

## Block promises trading rights protection

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block stated the United States will "keep the pressure on" to assure that its agricultural trading rights are respected by the European Community.

At his final stop in a 12-day series of meetings with European officials, Block said: "I think they have heard our position and it has been made clear."

"We are going to keep lines of communication open. We are going to keep the pressure on to try to get the situation turned around so that we will be successful in protecting this market which is so valuable to us."

The market for U.S. farm products to the European Community exceeds \$9 billion a year.

Block met with officials of five EC countries as well as Community leaders in Brussels to express U.S. concerns about restrictive trends contrary to U.S. trading rights. He emphasized U.S. determination to restrict any threat to its zero duty binding on soybeans and soybean products and on such non-grain feed ingredients as corn gluten feed and dried distillers grains.

Block also criticized the growing use of export subsidies to dispose

of surpluses accumulated under the EC's common agricultural policy. Large quantities of wheat are already being exported under subsidy to foreign customers, including such key U.S. markets as Latin America and China. Block said, "This has the effect of transferring the cost of EC domestic programs to the world

marketplace."

In Brussels, Block won assurances from EC Commissioner Poul Dalsager that a U.S. high-quality beef quota of 10,000 tons would be fully honored. The U.S. right to export that amount of high quality beef to the

EC had been in question because of a ruling by the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that Canada was entitled to the same consideration.

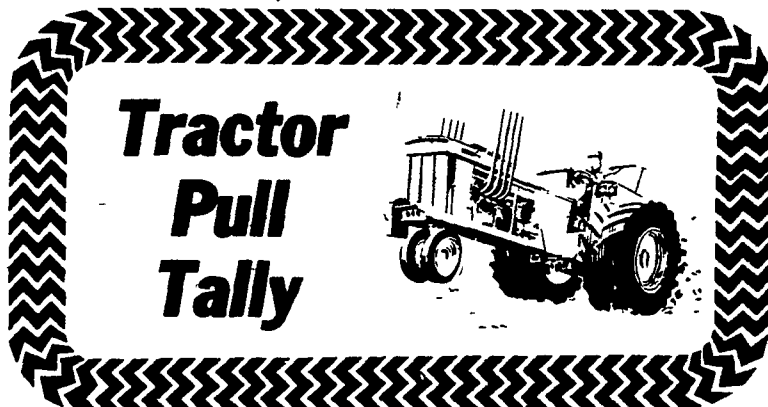
Block also met with President Gaston Thorn of the European Community and agriculture

ministers Yugoslavia, Belgium, the United Kingdom, France, West Germany and the Netherlands. In Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, he spoke of the World Food Council, urging other nations to establish individual grain reserves in order to assure their own food security.



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1. C & E Pulling Team, Lebanon, Pa., 2-468 Chevy, 272.9; 2. Gary Mills, Fallston, Md., T53, 269.1; 3. Glen Darnell, McDowell, Va.; Allison, 257.2.

#### 9000 Super Stock

1. Tom Middleton, Ridgely, Md., IH 966, 249.10; 2. Tom Bedgar, White Hall, Md., IH 856, 243.9; 3. Harry Griest, Coatesville, Pa., IH 456, 227.3.

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1. Glen Darnell, McDowell, Va., Hmde/Allison, 272.3; 2. Ed Brensinger, Lebanon, Pa., Hmde/2-468 Chev., 256.2; 3. Willard Will, Central City, Pa., Hmde/Allison, 255.8.

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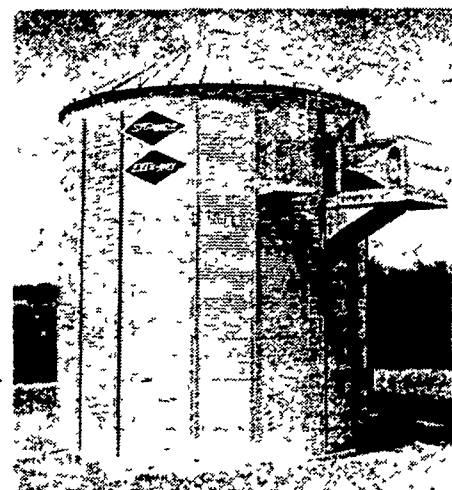
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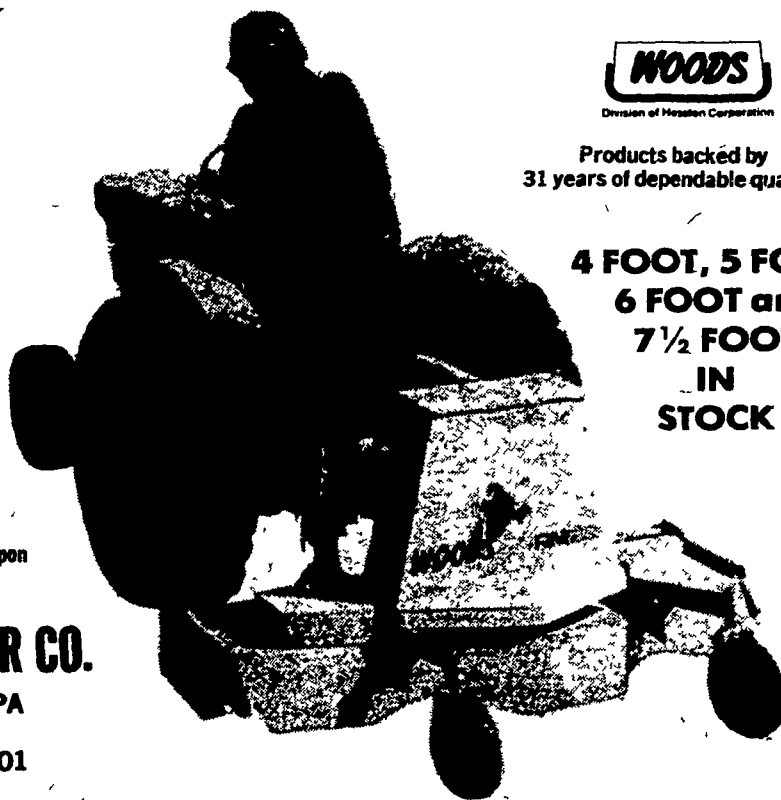
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