

## On being a farm wife - And other hazards

Joyce Bupp

Contrary to what you may have heard, slavery is not dead.

No indeed. It's alive and well and being practiced discreetly in the backyards of America.

Perhaps you'd recognize it better by its more common

name. Gardening.

Pictures of weedless gardens with dew-kissed vegetables and multicolored rows of blooms are a photographic conspiracy that's promoted annually to entice the enslavement of hordes of us submissive

green thumbs. We fall for it, again and again, believing that we might reign over such magnificence as kings of our territory, picking and plucking at leisure whatever strikes our fancy.

And then the doggone stuff starts to ripen and you suddenly slip from the throne into the grasp of 24-hour-a-day slave drivers.

First it was the peas, looking so innocent and dainty with their frilly little white blossoms. Every one gears up to ripen into seam-bursting readiness at 7:30 on a Saturday evening. By the time the late-night news comes on, the bottom of the pile is only ten pods away.

Then someone finally offers: "would you like some help with those peas?"

Next come the string

beans, yellow and green demands for attention, while next door the cabbages are hanging out their windows and screaming at me.

That was nothing, though, compared to the arrogance and ceaseless complaints from the pickle patch. Pickles are devious, demanding and daring, wanting attention almost every moment. Turn your back for even a moment and they launch out with those slave-driving whips that strangle your ankles and send out a battalion of bees to buzz your nose and ears.

"Why do I plague myself?" I plea to the mirror year in and year out, as July's heat strikes and this slave realizes that the pool would beat out the pickle patch any day.

"Next year this isn't gonna' happen. I'll bum beans off Mom, zucchin from the neighbors and pickles from Heinz," I promise the mirror in a moment of 95° desperation

Fool. It'll never happen. One day something will occur that will push all memories of slavery behind and a mental list of what to plant in 1981 will already be started.

I'll pick the first glowing red vine-ripened tomato.

### PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURE



WE'RE GROWING BETTER

# Home On The Range

(Continued from Page C8)

## GOOD 'N EASY PIZZA

- Dough  
 1 package active dry yeast  
 1 cup warm water (105-115° F)  
 1 teaspoon sugar  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 2 tablespoons salad oil  
 2½ cups flour  
 Sauce: ½ cup chopped onion  
 18-ounce can tomato sauce  
 ¼ teaspoon salt  
 dash of instant minced garlic  
 dash of pepper  
 Topping:  
 ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese  
 2 teaspoons oregano  
 1 cup sliced pepperoni, 4 ounces  
 2 cups shredded Mozzarella cheese, 8 ounces

Dissolve yeast in warm water. Stir in remaining dough ingredients. Beat vigorously, about 20 strokes. Allow dough to rest approximately 5 minutes while preparing sauce. Mix sauce ingredients and set aside. Heat oven to 425° F. Divide dough in half. On lightly greased baking sheets, pat each half into 10 inch circle. Continue to flour fingers when patting dough into circles. Spread sauce on each circle. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and oregano. Arrange pepperoni on top and sprinkle with Mozzarella cheese. Bake 20-25 minutes or until crust is brown and filling is hot and bubbly. Makes 2 pizzas.

Esther Wadel, Chambersburg

## COTTAGE CHEESE SALAD

- 1 20-ounce can crushed pineapple  
 1 3-ounce box strawberry gelatin  
 1 large container Cool Whip  
 1 pound cottage cheese  
 Heat crushed pineapple until hot. Cool ½ hour. Add the dry gelatin. Stir together and let cool ½ hour. Mix the Cool Whip and cottage cheese together. Add the pineapple and jello mixture. Refrigerate for a few hours or overnight to thicken.

Regina Raudabaugh, Shippensburg

## Silk clipping after pollination won't hurt yields

NEWARK, Del. — This is the time of year when many growers become alarmed about insects, particularly Japanese beetles, feeding on corn silk and the possible impact on yield.

Delaware extension pest management specialist Mark R. Graustein points out that pollination occurs during a relatively short period of time—10 to 36 hours, depending on growing conditions. Silk clipping by insects after pollination has

occurred should have no effect on yield.

Tests conducted last year at the University of Delaware Experimental Farm, as well as at several commercial farms, involving silk removal by naturally occurring insect populations and removal by artificial means provided inconsistent results.

However, these tests indicate that the incidence of silk clipping must be high (greater than 50 per-

cent of the ears with 25 percent or more of the silks removed) and very early in the silk stage to cause any reduction in yield.

Therefore, control of insects feeding on the silks of corn should not be attempted unless greater than half the silks show heavy insect feeding during very early pollen shed.



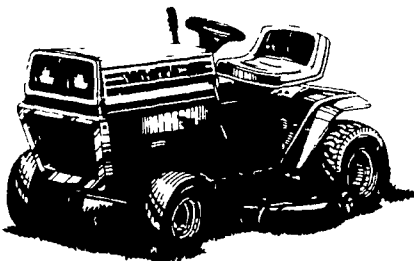
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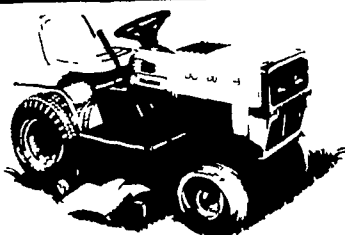
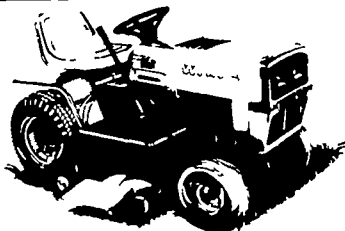
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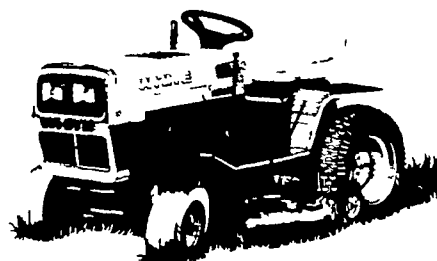
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