

Job outlook bright for college trained aggies

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Food and agricultural professions, including farming and ranching, will need more graduates — especially those with advanced degrees — than are expected to graduate during the next five years, said a U.S. Department of Agriculture study.

Educators, scientists and others have been concerned

that higher education was not producing enough graduates with food and agricultural expertise for future growth of agricultural productivity and efficiency, said Anson R. Bertrand, USDA director of science and education.

"The overall estimate is an annual shortage of 8500 individuals with associate, baccalaureate, master's,

doctoral and doctor of veterinary medicine degrees in agriculture and agriculture-related subjects," said Bertrand.

The study, done by the USDA's Science and Education Administration, projects the most severe shortages for graduates with doctoral degrees.

Bertrand said the study was undertaken in response

to the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, which directs USDA to keep informed of the need for research, extension, teaching and professional development in the food and agricultural sciences.

Educational backgrounds especially needed at the doctoral level are agricultural business and management, agricultural

and forest engineering, animal and food sciences, forest products use, plant and soil sciences and selected specialties in veterinary medicine.

Information on the supply of higher education graduates came principally from higher education general information surveys of the National Center for Education Statistics,

Department of Education.

Statistics on occupational demand came from the occupational employment statistics program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, panel of college and university experts aided the Science and Education Administration in reconciling data from these two sources and other data bases so that the estimates could be made.

Sale Report

The grade Holstein sale of Mrs. Warren Merkel held Dec. 16 near Shippensburg was well attended in spite of the snowfall night before sale. Top cow brought \$1580 with next two at \$1530.00, \$1500.00. Buyers were from wide area. Ralph W. Horst, Marion, Pa. was manager and auctioneer.



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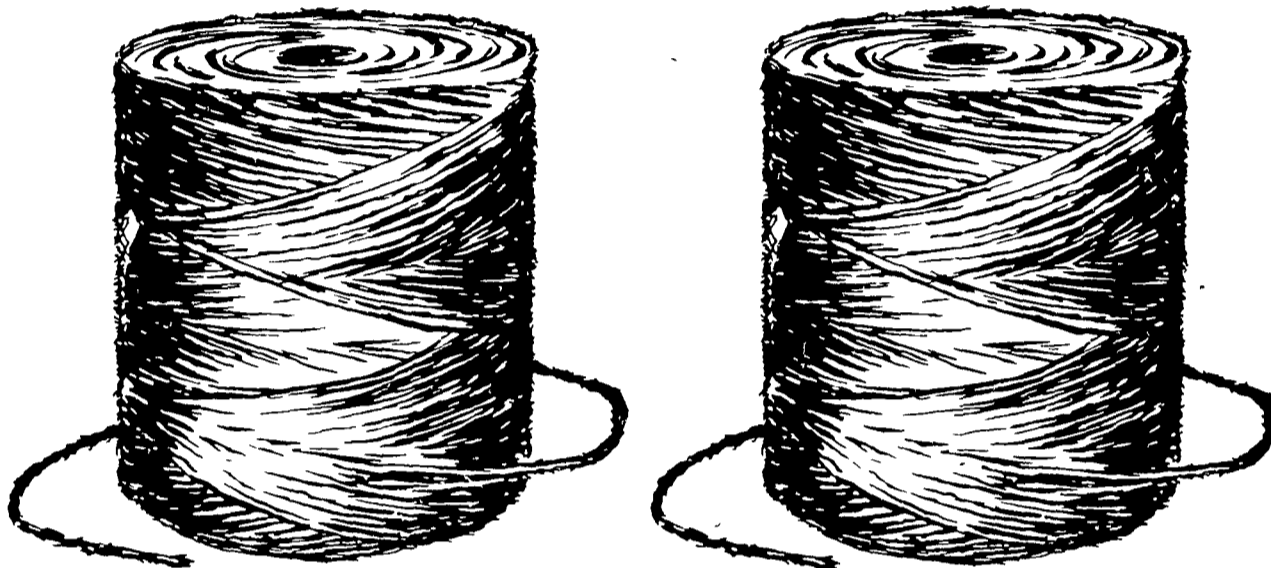


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