

UEP calls for value-added PIK program

DECATUR, Ga. — United Egg Producers has reacted to egg producers writhing from increased feed costs and called upon the Administration to enact an export PIK program for value-added commodities.

UEP Chairman Ed Houston, Lumber City Egg Marketers, Lumber City, Ga., congratulated Ag Secretary John Block in the apparent success of the Payment-in-Kind (PIK) acreage diversion program but noted the adverse ramifications of the increased feed costs on the livestock industries.

Feed grains have recently risen \$10 to \$30 per ton. Houston noted that this increase was the result of market anticipation of substantial farmer participation. "Because the egg industry, like other agricultural producers, are coping with large surpluses, this increased cost cannot be recovered through higher prices to con-

sumers," said Houston.

Houston reminded Secretary Block that egg producers have been unable to recover costs for some time and that this feed price rise translated into an additional expense to egg producers from 2 cents to 5 cents per dozen. Houston added that egg producers, through UEP, have petitioned for relief from the illegal trade practices by the EEC and have provided a proposal for USDA implementation of an export PIK program for value-added agriculture commodities like eggs.

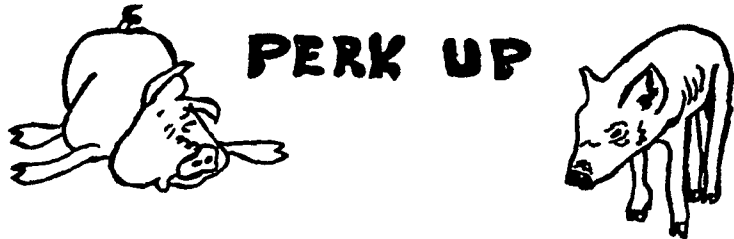
UEP President Al Pope repeated this appeal for an export PIK program, noting that current inequities underscore the need for sound, well-thought-out agricultural farm policy that will benefit all aspects of agriculture. UEP has proposed a coalition of commodity groups to work with the Administration in achieving

this goal. UEP has announced its intentions of working with other

livestock groups in developing a means for the Administration to

enact an export PIK program utilizing value-added products.

EGGS.
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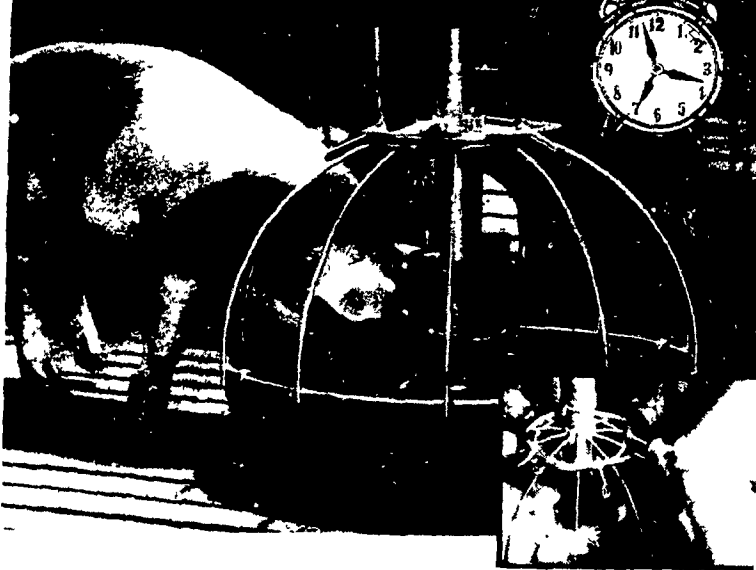


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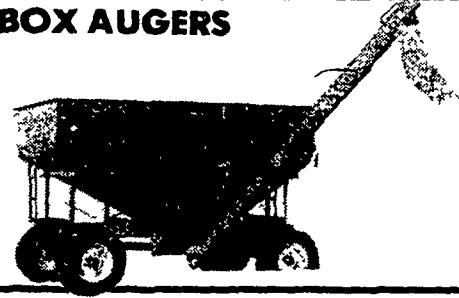
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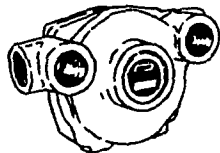
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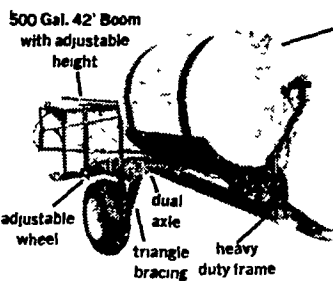


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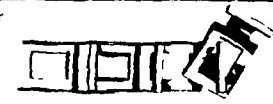


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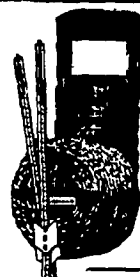
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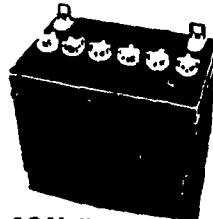
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