

## Hemp dogbane

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## USDA slates non-fat dry milk give-away

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced plans to test the distribution of non-fat dry milk to needy families in Florida, Minnesota and Washington starting in early September.

Initially, USDA will make available up to 11 million pounds (equivalent to nearly 13.8 million gallons of fluid milk) valued at nearly \$12 million for distribution through non-profit organizations. USDA will pattern this test project after the cheese distribution program now underway nationwide. An estimated 450,000 needy households in the three states could benefit from the three-month demonstration project.

"This project is in keeping with plans I announced earlier to decrease the massive dairy stocks

we have been forced to acquire under the dairy price support program," said Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

"This pilot project will help us determine whether non-fat dry milk can be distributed nationwide. A critical issue is the potential impact distributing non-fat dry milk may have on fluid milk consumption. The potential displacement will be carefully studied with data derived from the project."

Block added: "The distribution of surplus dairy products alone won't solve the problem. We badly need for Congress to act on our proposed legislation to bring the dairy program back into line."

The government is currently storing more than one billion pounds of non-fat dry milk in 50-

and 100-pounds bags. Before distribution, it will be converted to the form that is sold in supermarkets. Once converted it can be used as a beverage or in cooking. It will cost USDA 14 cents per pound to convert to repackage the product.

USDA has been making surplus cheese available for distribution to needy families since last December, with states ordering more than 100 million pounds of cheese.

In May, USDA announced plans to distribute up to 50 million pounds of butter nationwide, starting late this summer. That announcement followed a test project conducted this past February in Waterloo, Iowa.

fields of hemp dogbane. Available soil-applied herbicides can adequately control the weed at early seedling stage. But there are few techniques to eliminate established hemp dogbane plants.

"In the past, selective chemical controls were either limited or not available for infestations of hemp dogbane," says Richard Fawcett, extension weed control specialist at Iowa State University.

But now, roundup herbicide used through most selective applicators—rollers, ropewicks or recirculating sprayers—can provide as great as 80 percent control of hemp dogbane, Fawcett reports. He adds that this herbicide is effective for controlling hemp dogbane because of the herbicide's translocation property. Applied to the foliage of an actively growing weed, Roundup moves into the root system to destroy plant growth both above and below ground.

"When using a ropewick, which

is basically a tube filled with a 33 percent solution of Roundup, two passes in opposite directions have given the best control of hemp dogbane in our studies," Fawcett. "Plants below the crop canopy did not show severe symptoms the year of application, but hemp dogbane regrowing the following season was stunted. This indicated adequate lateral root translocation of Roundup."

Reduced threat of crop injury is another advantage to using the ropewick on hemp dogbane, says Fawcett, citing tests he conducted in 1979. "Farmers can generally expect to have less than five percent soybean injury with a ropewick treatment for hemp dogbane, while figures for crop damage can reach 35 percent with the recirculating sprayer."

Best results can be achieved by applying Roundup, according to label recommendations, when hemp dogbane is at the bud to flowering stage of growth.

## Corn yield contest entry deadline Aug. 10

BLOOMINGTON, ILL. — The National Corn Growers Association reminds corn producers August 10 is the deadline for entry in the NCGA Corn Yield Contest. To qualify for the 1982 contest, participants must enter a field at least 10 acres in size.

Corn producers have shown a lot of interest in the yield contest this year, reports NCGA's John R. Camper, especially the new "no-till" class, which was added as a yield class for the 1982 contest.

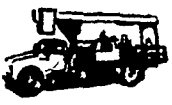
In order to qualify for the "no-till" class, a field must not be tilled during the fall season prior to the year in which the contest is held, with the exception of shallow disking (no deeper than 3 inches) to establish a cover crop, or shallow disking once to break up corn stalks; no tillage of a field

already in sod during the prior fall season; and no soil disturbance took place after Jan. 1 of the year in which the contest is held, with the exception of that tillage done by the corn planter and in such case, no more than 25 percent of the surface area is tilled for the seed zone.

NCGA will continue the irrigated and non-irrigated classes. A completed application and a contest entry fee of \$50 for NCGA members, and \$80 for non-NCGA members must be postmarked later than Aug. 10 to qualify for the 1982 contest.

All corn farmers in the U.S. interested in entering the 1982 NCGA Corn Yield Contest should write to: National Corn Growers Association, P.O. Box 1623, Bloomington, Illinois 61701. Or call 309-557-3893 for more information.

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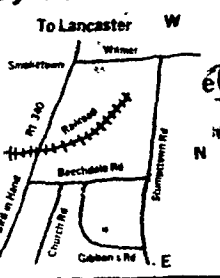
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