

Avoid the Christmas crunch

YORK — The Christmas crunch hits many families as they try to fit special holiday activities into an already busy daily round of household demands. Many a frazzled parent has been thrown into a state of complete disorganization when a young son or daughter announces a special Christmas program at school — that he or she needs a costume, and some cookies — and Mom and Dad have got to be there!

One way to turn your household havoc into a setting where exciting ex-

tras are happening is through the use of family time plans.

A time plan can be as simple or as detailed as you desire. A simple list of jobs to be done as time is available is one approach, but this is probably not sufficient to guide a family through peak periods. A more detailed time plan includes a time sequence without definite time limits. A schedule brings in both sequence and approximate amount of time on different activities.

Families can develop their

own schedules by answering four basic questions. What are the "extras" we must include? What are the "extras" we would like to include? What are the "usuals" that must be continued? What are the "usuals" that can be postponed or even eliminated entirely?

After you and your family have answered these questions, you can begin to develop a special holiday time plan. This is a venture for the entire family. Each family member needs to know what the other

members have on their minds and how important these things are to them. With this knowledge, you can establish priorities that everyone understands. Had the parents known how important the school Christmas program was to their daughter they could have planned ahead for a costume and cookies — and they could have attended the program in an "unfrazzled" state.

You can turn the Christmas crunch into a time of exciting extras by thinking ahead and developing a time schedule with your whole family taking part.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Thanks muchly for the positive approach articles on sludge by Sheila Miller in the November 29 issue.

Farmers as well as sewage plant operators need articles like this, to help educate the do-gooders, the what-ifers, and the cryers-of-doom.

The risks, the potential negatives of utilizing sludge as fertilizer is so small

compared with the beneficial applications being so large that they hardly need to be considered.

It would seem that articles as you printed — showing farmers utilizing sludge for fertilizer, trace minerals, etc. would help folks understand the biological benefits of land utilization.

Thanks again.

Marshall Haws
West Chester

Horse parasite treatment can begin now

NORRISTOWN — Horses heavily infested with internal parasites are usually thin, weak, tucked up in their flanks, potbellied, rough-coated, and may frequently suffer from attacks of colic. A well-fed horse is not necessarily free of parasites. No horse is ever entirely rid of these free-loaders.

The stomach bot is a larva of the common bot fly and is a prevalent parasite of horses. The adult flies die after the onset of fall and frost temperatures.

The life cycle of this horse parasite is considered one year, with the larval stage in the stomach of the horse lasting eight to ten months. The most effective control program is one designed to kill the larvae while in the stomach.

Nancy Kadwill, Montgomery County 4-H Coordinator, recommends a two-treatment program for Pennsylvania horses. The first administration of the worm drug should be scheduled in December and the second treatment in February.

The first bot treatment should be delayed until most larvae have reached the stomach in December, not just a first frost. The second treatment usually gets those that were missed by the first treatment.

Larvae do not reach the

stomach until about six weeks after hatching. They burrow in the wall of the tongue immediately after hatching, where they stay for up to six weeks. The rest of the larval stage is spent in the stomach. The larvae complete their development in the spring, explains Kadwill.

Once the larval development is completed, they release from the stomach wall of the horse, pass out with the intestinal material and undergo pupation on the ground. The adult fly season begins in the spring with the first hatch and ends in the early fall.

The control of stomach bots should be one part of an ongoing program for controlling internal parasites of horses. There are several worm drugs for horses, but Kadwill points out that they are not all active against the bot. The broad spectrum worm drugs do work against all internal parasites—worms and bots. Kadwill recommends one of these for the December and February treatments, or horses can be treated separately at these times for bot control. Either way, it is recommended that these programs be done by or in consultation with your veterinarian.

Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page A10)

record keeping meeting, Lazy Boy Farm, Rt. 896, Middletown, 7:30 p.m.

Eastern Milk Producers Co-Op CNI proposal meeting, Mt. View High School, along Rt. 106, Kingsley, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Sussex County, Del. crop meeting, U. of Del. Georgetown Substation, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Commodity Futures Markets open meeting, small arena, New Holland Sales Stables, 7 p.m.

Cecil County, Md. DHIA, Extension Office, Elkton, Md., 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Kent County small farmers conference, Ag & Natural Resources Bldg, rear of Del. State campus, 7 p.m.

Ephrata Area Young Farmers Christmas Party, Ephrata Junior High auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Garden Spot Adult Farmers silage management meeting, Union Grove School, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Dairy feeding meeting, V-Ag Room, Upper Adams High School, Biglerville, 7:30 p.m.

Sussex County small farmers conference, U of Del. Georgetown Substation 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 18

Pa. Seedmen's Association, Treadway Inn, Lancaster, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Del. Commercial Peach and Apple Growers workshop, Fifer's Orchard, Wyoming, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

N.J. annual seed, fertilizer and pesticide dealers meeting, Pfenninger's Hilltop Inn, 6 p.m.

Adams County Pork Producers meeting, Extension Office, Gettysburg, 7:45 p.m.

Penn Manor Young Farmers meeting on hedging, high school, 7:30 p.m.

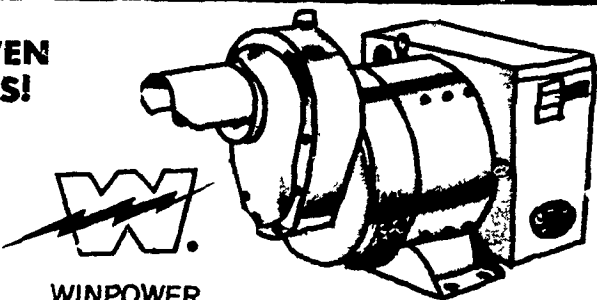
Friday, Dec. 19

Lancaster County Conservation District Board of Directors monthly meeting, Farm & Home Center, 7:30 p.m.



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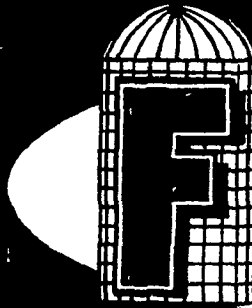
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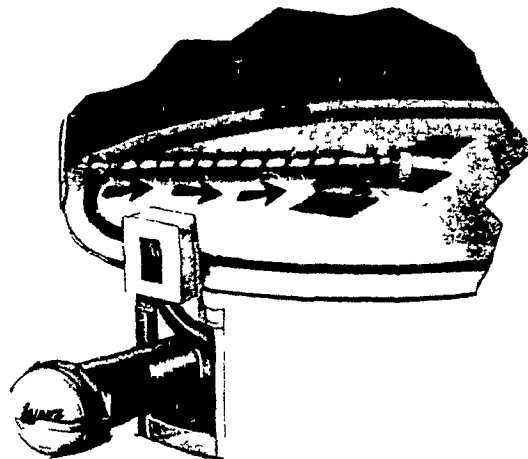
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