

# Kids' KOrner

## Steak-Yielding Tractor Catches on in the U.S.

WASHINGTON — The water buffalo, an animal long associated with Asia and other remote parts of the world, is doing well in the United States.

The 162 buffaloes imported since 1978 have increased in 325, and scientists at the University of Florida's Center for Tropical Agriculture are undertaking research that, if successful, would sharply increase their numbers.

That's good news to water buffalo enthusiasts. The uninformed may be intimidated by the animal's great bulk and sweptback horns, but its admirers contend that the water buffalo loves small children, herds as docilely as sheep, is as loyal as a dog, and loves to wallow in the mud like a playful pig.

### Tasty as Beef

Tastings by beef experts in the United States have confirmed what has been known in countries such as the Philippines and Australia for a long time. The flavor of water buffalo steaks equals and sometimes surpasses meat from ordinary cattle.

Few extol the animal's virtues more than Wiland S. Cripe, an assistant dean of veterinary medicine at the University of Florida. Cripe helped bring the

first herd of commercial water buffalo to the United States.

"I envision water buffaloes complementing rather than competing with domestic cattle," says Cripe. "Their real advantage is the ability to flourish in marginal lands such as swampy or semi-arid areas where cattle would have a hard time finding enough forage."

Small herds of water buffalo are thriving in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, where A.P. "Tony" Leonards, a private owner, is trying to improve the animals' genetic qualities through careful selective breeding.

Despite the promising start, it's unlikely that water buffaloes will ever become widespread in the United States, unless the University of Florida work is successful. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has cut off imports of foreign cattle and water buffaloes to protect domestic herds against hoof and mouth and other diseases.

### Cattle as Surrogate Mothers

The Florida researchers hope to increase domestic herds by implanting water buffalo embryos in surrogate mothers from domestic

(Turn to Page B12)

## Find the Differences

THERE ARE TEN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PICTURES BELOW. CAN YOU FIND THEM?

BY DAVE CARPENTER

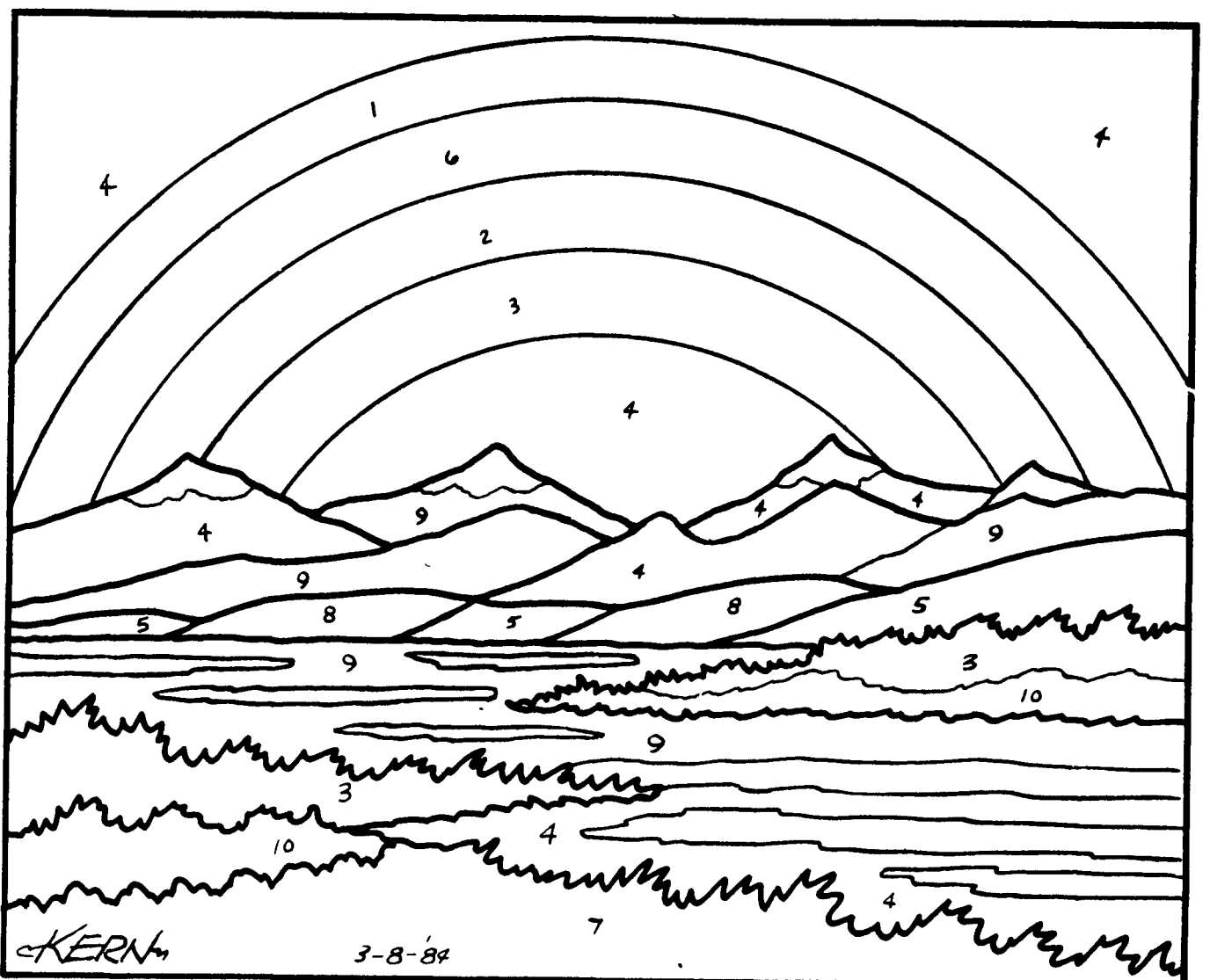


- 1) SNOWMAN. 2) BUTTONS ON BOYS COAT. 3) SILOS  
 4) GIRLS SCARF. 5) NUMBER OF SNOWFLAKES. 6) GIRLS  
 STOCKING CAP. 7) CUFF ON BOYS PANTS. 8) DOG'S  
 TAIL. 9) CABIN SMOKE. 10) FRECKLES ON GIRL.

# COLOR THIS!

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. LAVENDER | 6. ORANGE     |
| 2. RED      | 7. GREEN      |
| 3. YELLOW   | 8. LT. BROWN  |
| 4. BLUE     | 9. LT. BLUE   |
| 5. BROWN    | 10. LT. GREEN |

**RAINBOW:** IT IS AN ARC OF PRISMATIC COLORS APPEARING IN THE HEAVENS OPPOSITE THE SUN DUE TO THE REFLECTION OF THE SUN'S RAYS IN DROPS OF RAIN. RAINBOWS EXHIBIT THE FULL SPECTRUM OF COLORS FROM RED TO VIOLET. OFTENTIMES DOUBLE RAINBOWS WILL APPEAR IN THE SKY WHEN CONDITIONS ARE JUST RIGHT.



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