

Farm Bureau calls for end to all subsidies

PARK RIDGE, IL. — A statement of policy for the nation's largest organization of farmers has declared itself in favor of a market-oriented system of supply and demand to determine farm income rather than government subsidized farm commodity programs.

The Resolutions Committee of the 3.2 million member-family American Farm Bureau Federation called for a phase-out of all government-subsidized farm commodity programs after the 1985 crop. Presidents from the state Farm Bureaus comprise the nucleus of the Resolutions Committee, and their deliberations here complete the formulation of a resolutions process that begins in communities, then in county and state Farm Bureaus. Policy finalized by the committee is subject to ratification, rejection, or change by voting delegates to

Farm Bureau's national convention in Orlando, FL, Jan. 8-12.

The committee listed as its "top priority" the continued reduction in the size and cost of the federal government to stop inflation and increase productivity. It continues support of a "freeze and fix" program to reform federal entitlement programs. The plan would impose a three year freeze on all federal cost-of-living adjustments, to continue if, by that time, Congress does not "fix" or reduce costs of entitlement programs.

Among a wide range of other issues of concern to agriculture, the committee:

-Opposed a freeze on scheduled tax cuts, which it said should be accompanied by a comparable cut in government spending.

-Supported immigration controls and the essence of the Administration's Simpson-Mazzoli

bill — with amendments requiring search warrants for entry by the Immigration Service into farmers' fields, and limiting sanctions against employers to those found guilty of knowingly hiring undocumented workers.

-Opened the way to consideration of a separate agricultural counsel and staff to resolve farm labor problems under the guidelines of the National Labor Relations Act.

-Called for a federal revolving fund—with an adequate rate of interest—to help provide credit to rural electric cooperatives, and to make funds used for lending prior to 1973 a permanent capital investment in the revolving fund.

-Supported the concept of basic telephone service at reasonable cost to all people, with the establishment of a universal service fund to aid rural telephone companies whose costs exceed the national average.

-Called for a variety of environmental protections including the discouragement of federal farm programs that stimulate production in fragile and marginal croplands vulnerable to soil erosion. On predator control, the committee asked for legislation to require government control of wildlife—including endangered species—to cut down on serious crop damage and livestock loss.

-Noted that the production of pure, wholesome food can't be provided in sufficient quantity without the judicious use of agricultural chemicals, and that their curtailment can only result in lower quality food products in lesser supply.

In all, the Farm Bureau resolutions committee deliberated on some 175 separate subjects over a period of four days.

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than 1,000 chickens has ever contributed to any agricultural surplus.

It is the "Mr. Big-Big" so-called farmer that got greedy and farms thousands of acres in a couple of townships, milks hundreds of cows, feeds out hundreds of beef cattle, thousands of hogs (like Block), has 50,000 or 100,000 chickens, etc. that has contributed to the surpluses of everything.

Those are the ones that get on magazine covers coming out of their \$150,000 combines or 8-wheel tractors. These are the kinds that have been "championed" by magazines and politicians. These are the kinds that have "elbowed

out" the little farmer and has stuck the public with a lot of low quality products and made the consumers buy even less.

And to make the surpluses worse, "Reaganomics" has caused consumers to be poorer than before and not be able to buy as much. Those who are standing in soup lines, unemployment lines and those who have a hard time getting by, those who are underemployed and those who gave up looking for work are not buying what we farmers raise.

My father had a bottled milk route in Western Pennsylvania before Hoover came in and things were pretty good. But when the "Hoover Depression" hit, those who used to buy three or four quarts of milk dried up and or bought none or maybe a quart. The unemployed could buy nothing and the surpluses mushroomed in nightmare proportions.

So it is now the same problem. And Mr. Block picking the pockets of the little dairymen to fatten the pockets of the over-sized big dairymen is just a crazy act of a mad man in a high bureaucratic saddle. It's all wrong and dirty. I won't have any of it. It won't work.

If Reagan can see fit to hand out grants in billions to El Salvador, Israel and other countries where American billionaires have investments, he has no excuse not to help the American farmer also by grants.

It just goes to show what a silly Hollywood actor can do especially when a lot of fools "champion" his absurdity. It's time we take a right about face and be sensibly honest about this problem, not like the fools who follow Reagan and Block.

Shame on the whole thing. I pray God will take care of the matters.

Paul Holowka
R4 York

Now Is

The Time

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to wrap the trunks of such trees as sugar maple, tulip trees, American linden, flowering dogwood and plum. You can wrap them now but be sure to take the wrapping off late next spring. You can use commercial tree wrapping, starting at the ground level and working up the tree, overlapping about every half-inch. Tie the wrap with twine or use waterproof tape several places along the stem.

Smaller ornamentals should be mulched; this will not keep the soil from freezing but it helps keep the soil frozen to prevent root injury caused by alternate freezing and thawing of the soil.

The mulch should be loose, but it should stay where you put it. Use clean wheat straw, shredded bark or peat moss.

Merry Christmas to all!

New pest control eyed

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Entomologists at the University of Maryland are exploring a new approach to bringing about the demise of insect pests like the German cockroach.

They plan to drug male cockroaches to disrupt their normal mating behavior, according to a research team for the university's Agricultural Experiment Station (UMES).

"Using drugs that interfere with the normal sex behavior of male insects represents a new approach to insect control," says Judd Nelson, associate professor at Maryland.

The drugs, according to Nelson, seem to be effective in interfering with the male insect's ability to engage in courtship activities,

such as "wing raising."

Normally, when male German cockroaches are confronted with a female sex scent — called a "sex pheromone" — they will use their antennae to fence with another male, turn in circles or raise their wings.

Nelson says several classes of drugs screened in a study were effective "blockers" of wing-raising activity among male cockroaches.

He says finding new ways for chemicals to interfere with normal cockroach behavior could be one way scientists can reduce insect populations.

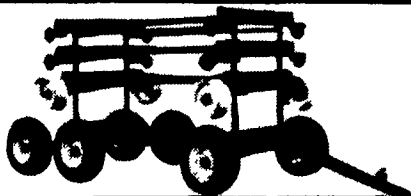
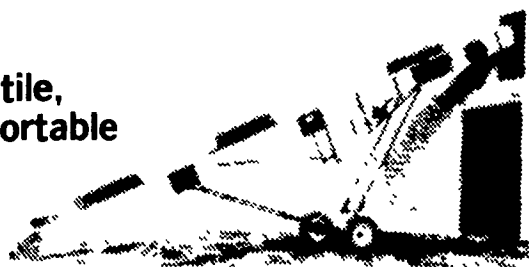
Behavior modification drugs also may offset or forestall the continuing problem of insect resistance to modern insecticides.

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