



Brockett's Ag Advice

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De-worm Heifers

One important late spring job is to deworm calves and heifers sometime in May. Material used in the feed does a good job for most of the animals.

If you will select the smaller and rougher animals in each group for some personal attention, you will probably have done an adequate job. Those smaller heifers should get a bolus to be sure the job was done.

Credit

It's probably a bit late to talk about lining up credit for spring needs. However it is never too late to talk about using credit. Don't use all available credit just because it is there. For many farmers 1982 may be the most critical year they will ever see in their career as a farmer. Those

who are too highly leveraged (have too much borrowed money), will probably go under.

I will repeat some suggestions that I had in an earlier column.

Don't spend more than you can ever hope to make.

Act as if there is no tomorrow when it comes to paying off operating loans.

Make a habit of asking yourself "Do I really need this?"

Don't use borrowed money for family living or to pay debt payments.

Don't run up dealer debts - those bills you can't pay for one reason or the other.

Don't eat up your equity by getting yourself in the position where you have to borrow money to pay operating bills.

Safety

Get chains, cogs, PTO shafts and other moving parts covered. The farm operation will come to a grinding halt if someone gets hurt. Be safety conscious at all times. Especially train little children to stay away from operating and non-operating machinery. A operator sitting up high on a tractor or power unit may be unable to see small children move in towards a big tire. With all the other things the operator has to watch, a small child may be vulnerable.

Replace worn belts before they snap. Don't work on a machine while it is operating. If you feel you must jam a bunch of forage into something use a stick not a foot or hand. The stick may break the machine but it is replaceable.

Wear loose but not flapping clothing. Perhaps farmers who like to challenge PTO shafts should wear tear away clothing.

Watch where you drive. Ditches, chuck holes, or a tree stump on the side of the hill are just three of the things that can tip your tractor over. Make sure all tractor operators know how to stop the PTO, the hydraulic lifts, and the tractor itself.

If there are features on your

Feeder pig checkoff to increase July 1

DES MOINES, Iowa — The National Pork Producers Council feeder pig checkoff rate will increase from 5 cents to 10 cents per feeder pig, effective July 1, 1982. Delegates at the 1981 NPPC Annual Meeting proposed and approved the checkoff increase.

Feeder pig checkoff funds are divided between NPPC and state pork producer councils. Sixty percent of the funds are returned to states and 40 percent retained at

the national level.

Past feeder pig checkoff funds have been invested in feeder pig research at agricultural colleges and universities by both the national and state organizations. The checkoff recently helped fund research conducted at the University of Nebraska by Michael Brumme. The research was on the effects of housing, receiving rations and source of pigs on health and performance of feeder pigs.

Additional funds are used to sponsor annual feeder pig seminars at the American Pork Congress, NPPC-sponsored production symposiums, and industry promotion and producer relations programs.

The top five states in the 1981 feeder pig checkoff were Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois.

tractor that make them a potential hazard, make sure all operators know about them. For example on my tractor, a small stone thrown up in the field can jam the clutch which makes it impossible to disengage it. That could have rather nasty consequences if the operator doesn't know about the possibility. We nearly had an accident learning about it.

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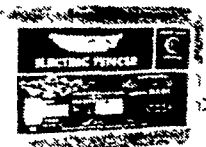


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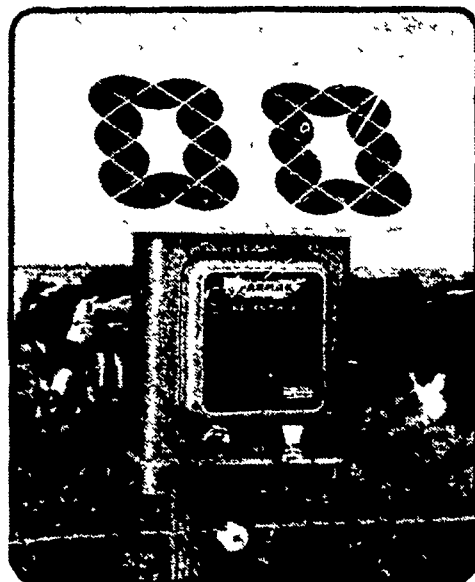
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