

Noxious weed bill takes next step

HARRISBURG — It was a busy week for legislators on Capitol Hill here last week as they worked on various bills important to the agricultural community.

The Senate Ag Committee took action on HB 1429, the Noxious Weed Bill, passed favorably by the House last week. The Senate committee reported the bill out favorably, also, and it is on its first reading. It should be in a position to be voted on by next week or soon after.

Senate Bills 919 and 920 which outline regulations that would exempt farm facilities such as manure storage structures from real estate taxes, were passed favorably by the Senate and are now in the House Agriculture Committee. The Committee will be

meeting to consider legislation next week, including HB 1823, the Right to Farm Bill.

There will be a public hearing on November 5 in Room 140 of the Capitol Building. Testimony on HB 1472, the Food Act, will be presented.

Earlier in the month, the State Senate approved legislation which would protect farmers from paying extra fees or real estate taxes to recover condemned property. An amendment to the Eminent Domain Code enacted last year lengthened the time allowed for farmers to have first right of refusal to buy back condemned property.

Condemned property must now be offered for sale back to the farmer if the project for which it

was intended is abandoned and if no property improvements were made within 12 years of condemnation instead of within three years of previously stipulated.

SB 585 was introduced by Senator Edwin Holl (R-24th) to insure that farmers who receive the opportunity to buy back property which was condemned can do so without paying any extra costs.

Dairylea elects officers

PEARL RIVER, N.Y. — Dairylea Cooperative has ended its annual meeting with the reelection of its president of the fourth term.

Clyde E. Rutherford, a dairy producer from Otego, NY, was reelected president of the 4,200 member cooperative. He is director of Dairylea District 9.

Reelected as first vice president and assistant treasurer was John

N. Widger of Ellicottville, NY. Widger is director of Dairylea District 2. Robert H. Whipple of Towanda, PA was renamed as treasurer of the cooperative. Whipple is director of District 5 of the cooperative.

Silas E. Eakins, of Potsdam, NY was again elected secretary of Dairylea. He is director of District 11.

Elected second vice president of the cooperative was Raymond J. Diebold of Altonna, PA. Diebold is director of Dairylea District 6.

The officers will serve one year terms.

During its last fiscal year, Dairylea marketed \$425 million value in farm milk for its members.



Stock up on wood

YORK — Remember the cold months of winter? In a few months they will be here again. If you are adding wood to your heating energy for the coming winter, it's not too early to start thinking about it. You can, of course, buy wood and have it delivered ready to use. But if you look around, you can find other sources too.

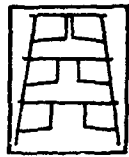
"Elm trees killed by Dutch Elm disease make good firewood", says Walter Johnson, Extension forest resource specialist at Penn State. But remember to use them the first winter or before the spring following the tree's death. This prevents the disease-carrying beetles from emerging and infecting healthy trees.

You may also be able to get firewood from dumps and landfills, but be sure you have the approval of the landfill authority. As much as 30 percent of the debris in some town and city landfills consist of reusable wood fibers, including the logs, limbs, and tops of trees toppled by storms.

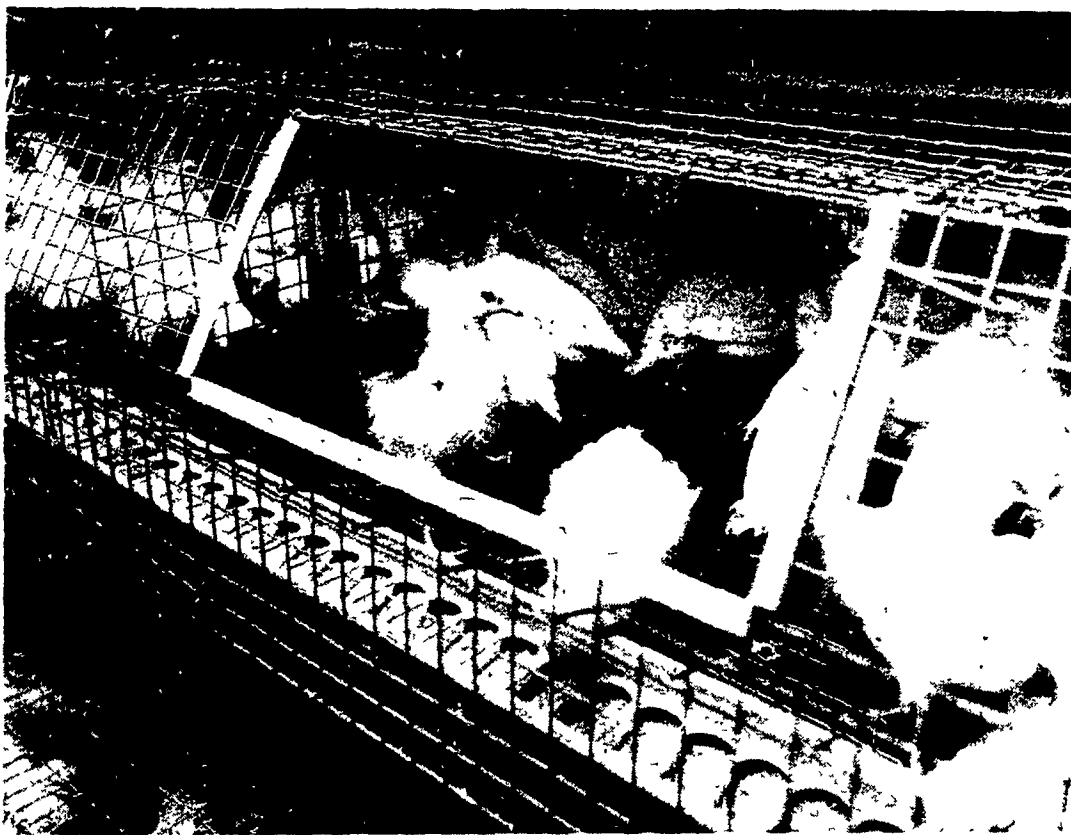
Another source of firewood may be the power companies. They offer the logs, limbs, and tree tops that result from their maintenance efforts. Firewood may also be available from the national forests - but check with your nearest Forest Service District Ranger for more information. State foresters, county Extension agents, and county and city foresters are all sources of information on local firewood.

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