

Peach trees

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this winter probably will not become evident immediately, Greene went on to say. He added that damage assessed through the PICM project may have occurred during the winter of 1978.

Cut into trunks
Researchers are to quite accurately predict when winter injury occurred by cutting the trunks of dead trees. This practice has resulted in new data which, when incorporated into the study, has led to the belief that winter injury is a main reason for tree mortality.

Specifically, the PICM project involved the study of 50 orchard sites in five counties. Orchards in

Adams, York, Franklin, Berks and Lehigh counties were included in the project. Greene said at 27 of those sites it is felt that winter injury was the primary cause for peach tree mortality.

"We feel the project has been successful in identifying the major problems," he said, "Now the research needs to be done on correcting those problems."

A statewide meeting for peach growers which will focus on an integrated crop management program as a means of extending peach tree life will be held Monday, at the Heidlersburg Firehall. The meeting will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes dinner.

Allegheny agent retires

PITTSBURGH — Philip L. Sellers, county extension director and senior extension agent in Allegheny County, retired Tuesday after 37 years of service.

Before going to Allegheny County, he was an assistant agent and then associate agent in Butler County.

He has developed and promoted Extension education programs for urban and farm people and has conducted numerous clinics and demonstrations for homeowners, landscape nurserymen, commercial flower and vegetable growers, garden supply dealers, park employees and school ground superintendents.

Through these programs participants received the latest research and management information in agronomy, vegetable gardening, ornamental horticulture and insect and disease control.

Sellers also developed a program of better rural-urban relations through Farm-City Week, which included exchange

visits between rural and urban families. He also prepared exhibits pointing out the importance of agriculture to the economy and used radio and television to show the importance of agriculture to the state.

He received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 1965. He is a member of Alpha Gamma Rho, agriculture professional fraternity; Epsilon Sigma Phi, Extension honorary; the National and Pennsylvania County Agents Associations, the Pittsburgh City Farmers' Club, the Men's Garden Club of America and the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Pittsburgh.

A State College native, Sellers received a bachelor of science degree in agronomy from Penn State in 1943. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Navy Seabees in Europe.

He is married to the former Emmeline Mehlman of Johnstown. They are the parents of two sons.

Sun play role

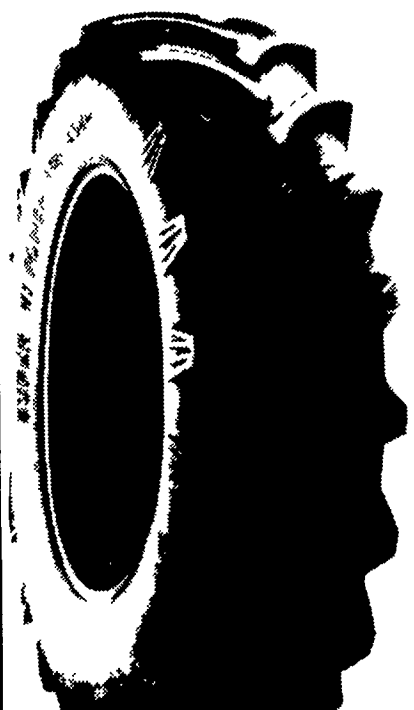
Along with the fluctuating temperatures, researchers feel that bright, sunny days also play a role in the amount of injury a tree sustains. The sun causes the tree's bark to heat up, in some cases by as much as 30 degrees. As a result, on a warm, sunny day the bark temperatures can reach 80 degrees. This, he continued, interferes with the tree's ability to reach its maximum level of hardness. To try and off-set this situation, researchers recommend that fruit growers paint the bark of the trees white in hope of counteracting the heating due to the sun's rays.

"If we could keep the tree trunks at air temperature it would be beneficial," he said.

Any damage which may occur

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18 4x34 8 ply	\$325.00
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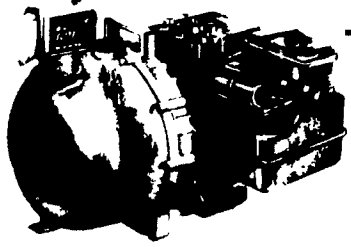
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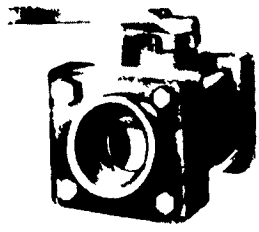
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