



YORK — Boxes and bags are in order for maintenance around homegrounds. Porch boxes can be built with small pieces of surplus or unused lumber. Attend any

lumber sale and you are sure to find lumber for ornamental plant boxes.

What kind of wood should you use? Cypress, red cedar and white

pine are the most popular.

The depth of an average size porch box can range from seven to nine inches and the width from nine to 12 inches. Make the box as long as you'd like. You need a few drainage holes bored in the bottom and a porous soil mixture to fill it after adding gravel. And finally, bedding plants with lots of foliage and color finish the job.

For composting, another spring maintenance job, we should build some type of box, bin or enclosure that's three feet high and three feet wide. The sides should be loose enough to allow some air movement. The actual shape of the enclosure does not matter, as long as the pile has an open area for access. Woven wire, wood slot fencing, cement blocks or scrap lumber can be used to construct the bin.

When it comes to bags, we need strong, reusable burlap or paper bags for cleanup. Why not buy your fertilizer in the 80-pound bag and then reuse the bag? An 80-pound bag saves you money on fertilizer. It's the most economical means to buy unless fertilizer is bought and blended and put directly in a pickup or spreader. And if the assortment of fertilizers gives you trouble, keep this handy checklist in mind when buying fertilizer.

When buying any fertilizer

material consider: the type of plants to be treated, the size of area involved, the total analysis of the product - higher analysis may cost more but less will be needed in a given area, the ratio of the elements in the product - some plants will need more or less of a given element, the availability of the nutrients in the product - slow release materials may cost more but will be effective over a longer period of time.

There are several types of fertilizer materials you can buy:

- Organic waste materials such as bone meal, dried blood or cotton-seed meal.

- Inorganic materials such as farm or garden grades of mineral fertilizer.

- Speciality materials or high

analysis products for individual plant treatment.

- Minor element and acid fertilizers for some of the broadleaf evergreens.

Before you buy a bag of fertilizer:

- Read the label to determine the minimum analysis.

- Know what percent of the nutrients are readily available in the soil.

When you get the package of fertilizer home, remember:

- Follow the directions on the package or the soil test results.

- Work the fertilizer into the soil.
- Water the area well after the fertilizer has been applied.

- Do not over fertilize - more can be added later but cannot be removed.

## McKean County Dairy Princess is Jackie Tanner

SMETHPORT — Jackie Tanner, the 19-year-old daughter of James and Eleanor Tanner, Smethport, is the 1986 McKean County dairy princess.

Jackie received her crown during pageant ceremonies at the Smethport Fairgrounds May 5. A 1985 graduate of Smethport High School, Jackie resides with her parents on their dairy farm. The Tanners have 54 Holsteins and are currently milking about 20.

During high school, Jackie was a member of the Bucktail FFA Chapter and was named outstanding ag student her senior year. She served her FFA chapter as secretary.

Jackie is employed as a machine operator at Jaguar Manufacturing Company. She attends the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Smethport.

During the coming year, Jackie will be busy promoting the dairy industry and dairy products.



Jackie Tanner

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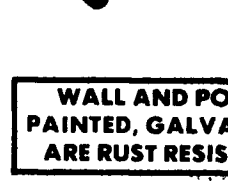
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