



Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas
Lancaster Extension
Home Economist

Chlorine Bleach — More Than a Laundering Aid

Liquid chlorine bleach, the most widely used bleach in laundering, is also an effective cleaner and disinfectant for other household tasks.

Here are some ways to use bleach as a disinfectant in your home. Many stains will also be removed at the same time.

Dishes, glassware, bathroom tumbler (china, glass, ceramic, plastic) — Wash dishes, glassware and tumbler thoroughly. Then soak in a solution of 1 tablespoon of chlorine bleach to each gallon of hot water. Rinse and drain dry. Remove stubborn coffee and tea stains by using 3 tablespoons of bleach in a quart of hot water and soaking the pieces about 5 to 10 minutes. Rinse well.

Sinks, bathtubs, shower stalls,

porcelain or tile surfaces — Use ¾ cup of chlorine bleach to each gallon of water to wipe surfaces. Rinse.

Food and water containers for pets — Make a solution of ¼ cup chlorine bleach to each gallon of hot water and scrub the containers. Rinse and let dry.

Garbage cans — Use a solution of ¾ cup chlorine bleach to each gallon of water to wash the inside of a garbage can. After cleaning, let the solution stand for about 5 minutes. Then rinse.

Flower pots and planter boxes — Wash and rinse flower pots and planter boxes thoroughly. Soak them in a solution of ¾ cup chlorine bleach to each gallon of water for about 5 minutes and rinse. This procedure prevents any transfer of mold or disease from old plants to new.

Bleach, like any cleaning product, needs to be used with care. Read carefully and follow manufacturer's directions. Always mix chlorine bleach with water when directed. Allow adequate ventilation when using. Apply any bleach solution with a synthetic sponge rather than a natural one. Avoid prolonged contact of bleach to metal, since discoloration or corrosion can occur. Do not use on silver or chipped enamel. Avoid mixing chlorine bleach with products containing ammonia or acids such as rust removers, toilet bowl cleaners and vinegar. Such mixtures can release hazardous gases.

Linen — An Old Favorite With New Style

Linen is making fashion headlines this summer. The fabric is a natural for hot weather since it readily absorbs moisture and dries quickly so that it is cool and comfortable to wear. And many designers consider linen's tendency to wrinkle a fashion asset. The relaxed and rumpled look of an all-linen garment simply adds to its appeal.

Designers are taking full advantage of linen's comfortable casual look. For women, the emphasis on warm-weather dressing starts with a linen jacket of simple unconstructed design that can be worn over a linen dress, pants or ankle-length skirt.

Elegance is achieved by the character of linen — the uneven texture and crisp appearance.

For men, linen jeans are a number one fashion priority this summer along with linen jeans jackets, safari coats and sport suits.

Many of the summer's casual linens are machine washable and dryable. Before washing any linen garment, check the care label to make certain it is, indeed, machine washable. Generally, you can use a warm water setting for washing light colors, cold for bright or dark colors.

When drying, remove from the dryer or line while still damp. Ironing is still necessary, regardless of the accepted wrinkled look, and can be most easily accomplished when fibers are damp, rather than bone-dry. Use a high setting on the iron for heavy linens. The finer and handkerchief linens need a cooler iron. Iron linens on the wrong side first. If you wish to develop a sheen, particularly on light colors, then iron on the right side. Use a press cloth over seams and stitched details to avoid press

markings. It is not necessary to iron linen until bone-dry. Simply iron out the wrinkles and hang the garment until dry.

Since linen is such a fashion staple this season, much in demand with a limited supply and high cost, finding the material in its pure form may be difficult. Linen blended with cotton, rayon, silk and/or polyester is common. These blends can improve wrinkle-resistance and, therefore, may be preferable to the wearer who prefers a more wrinkle-free look. Because blends and their care vary, check labels for refurbishing instructions.

Fabrics that look like linen are made from cotton, acetate, rayon or polyester. Combinations of these fibers are also available on the market. These fabrics are less expensive and more wrinkle-resistant than pure linen, but may not be as durable and crisp after repeated launderings. Since many of the combinations look and feel exactly like linen, check the garment label for fiber content and, again, for care instructions.

Cumberland County Council

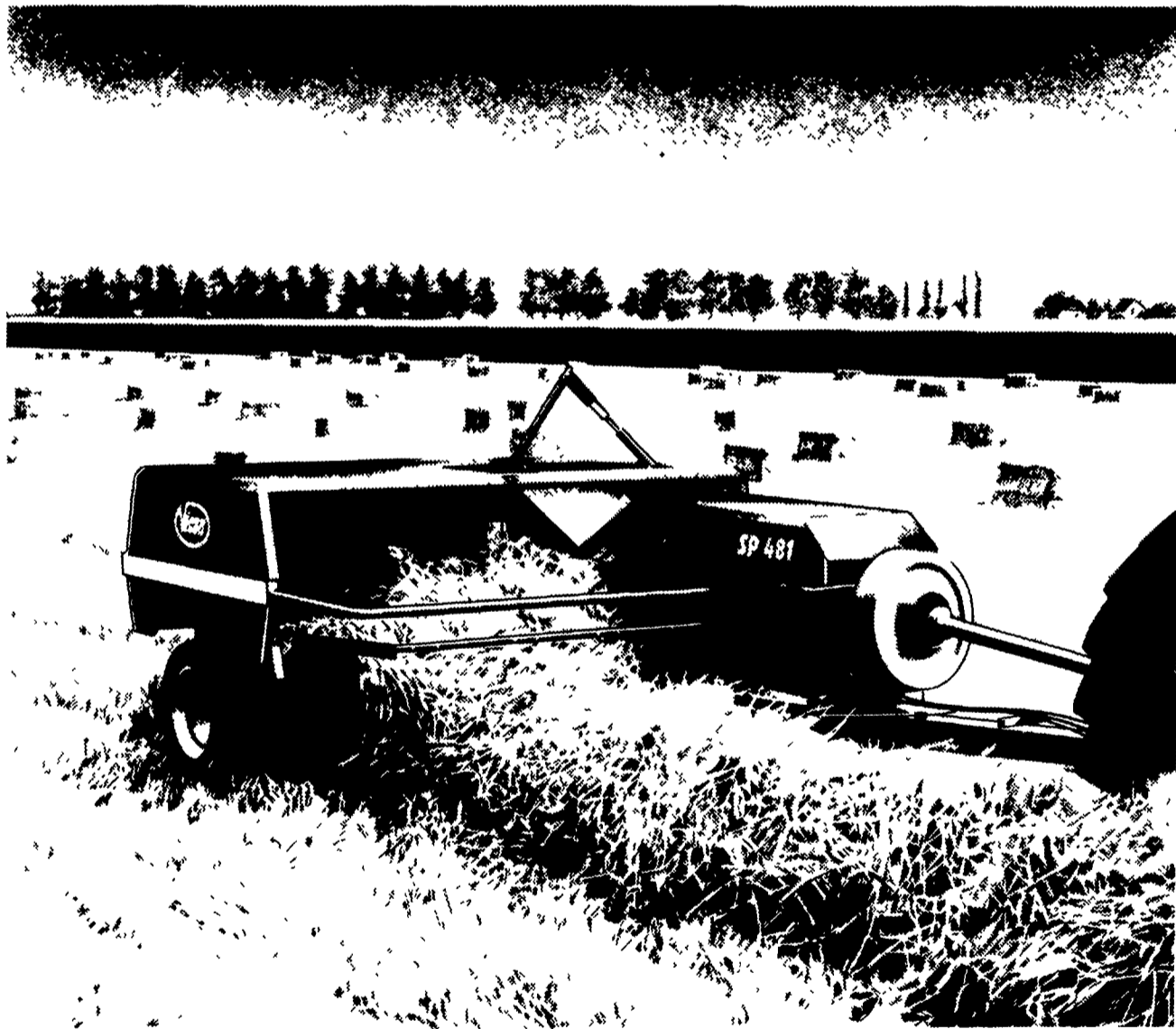
The May Cumberland County Council meeting was held May 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Extension office.

Darlene Resh, who recently returned from Norway in the IFYE exchange program, was guest speaker.

4-H Day Camp will be held July 17. Contact the Extension office for further information.

Cookies are still available to sell.

The next meeting will be held July 14 when members will plan Expo and Family Day.



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