a steel toe box, especially in repair and construction jobs,

machinery operations and material handling.

Protect your head with an industrial type "hardhat."

Protect eyes with glasses or goggles with safety lenses.

Spare your hands on rough jobs with heavy duty gloves. Wear rubber gloves when handling farm chemicals, petroleum products and other solvents.

Dail urges farmers to contact their nearest Red Cross chapter for information on how to enroll in a free Red Cross first aid or cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course or on how to build a farm pond safety post.

## Weed control in soybeans to be field day topic

GEORGETOWN, Del. — Nothing gobbles up profits in a soybean field like a crop of unruly weeds. When you shift to full season drilled beans like a lot of area growers are doing these days, effective weed control becomes even more critical.

This is a relatively new cultural practice for soybean production on Delmarva, explains University of Delaware extension crops specialist Frank Webb.

"At present we have equipment that will plant and establish good stands in

a no-till cover. But we need to look closely at all the available weed control materials and techniques so that we can find out which works best for this system. Once you've planted your beans this way, cultivation is out."

This summer Webb is comparing a number of different herbicides in both conventional and no-till solid seeded beans in two different extension studies at the University's Georgetown Substation.

Some are pre-plant, others are post-emergence applications. Altogether he has 76 treatments including different chemicals, different chemical combinations and different rates.

In the no-till demonstration he is looking at the effect of various cover crops on weed control, too.

Webb is also conducting a demonstration of weed control treatments in no-till corn.

It's a pretty inclusive comparison," he said, "with a lot of different applications aimed not only at residual weed control but also at the trash, cover or whatever

else may be growing at the time you plant your corn."

For both no-till corn and no-till beans, farmers need a burndown material with good residual effect that will provide satisfactory weed control over the entire growing season. Without this control, none of these limited tillage systems will work.

These and other extension and research plots will be on view next month when the University of Delaware holds its annual Farm and Home Field Day, Wednesday, August 13, at the Substation farm on route 9 just west of Georgetown.

Field tours and other events start at 9:30 a.m.

A traditional fried chicken luncheon will be served at noon in the grove. The day will conclude with a watermelon feast at 3:30 p.m.

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colored slide presentation was given by Ed Bridenbaugh who told how he survived an airport installation and Bernard Hinich showed how he has greatly enlarged his orchard operation County Extension Agent Robert Hetrick presided under a huge tree.

**FRIDAY AND HAACKER ALDER RUN ORCHARDS** - The discussions centered largely on the various topics of a fully integrated cultural, insect, fungal management program, by Drs. Ritter, Teraut, Hickey and Huil.

S. W. Fletcher, a former head of the Department of Horticulture at Penn State, had been a part owner of the Alder Run orchards over half a century ago.

**ELWOOD WAY ORCHARD** - The two really significant features of the area were deer control and clearing forest land for orchard planting. It is hard to imagine an area that would be subject to greater deer damage than this orchard site. Years ago, Elwood realized there was only one answer to the problem for him and that was the erection of a deer fence. After the fence was installed he had no problem.

**PAUL HARNER ORCHARD** - Paul and Emily Harner operate a very enterprising and successful

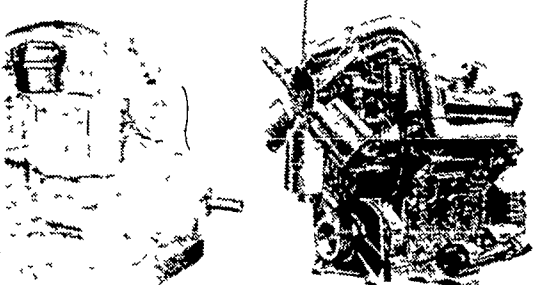
orchard and bedding plant sales business.

**HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH FARM AT ROCK SPRINGS** - From the fruit growers viewpoint it was the research activity of Loren D. Tukey which was of most interest to the tour members.

A few of the projects involved and which had to be hastily reviewed were 1. Intensive orchard plantings relating to hedgerow, palmettes, slender spingle, and hoopskirt on apple, pears and sour cherry. 2. Six apple rootstock, 3 combination pear and two cherry combinations are being compared. 3. Fifteen apple, four pear and several Montmorency cherry types including spurs are under observation. 4. Growth regulators too numerous to mention should ultimately find their way, if practical, into growers programs. 5. Propagation nursery. 6. Management studies. 7. Tree spacings. 8. Training. 9. Productivity.

Dr. Tukey has traveled extensively in China, New Zealand, Australia, South America, the British Isles and many European countries. His travels to research stations in many parts of the world have given him extraordinary background to pursue his own research interests.

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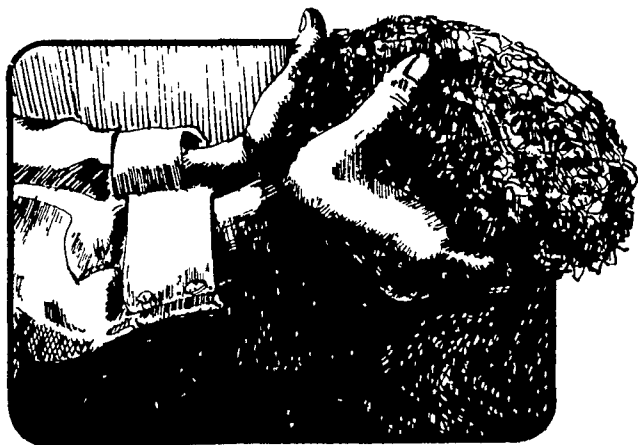


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