

Alkalinity causes pesticide "breakdown"

UNIVERSITY PARK — If your water supply is alkaline, especially if the pH is 8 or greater, you may have trouble getting good results from the pesticide spray material you are using on cropland.

According to Winand Hock,

Extension pesticides specialist at Penn State, water supplies in many areas of the United States have sufficient natural alkalinity to cause a "breakdown" of certain pesticides.

This means pest control may be somewhat less than desirable, or even nonexistent, because the ingredient will be rendered inactive before it even reaches the plant and pest. If the spraying is allowed to stand several hours

before spraying the contents, as much as 50 percent or more of the active ingredient may be decomposed.

"A pH in the range of 4 to 6 is recommended for most pesticide sprays," Hock points out. "You can adjust spray solutions to this range by buffering agents on the market. Although there is a great deal of variability, in general we find that insecticides are affected more severely by alkaline water than fungicides or herbicides."

The Penn State specialist

cautions that there are a few pesticides that should not be acidified under any circumstances. Sprays containing fixed copper fungicides, including Bordeaux mixture, copper oxide, basic copper sulfate, copper hydroxide plus lime or lime sulfur should not be acidified.

"But, if the product label tells you to avoid alkaline materials, chances are good that the spray mixture will benefit by adjusting the pH to 6 or slightly lower," Hock says.

York Farmers hold regional training meeting

YORK COUNTY — A group of York County farmers will be taking part in a program training sessions sponsored by the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, according to Jack Dehoff, president of the York County Farmers' Association.

The regional training session will be held Monday, Feb. 15 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Denver.

"Purpose of the meeting is to provide training sessions for our officers, committee chairman and members," said Dehoff.

The following subjects will be covered:

Legislative Committees - Pat Wolff.
"Upcoming Tours & Legislative Update" Resource: Al Myers.
Political Education Chairmen - "Promotion of FARMER & Organizing an Effective Political Education Program". Resource

Policy Development Chairman - "Improving Your County Farmers' Assn. Through an Effective County PD Program". Resource: Ed Taczanowsky, ROD and Mel Eckhaus.



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Dairy ventilation

(Continued from Page A26)

He explained that the young animal has the option of three locations in the hutch. The calf can take advantage of the shade in the back, find a medium range of light and air at the opening or can get a full measure of air by standing outside the hutch.

"She's not at the mercy of just one pen inside the barn," Meyer said.

Meyer cautioned against the use of fiberglass in the wrong places. Light and heat is easily filtered in but not as easily filtered out, he said. The build-up of heat can stress the animals, even in spring and fall.

The correct placement of building is essential for natural ventilation systems. If buildings are too close, the air movement is stifled. Meyer suggested setting buildings a minimum of 60 feet apart.

One of the most important features, he said, is to construct building cross-ways to the wind.

"It's difficult to get air to travel eighty feet, let alone three hun-

dred," he said citing the use of natural ventilation in a 300-foot tree-stall which was erected long-ways to the wind.

Milking parlors and holding areas can present problems if not properly ventilated. If a partition does not exist between the holding area and the parlor, heat from the waiting cows causes condensation and moisture in the parlor. The result is a wet ceiling and wet insulation. Meyer suggested sectioning off the holding area and installing circulating fans for the comfort of the waiting animals.

Most humans know what it's like to walk from the humid outdoors into an air conditioned building or curl in front of a fire while the winter wind whistles outside. Without proper ventilation, our bovine buddies are at the mercy of the elements and their complaints come in the form of lower milk yield and poor health.

For more information on livestock ventilation contact the Penn State Agriculture Engineering Extension.

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20 lbs	CULTIVATED BLUEBERRIES	20 lbs	18.14
30 lbs	DARK SWEET CHERRIES W/SUGAR	30 lbs	20.57
30 lbs	RED TART CHERRIES W/SUGAR	30 lbs	30.97
5 lbs	RED TART CHERRIES, IQF	5 lbs	8.28
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12/1 lb	NORTHWEST FRUIT MEDLEY, IQF	12/1 lb	20.96
30 lbs	SLICED PEACHES W/SUGAR	30 lbs	19.64
5 lbs	SLICED PEACHES, IQF	5 lbs	5.74
20 lbs	LARGE WHOLE STRAWBERRIES, IQF	20 lbs	21.28
30 lbs	CALIF. SLICED STRAWBERRIES W/SUGAR	30 lbs	25.86
6 1/2 lbs	CALIF. SLICED STRAWBERRIES W/SUGAR	6 1/2 lbs	7.32
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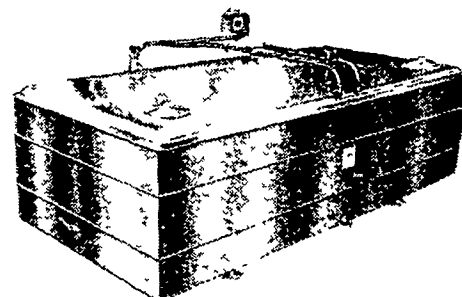
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