

How To Wash

Contaminated Clothing

here-are you prepared? Do you

The spring spraying season is

Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas

Lancaster Extension Home Economist

know what to do if your clothes have been contaminated by pesticides or other poisons? If you don't know, your clothes could be a hazard to you and your family. The residue from drift or spills can contaminate even the most cautious workers.

Although restricted-use pesticides are not generally available to home-owners, occasionally do-it-yourselfers need to apply toxic substances. Whether you are spraying trees for pests, roadsides for weeds, or your home for unwanted insects, you need to know what to do with the protective clothes you've worn.

After using pesticides, remove all clothes you've worn and immediately place them in a plastic container. Don't throw them over the back of a chair or dump them into the family laundry pile. Put them in a bag with a tie closing, or in a bucket with a lid, until you are

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ready to launder them. Take a shower, shampoo, and scrub well.

As soon as you are ready to wash the toxic clothes wash them separately. It is important that they do not come in contact with other clothes because pesticide residue may be redeposited on other garments. Always check the pesticide label and garment label for specific laundering and handling instructions.

Then, to launder contaminated clothing, use a normal or full load water level, depending on the number of clothing items. Wash with a heavy-duty phosphatebased detergent and use the amount recommended on the label. Set your machine on a long washing time, the same you would use for heavily soiled garments. DO NOT overload the washing machine. The point is to wash the contaminants out, not just move them about.

After removing the garments from your washing machine, clean the machine by running it a second time empty, but with detergent. For added protection, wipe out the tub, using isopropyl alcohol. Dry the once contaminated, now clean, garments as usual.

Routine Freezer Care **Can Prevent Food** Loss

The consumer's greatest concern with a home freezer is mechanical or power failure which can result in food losses. Some, but not all, of these failures can be avoided by routine care, proper use, and awareness of when to

check for possible trouble. Clean dust from coils of the

treezer once or twice a year in strict accordance with the instruction manuel for the unit. At this time, note any changes which have occurred. Have a dealer or repairman check unusual noises or excessive running. Also, note the condition of door gasket. If the seal is no longer tight, have it replaced. Storing objects on top of a chesttype freezer can cause misalignment and can damage seals.

Air circulation around the coils should not be covered or blocked in any way. Check the plug for a firm fit. If the plug is loose in the receptacle, it may fall or be bumped out without anyone noticing. Replace loose plugs. Some hardware stores sell clips that clamp the plug in by means of the screw that holds the receptacle plate onto the outlet.

Check your freezer at least once every day. If the freezer has a power signal light, check that. A door lock on your freezer will help prevent accidental unlatching of the door.

Freezer owners should know where the closest commercial freezer locker or source of dry ice is, in case of an extensive power failure. Check your home freezer after thunderstorms causing power failures since freezers have been known to be damaged when power drops or surges.

Mechanical devices do occasionally fail, and freezer owners should make plans for such emergencies. Preventive maintenance will help reduce the likelihood of such failures.

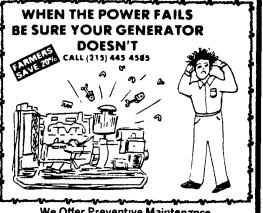
Extension offers programs for Christmas tree growers, beekeepers

FLEMINGTON, Prospective Christmas tree growers and beekeepers will have the opportunity to attend educational programs that have been planned for this spring.

A Christmas Tree Growers Short Course has been scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at Cook College, New Brunswick. Topics include weed, insect and disease control and wildlife damage and control. The afternoon includes a tour of a Christmas tree farm. The cost for the all-day program is \$35 and includes morning refreshments, lunch, and publications.

For those people interested in raising bees for fun and profit, a three-day beekeeping short course will be held June 26, 27, and 28." Highlights of the program include bee diseases, beekeeping equipment, seasonal management, queen rearing, swarms, extracting honey, candle making, and more. The cost of this program is \$50.

For more information and registration on these two programs call Mrs. Manson at (201) 932-9271.



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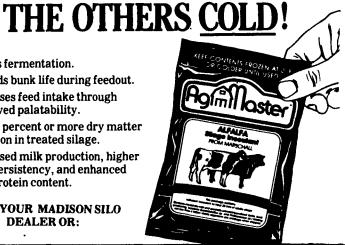
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