Greenhouse uses power plant's waste heat

DANVILLE — Kenneth G. Bryfogle Jr., a northeastern Pennsylvania commercial greenhouse operator, is using a unique heating system for his facilities near Danville.

Waste heat from the Montour Steam Electric Station of Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., located 10 miles north of Danville in Montour County, is used to warm Bryfogle's three-acre greenhouse complex. An underground system is used to carry warm condenser-cooling water from the plant to the greenhouse, located about a half mile away.

"The project is designed to demonstrate how energy can be saved by tapping heat that has been previously wasted," said Heinz G. Pfeiffer, PP&L's manager-Technology & Energy Assessment.

"The experiment has great potential in helping to find practical and cost-effective ways of conserving fossil fuels.

The production of electricity results in large amounts of heat being rejected through the cooling system of a generating station. This discharge heat is usually either vented to the atmosphere or discharged through cooling water.

A 20-nich diameter pipeline, buried three feet underground, transfers the warm condenser-cooling water from the plant to the greenhouse. The system uses 7,000 feet of piping to establish a loop to supply the warm water to the greenhouse and return it to the power plant.

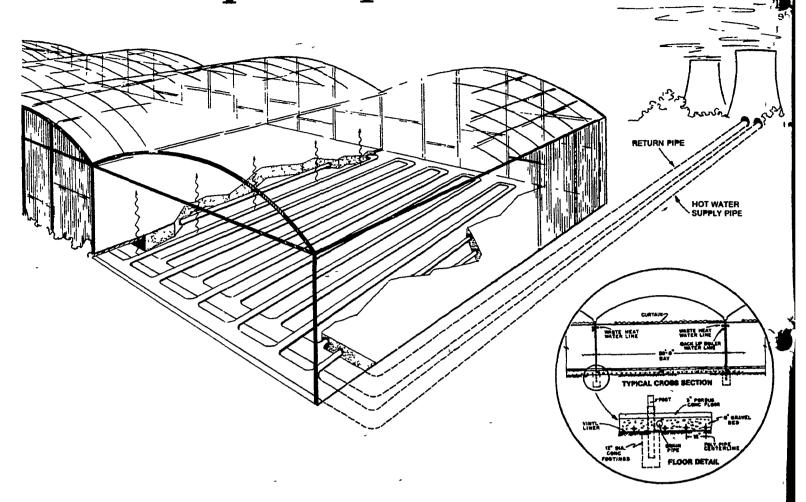


Diagram shows a unique warm floor heating system which is being used in a greenhouse complex near Danville. The greenhouse facility is heated with discharge heat from the Montour Steam Electric Station of the Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. An underground pipe system carries warm con-

Inside the greenhouse, 3/4-inch diameter plastic pipes are embedded in gravel just beneath the porous concrete floor. The pipes, spaced about a foot apart, would

total almost 24 miles if placed end-to-end.

The warm water flows from the supply pipeline to the pipes beneath the greenhouse floor.

densor-cooling water from the power plant to the green house. The water heats the floor of the facility to about 70 degrees. Also shown are a cross section of the greenhouse and detail of the floor heating system.

When the water reaches the greenhouse, it is between 95 and 115 degrees Fahrenheit. The water (Turn to Page D15)

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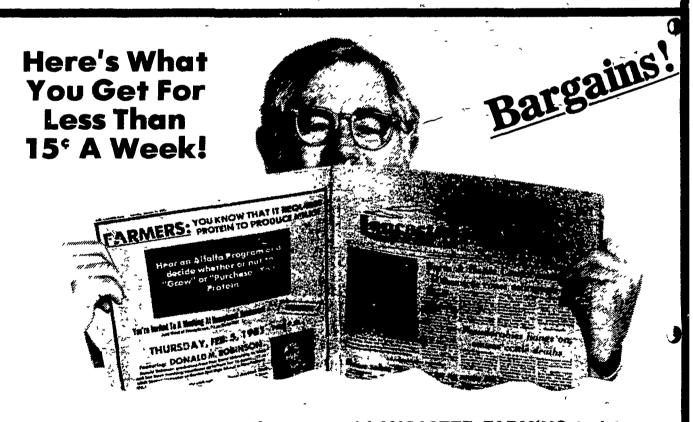
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