



Ladies Have You Heard?

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How To Clean Electric Blankets
There are several important points to remember when cleaning an electric blanket. First, always wash the blanket in a washing machine, never dryclean. Drycleaning fluids may damage the insulation on the wires. Second, use lukewarm or cold water, never hot, and do not add bleach. This also helps limit damage to the wiring. Third, agitate the machine as little as possible, allow the dirt

to soak out to reduce abrasion on the plug and wiring. The plug should be pinned into a corner of the blanket during washing. Complete washing directions must be permanently marked on any electric blanket with a UL seal. Consult these directions for specific manufacturer's washing directions.

To dry a blanket properly without damage to the wiring, hang the blanket outdoors over

parallel clotheslines, if available. Otherwise, partially dry the blanket for 10 to 15 minutes with several clean bath towels in your dryer using a low heat setting. Remove the blanket while it's still damp and dry on a flat surface.

How To Rescue Ruined Laundry
Do not allow fabric softeners to ruin your laundry. Dryer added softeners, activated by the heat of the dryer, can cause translucent, often streaky, oily-looking stains, especially noticeable on solid-color permanent press fabrics and synthetics such as polyester or nylon. These stains may be the result of fabric softener being concentrated on an area of the fabric. Fabric softener stains are not permanent and can be easily removed by dampening the stained area and rubbing it with bar-soap, then washing the garment.

How To Choose A Cantaloupe
Summer provides delicious fresh fruits and vegetables for eating. Cool cantaloupe is a perfect appetizer or dessert that is both delicious and nutritious. But how do you choose a good, sweet cantaloupe? I would like to suggest that you allow your eyes and nose to guide you when choosing cantaloupe.

The scar on the stem end of the cantaloupe should be slightly sunken and calloused. This indicates maturity. If part of the vine is still attached to the melon it was not ready for picking.

Look for well defined, raised netting. This is another indication the melon was mature when

picked. Rind that is grayish to light yellow in color also indicates ripeness.

The aroma of ready-to-eat cantaloupe is fragrant, fruity and sweet when the melon is at room temperature. Fragrance is harder to determine if the melons are refrigerated.

Lift a few melons and choose one sweeter for its size as it will be sweeter and juicier than a light one.

You can choose a good quality, firm mature cantaloupe and allow it to ripen at home at room temperature.

Vegetables taste better when harvested at right time

MEDIA — Vegetables from the garden taste better if they are harvested at the proper stage of maturity. Garden produce that is over- or under-ripe suffers from poor quality and lower nutritive value. Jeff Jabco, Delaware County extension agricultural agent, offers some tips on harvesting vegetables at the peak of maturity.

- Pick snap beans when pods are tender and snap readily.
- Pick lima beans when still green and the end of the pods are spongy. Older beans are tough, dry and starchy.
- Harvest beets when they are about 2 inches in diameter.
- Cabbage heads should be firm and round with no sign of splitting.
- Carrots have their best flavor when the roots are about 1-inch across the top.
- Pick celery at medium height and thickness. If the seed stalks appear, the stems will be bitter.
- Sweet corn is sweetest just as

the silk blackens. Kernels should be fully formed but tender and milky when broken with the thumb nail. Sweet corn rapidly passes through this milk stage.

- Harvest cucumbers when the seeds are young, small and soft.
- Pick loose-leaf lettuce as soon as the leaves are large enough to use.
- Peas lose their sweetness and flavor early. Pick when pods are well-filled and bright green.
- Sweet peppers are best when mature and firm with either a good green or red color.
- Use radishes while they are firm and crisp. They become tough after the seed stalk appears.
- Harvest summer squash when the fruits are about 6 to 8 inches long.
- Tomatoes are best when they are fully red on the vine.
- Dig turnips when they are about 2 inches in diameter.

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Triticale rules set

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is requesting public comments on a proposal to revise the way it will grade triticale that contains castor bean seeds or smut.

Triticale, a rye-wheat cross, is a cereal grain produced in small volume.

Kenneth A. Gilles, administrator for USDA's Federal Grain Inspection Service, said that in an initial review of the standards that began last December, public comment favored retaining the standards to aid in marketing.

The proposal would reduce the number of castor bean seeds allowed in a 1000 gram sample of triticale from two to one. "U.S. Sample grade" would be assigned to samples that contain more than one castor bean seed, a large, bean-like toxic seed rarely found in grain.

The proposal would eliminate the requirement that renders triticale sample grade when contamination by smut is so great that one or more

of the grade requirements cannot be determined. Seed treatment and other improvements have reduced the amount of smut detected in the grain to the point that it rarely is graded sample grade based on smut.



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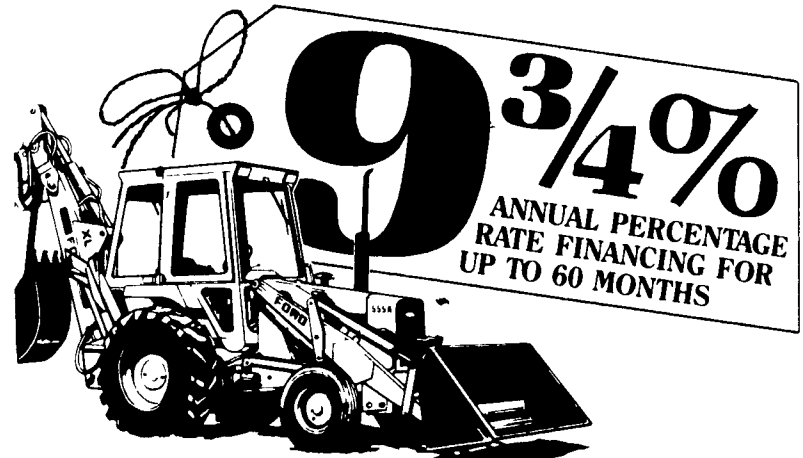
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