

# Poultry production provides fertilizer alternative

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — As the price of commercial fertilizer rockets through the roof, corn farmers may need look no further than their local poultry processing plant and broiler production houses for another source of nitrogen.

Researchers for the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) have completed a two-year series of studies using poultry wastewater sludge and broiler house litter material as alternative sources of nitrogen fertilizer for corn production.

They unveiled harvest figures at a field day demonstration at MAES's Poplar Hill Research Farm near Salisbury Friday, yesterday.

Long recognized as another source of nitrogen, poultry processing waste and broiler house litter now have been found to produce corn yields that surpass in

many cases those produced by commercial fertilizer, says MAES researchers.

"The steadily increasing cost of commercial fertilizer has transformed the waste from broiler production and processing into a valuable resource," says Lewis E. Carr, Maryland Extension agricultural engineer for poultry production and processing.

Carr says research plots treated in 1980 with wastewater sludge from poultry processing plants yielded a harvest average of 123 bushels of corn per acre, compared to 91 bushels harvested from plots treated with commercial fertilizer.

This year, tests included broiler house litter material as well as wastewater sludge, according to Carr. Harvest results for 1981 are expected to show the same gains over commercial fertilizer as those reported in 1980.

The research farm is on

Quantico Road, approximately 10 miles from its intersection with U.S. 50 at Salisbury.

Partial funding for the wastewater sludge study comes from Perdue, Inc. Partial funding for the broiler house litter study comes from Cosmin Corporation and Haynie Inc. All three have cooperated in the field day demonstration with the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service and the University of Maryland's departments of Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy, Horticulture and Poultry Science.



# Tobacco growers approve quotas

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Growers of cigar filler and binder and cigar binder tobacco have approved quotas for the next three years, which began Oct. 1, according to Everette Rank, administrators of the Agricultural Stabilization and

Conservation Service.

Rank said as a result of the referendum held among growers, price support loans will be available for the 1981 through 1983 crops of these kinds of tobacco.

Results of the referendum follow.

CIGAR FILLER AND BINDER Types 42-44 53 55

STATE	YES	NO	TOTAL	PERCENT YES
Minnesota	22	7	29	76
Ohio	448	79	527	85
Pennsylvania	2	3	5	40
Wisconsin	3 178	299	3 477	91
CIGAR BINDER Types 51 and 52				
Connecticut	119	14	133	89
Massachusetts	27	5	32	84

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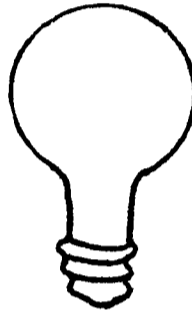
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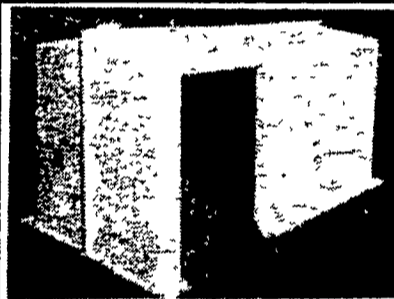
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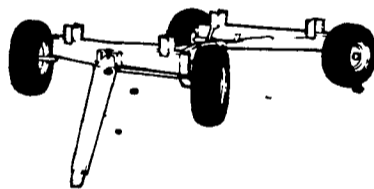
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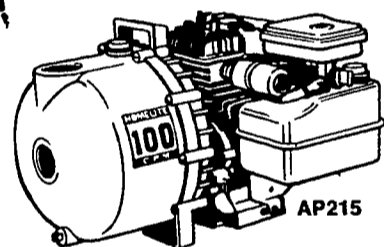
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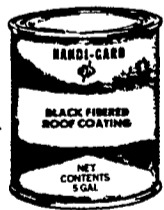


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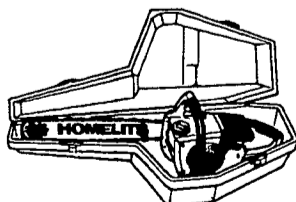
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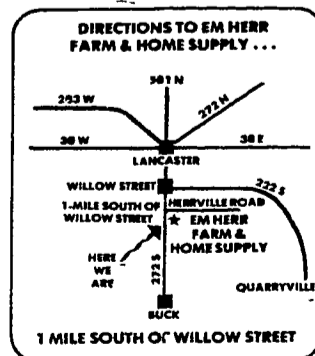
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