

Penn State offers weed fact sheet series

UNIVERSITY PARK — According to its scientific name, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* may be "food for the gods," but it causes nausea and sore mouths in livestock, and watery eyes and general misery in humans. Common ragweed is just one of the weeds you can learn to identify and control with up-to-date information in a new series of Weed Identification Fact Sheets developed by Penn State extension specialists in weed science.

Each identification fact sheet describes a single weed and includes sections on seedling description, biology, similar species, natural history and

control. Fact sheets are color coded according to family.

"Our recommendations for controls emphasize cultural practices and methods to use at the pre-emergent and seedling stages," says Betsy Wertz, agricultural writer and project coordinator. Specific chemical controls are not stressed, since these recommendations change from year to year.

"We've tried to develop useful and readable materials on the taxonomy of weeds for farmers, home gardeners, agribusinesses, teachers, students and extension agents," commented W. Thomas

Lanini extension weed scientist who developed and directed the first phase of the project. "There has been little practical information available in such a concentrated and accessible form," he continued. Many of the fact sheets can also be used for wildflower identification.

The first group of 16 weed identification fact sheets is now available and will be followed by a second group of 16 in a few months. About 48 weed identification fact sheets will be complete by next year, with perhaps over 100 developed before the project is over.

To order a set of weed identification fact sheets, contact your Penn State County Cooperative Extension Service Office or write to: Publications Distribution

Upjohn offers swine arthritis report

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — "Infectious arthritis costs swine producers \$60 million annually," according to a technical services veterinarian featured in a swine management report recently published by The Upjohn Company. "It's a major cause of lameness in hogs, with producers suffering monetary losses due to

Center, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802. There is a charge of \$5 for the first set of 16. This price includes postage and handling.

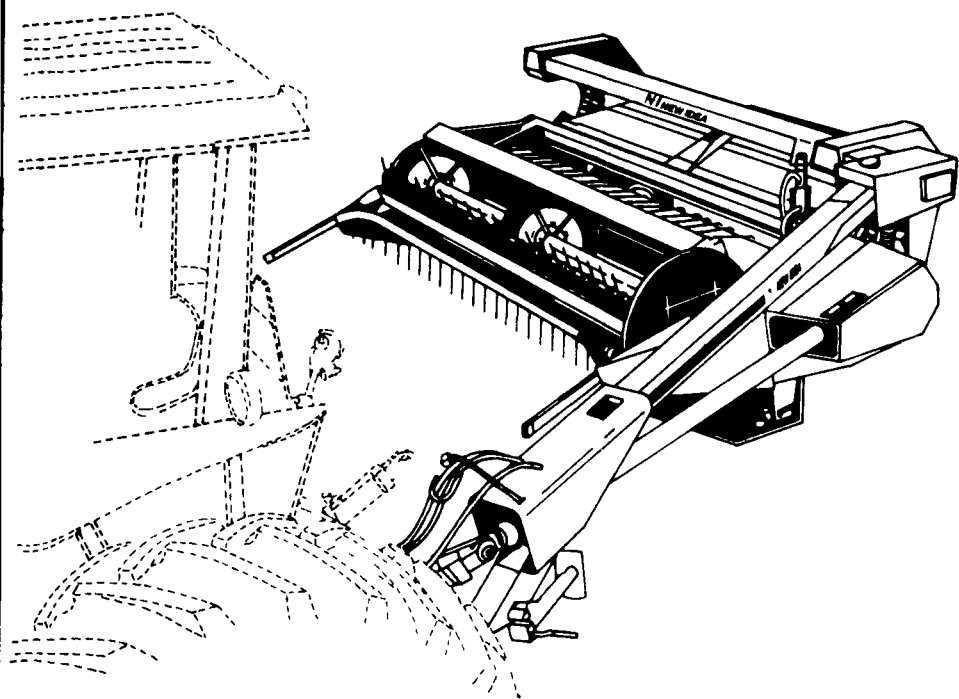
reduced rate of gain and inefficient feed conversion."

The cost-effective management practices that several U.S. swine producers have adopted are outlined in this report.

For a copy of the report write: Swine Infectious Arthritis Report, 2, The Upjohn Company, P.O. Box 5087, Kalamazoo, MI 49001-5087.

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