

**Seeding,
Weeding
and mulch
more**

For the avid gardener

Plastic bags are useful

Plastic bags are an essential tool for today's indoor gardeners. They are not only terrific babysitters when you skip off to some glorious winter weekend resort, they also help when your plant is feeling poorly.

Dennis Wolnick, Extension horticulturist at Penn State, says you can keep houseplants without water for several weeks in a polyethylene plastic bag. That's the common type most of us use as freezer or storage bags.

The day before you leave (or the hour before if you are not well organized) water your plant

thoroughly and allow any excess water to drain off. Then, put your plant, pot and all, into a clean, clear bag with no holes and close the top. Do not return your plant to full sunlight. Instead find a temporary location with indirect or artificial light because sunlight hitting the plastic will create high temperatures in the bag and may injure your plant.

The plastic bag works because air goes through the plastic but water won't. As the water evaporates, it condenses in the plastic, runs down, and is reabsorbed by the plant. What you have

is a miniature greenhouse!

It's easy to see how plastic bags can help houseplants suffering from air that's too dry. Humidity is an essential condition for the health of most plants yet today's houses are often too dry for both people and plants. The best remedy is to lower your thermostat and increase your humidity by using a centralized automatic humidifier or a small one placed near your plants. But, sometimes even that isn't enough. Misting during the day helps and placing potted plants on wet gravel in metal or fiberglass trays helps also.

However, if your plant has sooty growth and limp leaves, give it the plastic bag boost. Just cover it with a plastic bag, that has a few small holes in it and close the bag around the pot rim with a rubber band. You should notice an improvement in a week or so.

**N.Y. Hereford Assn.
elects officers**

ITHACA, N.Y. — The New York Hereford Association met recently in Ithaca to conduct its annual business meeting and election of officers.

Robert Generaux, Canandaigua, was elevated to the office of NYHA president for 1983. Generaux succeeds J. Henry Elzenga, West Henrietta, as president.

Vice president of the NYHA for 1983 will be Peter Jackson, Clarence. David Cole, New Hampton, will continue as secretary of the organization, and Clara Luteyn, Marion, will serve as treasurer.

Elected to serve three-year terms on the NYHA board of

directors were Royce Herella, Geneva and Elaine Swiler, Cameron.

In the business meeting, the NYHA members discussed plans to join with the New York Polled Hereford Association to co-sponsor a spring breeding stock sale scheduled for April 30 in Ithaca. The organization also plans to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the New York Hereford Association during 1983.

For more information about the New York Hereford Association and its activities, contact David Cole, R.1, Gardnerville Road, New Hampton, New York 10958.

Boxed beef is 49 percent of USDA slaughter

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A U.S. Department of Agriculture study shows that boxed beef accounted for 49 percent of all federally inspected slaughter of steers and heifers in 1979.

Boxed beef is a process in which: primal — major — cuts or sub-primal cuts are sealed in air tight plastic bags and shipped from

packing plants to distributors and retailers in boxes rather than in carcass form.

B.H. Jones, head of USDA's Packers and Stockyards Administration, said the agency compiled the study from data obtained from slaughterhouses and fabricators because of widespread interest in this fast-growing form of marketing. A fabricator is a meat packer that breaks carcasses into primal cuts.

"This is the first study of this type on boxed beef," Jones said. "It is descriptive rather than analytical. Our objective was to obtain much needed basic information and to provide a reliable data base for possible further research."

The study shows that 54 firms with 82 plants — located mostly in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Texas, and doing both slaughtering and fabricating — accounted for 86 percent of all boxed beef production. Another 51 single-plant firms — mostly in larger eastern cities and engaged only in

fabricating — accounted for 14 percent.

Prices were negotiated at the time of sale for about 85 percent of all boxed beef included in this study, Jones said.

In contrast, 35 packing plants surveyed in 1977 by USDA sold 70 percent of their steer and heifer carcasses on a formula basis.

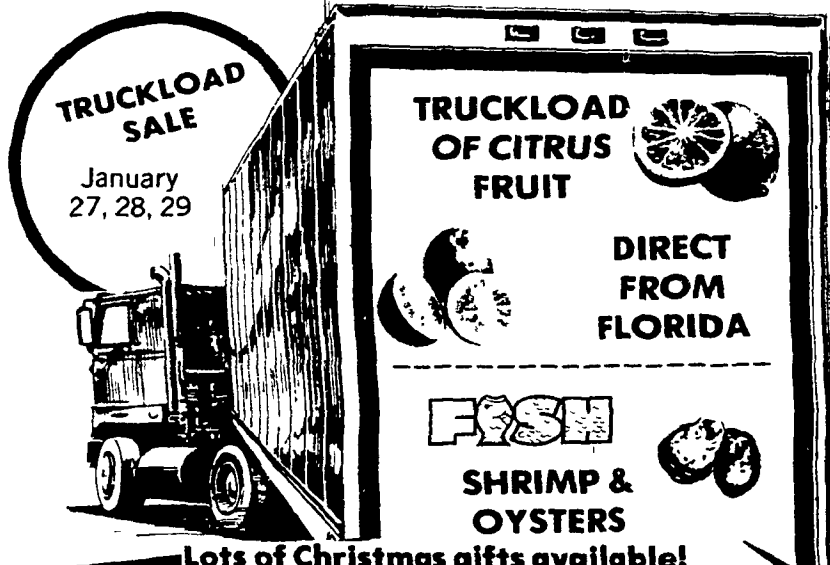
A negotiated price is determined by one-on-one bargaining at the time the product is sold. A formula price is usually the price published for a product by a specified market news service.

Although the boxed beef process was first tried in the 1960's, it did not become commercially successful until the past decade, Jones said.

Free single copies of the study are available from: Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; phone 202/447-7051.

xxx

More than 90 percent of the land in the United States is rural or non-urban.



TRUCKLOAD SALE
January 27, 28, 29

TRUCKLOAD OF CITRUS FRUIT
DIRECT FROM FLORIDA

FISH
SHRIMP & OYSTERS

Lots of Christmas gifts available!
Visit Our Bargain Room

PETERSHEIM'S STORE

RD 1 Christiana, PA
1 mi. East of Nickel Mines
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7-7; Sat. 7-6

USED MACHINERY BARGAINS

No. 103 Norton 6x18 Manual Surface Grinder, 1941.....	\$1795 ⁰⁰
No. 128 JET 14x30 Gap Lathe Taper Att., Chucks, Aloris T.H.....	\$6495 ⁰⁰
No. 101 Gray 24x6' Planer 5 HP, 3 PH, 220V.....	\$1195 ⁰⁰
No. 120 South Bend 10x20 Lathe Taper Att. Chucks Cast Iron Stand.....	\$1395 ⁰⁰
No. 110 American #14 17x16 Chuck Face Plates.....	\$2695 ⁰⁰
No. 108 South Bend 9"x36" Bench Lathe Collect Closer Chuck.....	\$800 ⁰⁰
No. 123 Arboga Gear Head Drill Press "75".....	\$3575 ⁰⁰
No. 113 Cincinnati Brickford Super Service Gear Hd Drill Press "40".....	\$1775 ⁰⁰
No. 130 #3 Cincinnati Horiz. Milling Machine w/Vert. Head 12x56 Table.....	\$6195 ⁰⁰

NEW MACHINES

1/4"x10' Betenbender Hydraulic Shears, 4' Squaring Arm, 36" Manual Back Gauge.....	\$22,750 ⁰⁰
10 ga. x 5' Betenbender Hydraulic Shears, 4' Squaring Arm, 3' Manual Back Gauge.....	\$8,750 ⁰⁰
12'x150 Ton Iowa Hydraulic Press Brake.....	\$26,900 ⁰⁰

BLUE BALL MACHINE WORKS

Rt. 322 East, Blue Ball • Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5, Sat. 7:30-11:30
CALL 717-354-4478



WANT TO INCREASE YOUR DAIRY INCOME?

- Over 2000 Dairymen In Pa. and Md. Have -

They Supplement Their Feed With

LEB

(Liquid Energy Blend)

And Are Getting 2 lbs. to 5 lbs. More Milk Per Cow Per Day.

INTERESTED?

Call or Write for Fast Action:

PENN NUTRIENTS INC.

Box 169-A, RD 1, Rt. 422
Robesonia, Pa. 19551

Telephone: 215-693-5848