

PDA Entomologist To Receive National Award

HARRISBURG — The Entomologist Society of America will honor a Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture entomologist for "an impressive record of contributions to American horticulture" at its annual meeting Dec. 7 to 11 in Reno, Nev.

Dr. A.G. "Al" Wheeler Jr., associated with PDA since 1971, will receive the society's Distinguished Achievement Award for Regulatory Entomology at the opening session on Dec. 8.

The organizations, representing some 9,000 entomologists from private industry, land-grant universities and governmental agencies, presents two other distinguished service awards each year, one for teaching and the other for extension work.

Wheeler became a nominee for the national honor after the society's Eastern Branch selected him as its top regulatory entomologist earlier this year. It marked the third time that he had won the Eastern Branch award

and was its nominee for national recognition; he was similarly honored in 1981 and 1982. The regional group includes entomologists from the New England and Middle Atlantic states as well as Virginia and West Virginia.

In addition to receiving the award, he will present two papers at the conference, the first on the importance of routine field surveys in detecting foreign insects and the second on a plant bug associated with honeylocust trees.

The 42-year-old Wheeler has discovered and reported 10 European insects previously unknown in North America.

The national ESA Newsletter, in reporting the awards, said "Wheeler has compiled an impressive record of contributions to American horticulture." The publication cited his achievements in the past 10 years and concluded, "Few people have surpassed him in terms of productivity in regulatory entomology in such a short time. He attacks problems

with optimism and boundless energy."

He is a frequent speaker, not only at meetings of entomologists but for trade groups as well. His versatility carries over to publications. In less than 15 years he has authored more than 150

scientific papers and popular articles.

Wheeler has also participated in cooperative efforts to combat destructive insects through the release of natural enemies, including the federal and state

program that released parasitic wasps to combat the cereal leaf beetle.

In addition to his work at the state and national levels, he serves as an adjunct professor with the Pennsylvania State University.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

— Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands . . . "Quarryville? We have relatives at Refton!"

Such is the greeting encountered on the West Indian island of St. Croix, one of three of the Virgin Islands visited in a ten day tour by plane, auto and boat, winding up in Puerto Rico.

Throughout there was surprise: like to Lancaster County affinity in the most eastern point of U.S. property; like the terrific progress Puerto Rico is making under its Operation Bootstrap, of "Fomento," as they call it, fomentation, fuel, building; like the visit of the liner Stockholm with its new bow, on its first Caribbean cruise since its collision with the Andre Doria.

— Selection of Future Homemakers of America chapters in nine Pennsylvania high schools to prepare special window exhibits for display during the 1957 Pennsylvania Farm Show Jan. 14-18, was announced Monday.

— Three more counties have been added to the State's honor roll of certified brucellosis-free areas, State Agriculture Secretary William L. Henning announced today.

Each has achieved highest

recognition in the Commonwealth's 34-year battle against the most bothersome of all cattle diseases — certification from the state and federal departments of agriculture.

— Washington . . . Europe will need increased imports of food this season as a result of a harvest reduced by freezes early in 1956, and bad weather at harvest time. The 1955-56 growing season started well, and in most countries acreage sown by January 1, 1956, equaled or exceeded the area sown a year earlier. The entire Continent experienced exceptionally cold weather in February and early March, however. Most regions had enough snow cover to protect field crops, but in France, the Low Countries and Switzerland large acreages of the fall-sown crops were killed. In Sweden, the winter rapeseed crop was almost wiped out.

— Over ten percent of the United States population suffers at least one cold per "season" — a total of over 130 million cold sufferers annually. This is according to officials of Grove Laboratories, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of cold tablets.

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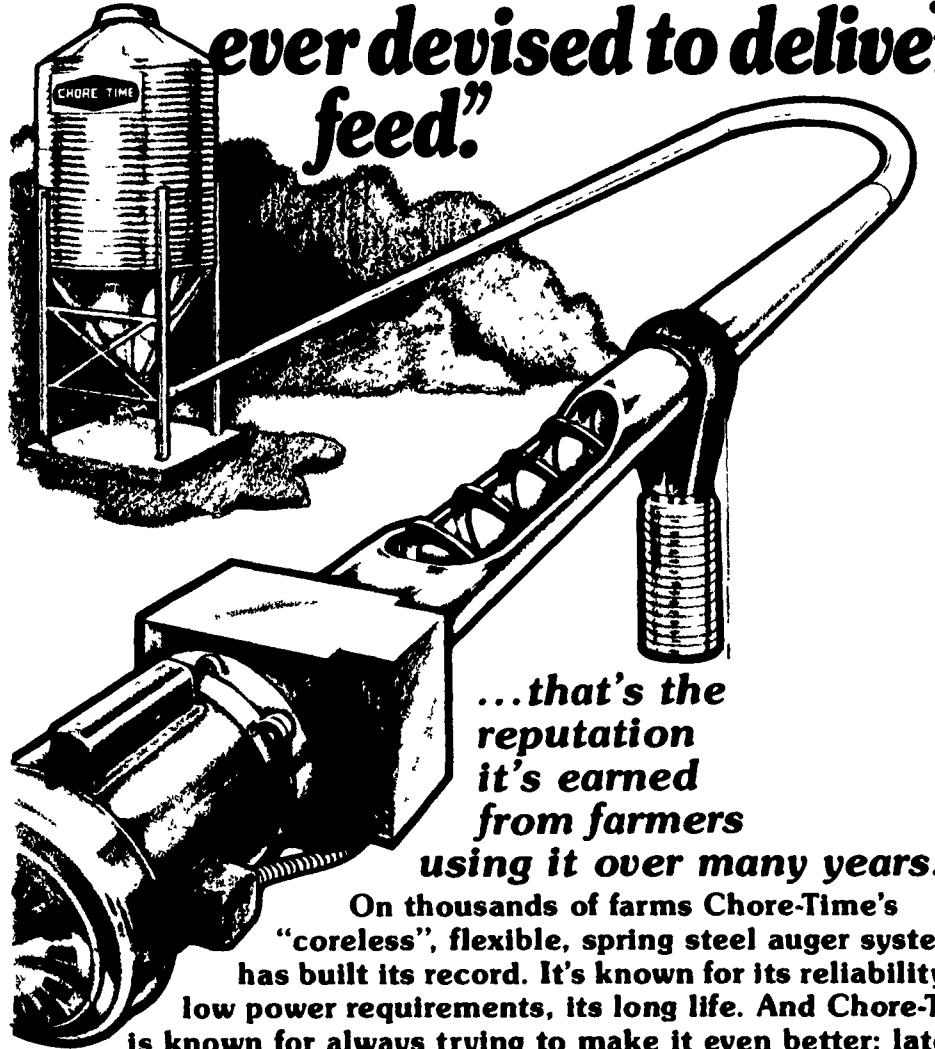
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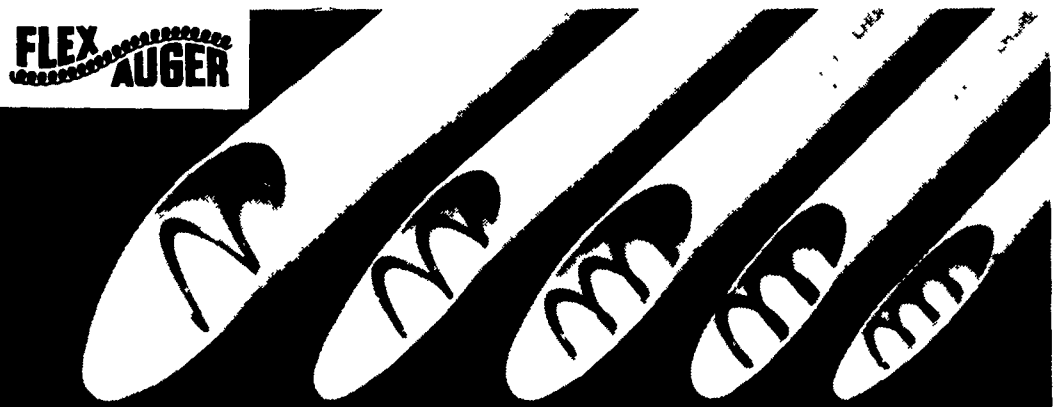
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