USDA sinks funds into 12 new research projects

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will fund 12 new research associate proposals to support basic agricultural research and to encourage new scientific talent.

"Basic research is a high priority for the USDA because it provides the fundamental knowledge to improve efficiency in agricultural and to open new fields of investigation," said Terry B. Kinney, Jr.; administrator of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Kinney said the basic research projects are designed "to make the most of the shrinking U.S. research dollar and to encourage new scientific talent in a diminishing pool of agricultural scientists.

"We will bring in recently graduated scientists of exceptional ability who will work to overcome obstacles and trouble spots in the animal and plant sciences. We expect these scientists to bring to the projects new ideas and new approaches that will blend with the

expertise of our more experienced researchers.'

Kinney said his agency will fund the work of the 12 scientists for one year with \$420,000. Known as the 1982 research associate proposals, the studies were selected from proposals submitted from among the agency's 147 research locations.

Among the projects are:

-Research leading to genetic engineering techniques to produce wheat and rice plants from cells instead of from seeds;

-Genetic manipulation of swine by virus fingerprinting. chicken genes for resistance to a virus-causing disease,

-Assessing herbicides' ability to kill weeds but not crops; and -Eradicating pseudorables in



-Kinney said one new scientist will be appointed for each for the 12 projects. Each of the agency's four regions will be represented by three of the projects.

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(36" shown)

The problem may occur in two ways according to Rader. Too many species (different kinds of fish) can complicate pond management or too many of one species (a stunted population) also can adversely affect fish growth and ruin the quality of sport fishing.

The most common problem with too many fish in Pennsylvania ponds is stunted bluegills. Too many bluegills can prevent bass from spawning successfully. When this happens, the bluegill problem will only get worse.

Several measures may be taken to reduce bluegill numbers. Conventional angling methods may be used. No bluegills should be returned at the pond. Trapping can remove excess bluegills. Seining to remove excess bluegills is a good management tool. To own and possess

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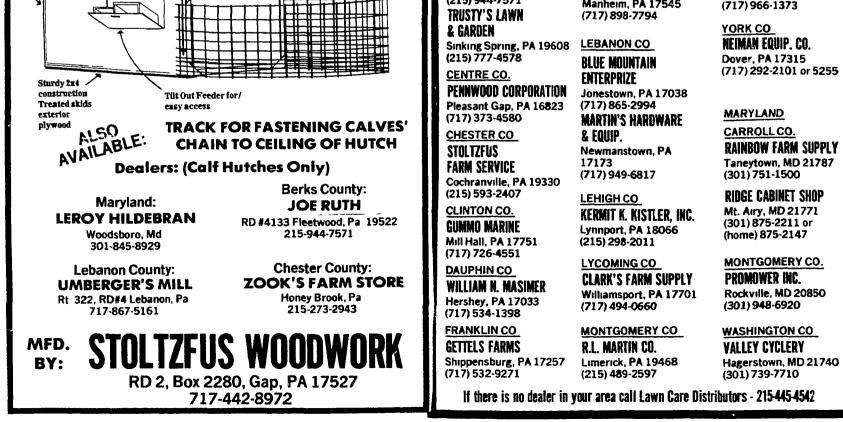
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a seine over four feet square, a state permit is required.

If there is still a few bass remaining in the pond, a partial drawdown can be an effective bluegill control measure. The drawdown seems to work best when done over winter. It is recommended that pond owners check with the local waterways patrolman about state regulations regarding some of these management practices. If bullhead, pumpkinseed sunfish, crappies and perch are not already present in the pond, do not stock them. These species will only tend to complicate pond management. For more detailed information on pond management, contact your county agent



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