

New forage crops

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supply protein for lactating dairy cows. The nutritionist used rotational grazing to keep the forages in the vegetative stage and thus prevented them from going to seed. The pasture produced 1,600 pounds of crude protein per acre, and the cows averaged 50 pounds of 4-percent milk a day without supplemental protein.

Forage specialist R. R. Seaney, Cornell University, Ithaca, says red clover has gained ground since the introduction of more persistent and disease-tolerant varieties: Arlington, Florex, and Redland, as examples. They produce one year longer than older varieties, have bred-in resistance to northern anthracnose, and often will outperform alfalfa on poorly drained soils.

Block seeks ag ed aid

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sec. of Agriculture John R. Block has asked all state governors to support a national project keyed to educating elementary and secondary school students about the role of agriculture in the national economy.

During a National Agriculture Day ceremony held at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Block mailed a petition to the 50 governors explaining the educational project and asking the governors to endorse the project. The petition was already signed by seven former secretaries of agriculture.

"When I contacted the secretaries — Brannon, Benson, Freeman, Hardin, Butz, Knébel and Bergland — and sought their support, they gave it willingly."

Block said. "This is one issue on which we are in complete accord — the critical importance of educating our young people about the role of agriculture in the national economy."

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell joined Block in promoting support for the agricultural education project.

The project, known as "Agriculture in the Classroom," is a cooperative endeavor involving representatives of farm and agricultural organizations, educators, state departments of agriculture and education and USDA.

Guided by a 16-member national task force, "Agriculture in the Classroom" is already operating in 17 states.

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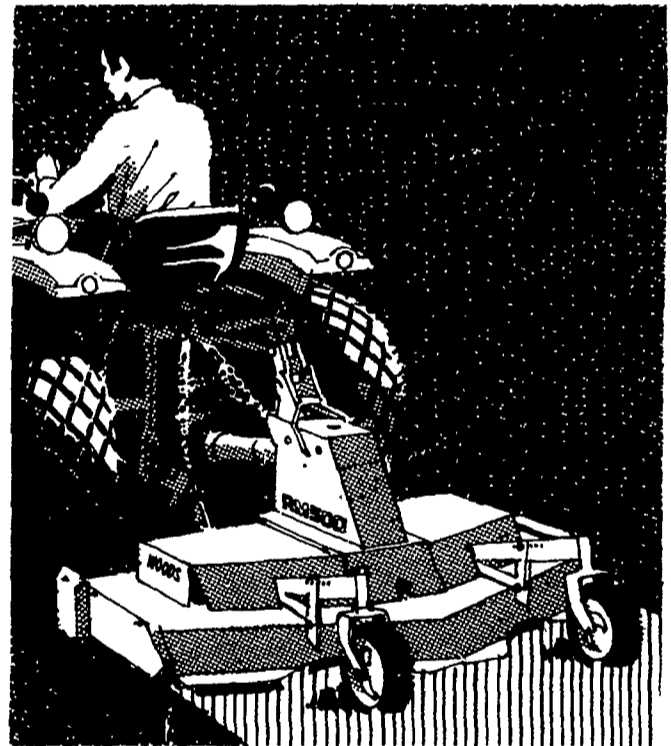


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