

USDA quarantines Santa Clara Co.

Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



Today is the first day of winter. And, I am reminded of activities that past years brought. As the oldest of seven girls, I often felt like a hired boy as I had no brothers and so was expected to help outdoors a lot.

One perpetual job was keeping the big iron water trough filled with water for our six horses and all of the the steers. The metal handle on the pump was cold and icy on winter days.

We raised tobacco on our two farms and when the weather didn't cooperate, we had to bring the

lathes down into the tobacco cellar one by one. If I bumped a leaf against a wall and it shattered, I was sure to be yelled at. One day I was told to help with this job on our lower farm. So, I walked to the Conestoga River nearest our home, put on my skates and glided for over half a mile around the bends in the river. I stayed close to the shore because the ice was creaking and groaning under my weight. I wouldn't do something so foolish today.

Winter meant long underwear to my ankles with brown cotton

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has quarantined an area in Santa Clara County, Calif., to help prevent the spread of the oriental fruit fly, one of the world's most destructive fruit and vegetable pests. USDA last month quarantined parts of California's Los Angeles and

stockings on top. These were held up by garters fastened to a bodice. If we were lucky, my sisters and I were allowed to dress in front of the round stove downstairs. Occasionally, we got too close to the stove—ouch! Also, I must not forget the sledding on our steep hill in the meadow.

This year I expect Christmas day will be rather quiet around here as only our two youngest children will be here. But, the following weekend will bring droves of relatives. We expect about forty people on Saturday and the same number on Sunday. I'd better put all the extra boards in the oak and walnut tables.

Orange Counties for oriental fruit fly.

Bert W. Hawkins, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said male and female adult oriental fruit flies and larvae have recently been found in these mainly residential areas.

"This pest could devastate our fruit and vegetable crops— particularly citrus— and ruin export markets if allowed to spread to commercial production areas," Hawkins said. "Containment and eradication are of vital importance."

The quarantine regulations restrict the movement of oriental fruit fly hosts— approximately 100 kinds of fruits, nuts, vegetables, and berries— from the quarantined areas, unless certain conditions

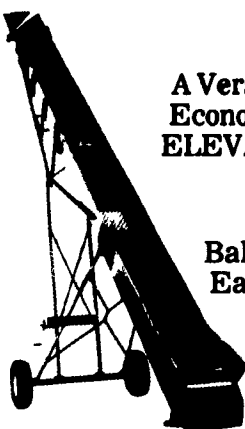
are met. The movement of soil and other possibly infested articles from the quarantined areas also is restricted. A certificate or permit must be obtained from USDA before fruits, vegetables, and other regulated articles originating in the quarantined areas can be moved interstate.

Hawkins said federal, state, and county plant protection officials have applied 600 bait stations per square mile throughout the areas to eradicate the infestation. Bait stations are small applications of an insect attractant-pesticide mixture. Officials also have made limited ground applications of pesticide spray in areas surrounding the places where the flies were detected. Hawkins said quarantine regulations will remain in effect until eradication is achieved.

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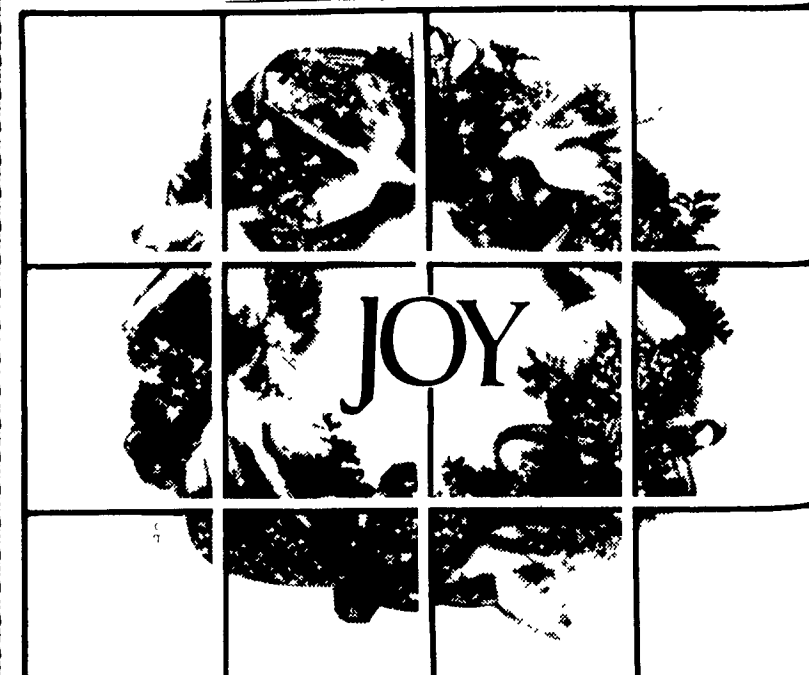
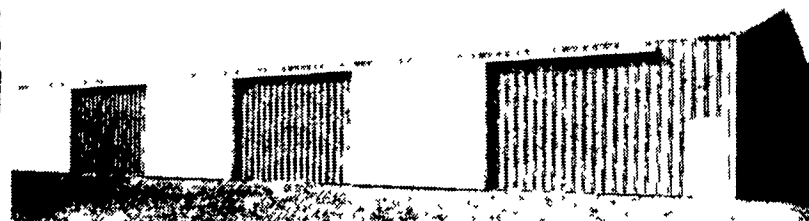
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