

Avian quarantine

(Continued from Page A1)

"Some people have tried to cut their financial losses by moving birds out of the area," Van Buskirk said.

"Now, we are seeing surrounding states refusing the movement of poultry from Pennsylvania

"So, don't try to take your spent fowl to the plant in New Jersey. They'll only be refused and there could be problems due to trying to move them."

Both Van Buskirk and Andy Hanson head of an industry task force, appealed to poultry operators to not attempt to move birds without permit

Hanson said it is expected that surrounding states will establish embargoes of sorts against Pennsylvania

"We've already seen the refusal of Pennsylvania chicks, eggs and broilers," Hanson said.

In other developments, these

major points were made at the Poultry Association meeting and banquet

—Although depopulation is seen as the only real way to attempt to eradicate the disease — the worst in more than 50 years — no state or federal money has been found yet to pay for bird indemnification

—The cost of eradication through depopulation could cost anywhere from a bare minimum of \$3 million to more than \$20 million

—The suspected source is still believed to be migratory water

but it is still not known how the disease is being transmitted from farm to farm

—In just the last month, the number of affected flocks has increased more than four times, from about 20 on September 1 to the present 87 This involves some 3 million birds

—Suspected flocks also include breeders and one turkey operation, in addition to the layers and broilers

—Mortality rates are up to 40 percent of flocks with the "hot" version of the bug.

—When the highly pathogenic version of the virus developed in September, it was the first time that test birds at the National Veterinary Sciences Laboratory in Ames, Iowa began dying directly from injections from samples out of infected birds

—State officials were scheduled to return to Washington again on Friday to attempt to get money to finance indemnification for depopulation.

—Disposal of dead birds is a

problem. They must be buried. The disposal of their litter is also a problem.

—Carriers of the disease can range anywhere from the air itself to flies, small animals and wild birds, along with people on their clothing or boots.

—There is a vaccine but it is expected that its provisional use will be revoked in Pennsylvania. While the vaccine could prevent pullets from developing the clinical disease, these birds could become carriers of it and thus would work against any forthcoming depopulation efforts

—It is expected that the poultry exhibit portion of the State Farm Show will be canceled this year.

—Federal forces brought into the area could eventually number more than 40, including veterinarians from throughout the country and security personnel.

—Efforts will continue to stress that there is no danger to consumers and the use of eggs or meat has not been found to be harmful.

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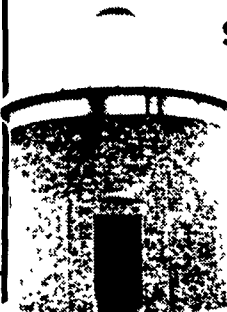
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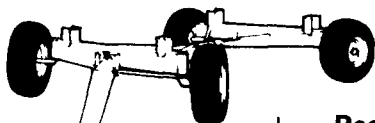
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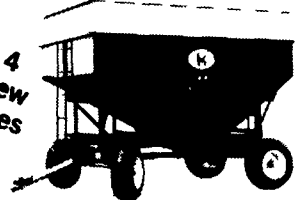


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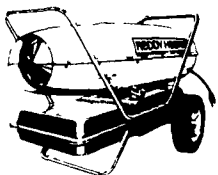
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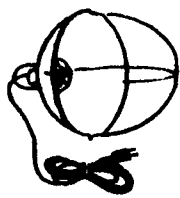


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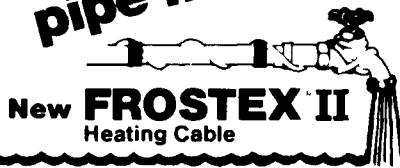


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