

# New scalding, defeathering processes are USDA approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has expanded its list of approved substances which meat and poultry plants can use to scald hog carcasses, defeather poultry or remove the lining from beef or lamb stomachs to make tripe.

The new list updates federal regulations for meat and poultry inspection, conducted by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Ser-

vice conducts.

According to Donald L. Houston, administrator of the agency, the rule will help prevent misuse of certain chemicals in meat and processing plants because it requires that the labels on the chemicals must provide detailed directions for use to assure that safe concentrations are used.

Before issuing this final rule, USDA officials worked with the

Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to evaluate each substance listed in July 15, 1977, proposal.

"Only one comment was received on the proposal, and it was favorable," Houston said.

However, four agents for scalding poultry that were listed in the proposal—potassium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, sodium

metaphosphate and sodium acid pyrophosphate—are not in the final rule because there is no evidence any processor is using them for scalding poultry, Houston said.

"We also deleted agents proposed for cooling and retort water treatment from the final rule," Houston said. "These agents will be considered in a separate action."

The new rule, which becomes

effective Nov. 4, was published in the Oct. 5 Federal Register, which is available in local libraries. Additional information, including the impact analysis describing options considered in the rulemaking process, is available from Donald Derr, chief, product safety branch, Food Ingredient Assessment Division, Science, FSIS, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250; phone 202/447-7680.

## Conference focuses on wool marketing

UNIVERSITY PARK — A diminishing number of wool buyers has slackened competition in the wool market, and many producers feel they are not getting a fair return for their wool, according to Clair Engle, Penn State Extension animal scientist and co-chairman of the upcoming Eastern Lamb and Wool Marketing Conference.

"The wool marketing portion of the conference will focus on factors the producer can control in order to market a higher quality wool, and in return receive a better price for it," said Engle.

Factors affecting the value of wool will be addressed, as well as alternative marketing systems,

including cooperatives, pools and direct marketing.

A major portion of the conference, November 22-24 at the Sheraton Penn State Inn in State College, PA, will center on lamb marketing.

It will include presentations on seasonal fluctuations in lamb prices and supply, lamb processing facilities and marketing alternatives. A panel consisting of three packers will address the factors that affect packer's demand for live lamb.

Another link in the marketing chain, merchandising, will be discussed. Northeastern consumption patterns will be viewed

as well as a nationwide study on consumer attitudes and their usage of lamb.

Sponsored by the American Sheep Producers Council and the Eastern Seaboard Sheep Council in cooperation with PSU, College of

Agriculture, this conference is a first for the eastern U.S. where interested sheep producers, allied industry groups, land-grant universities and State Departments of Agriculture from 12 states have joined to dissect the

sheep industry.

For more information and to enroll for the conference, requests should be directed to: Penn State's Short Course Office, 306 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA, 16802 814/865-8301.

## Farm Bureau calls for adequate grain carryover

PARK RIDGE, Ill. — Quoting its policies calling for a voluntary acreage set-aside large enough to limit projected feed grain carryover inventories to three to five percent of annual world consumption, the American Farm Bureau Federation has requested

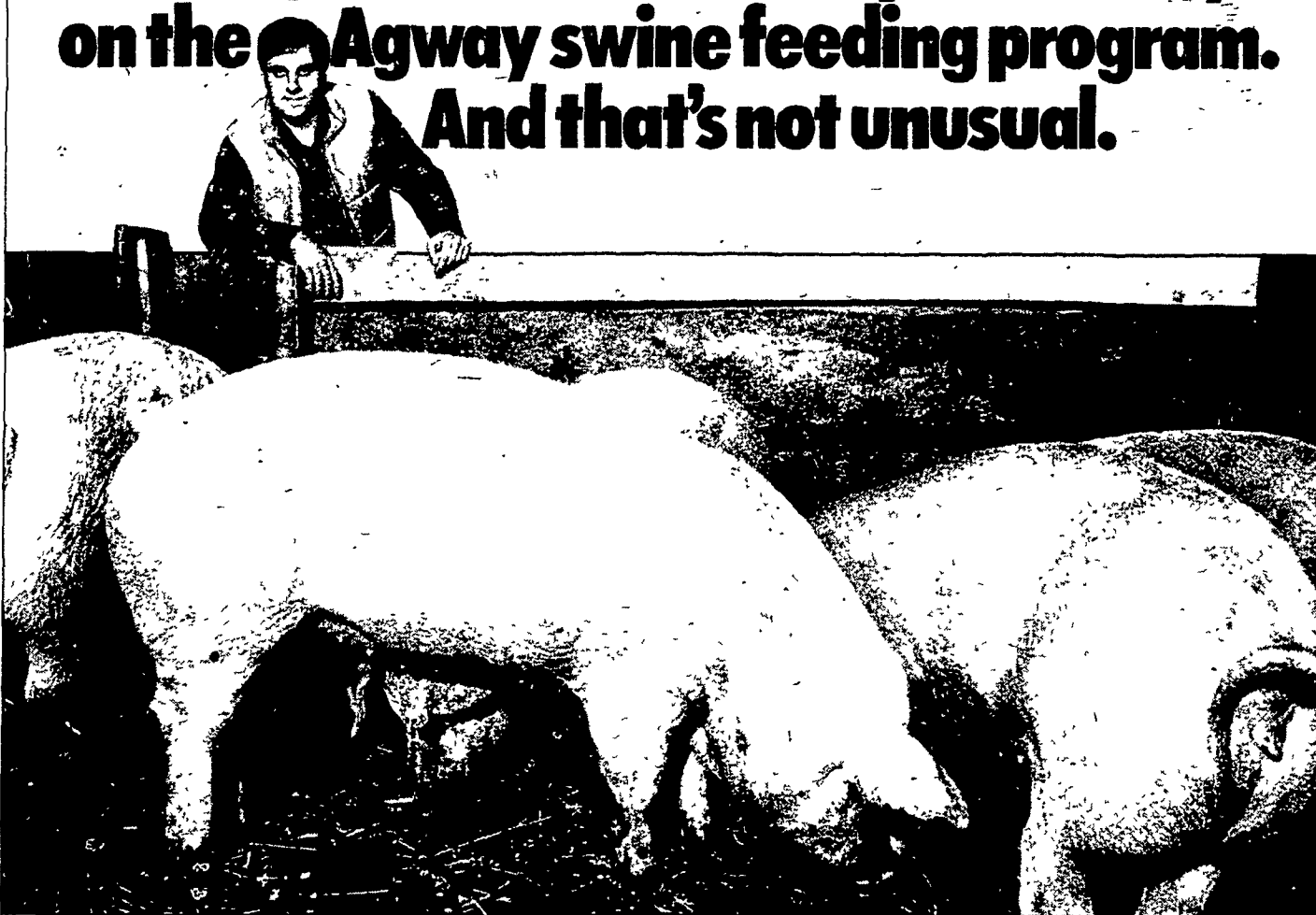
the Department of Agriculture to take this action for feed grains in 1982.

Robert B. Delano, president of the 3-million member family federation, citing the 45-million ton feed grain carryover expected by October, 1982, said, "This amount

represents nearly five percent of world consumption for the 12 month period and over half of the world's feed grain reserve."

In a letter to Secretary of Agriculture John Block, Delano recognized the uncertainties involving the still incomplete farm program, but urged "appropriate action" by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to deal effectively with excessive feed grain stocks.

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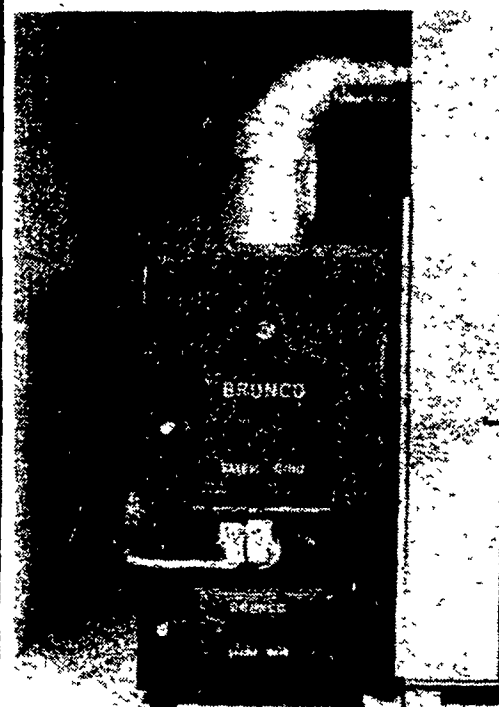
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