



**WORLD WIDE  
AND  
NATIONAL FARM WATCH**

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**U.S.-JAPAN TRADE WAR ON HOLD**—Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone came here to try to persuade President Reagan to abate special tariffs designed to encourage Japan to open its trade doors wider to U.S. firms. He left with only Reagan's hope to be able to remove the tariffs soon. Nakasone in turn left promises to initiate reforms at home to help boost purchases from the United States and otherwise help relieve the huge trade disparity between the two trading partners. Action by the House last week adopting omnibus trade legislation containing a protectionist measure authored by Rep. Richard

Gephardt (D-Mo.) was not calculated to make the Japanese leader's visit more comforting, though many doubt the Gephardt amendment will survive a conference committee or the president's veto. **SENATE TO MOVE ON TRADE BILL**—The Senate swings into action on its version of trade legislation this week and pressure remains in both House and Senate to deal with the financial needs of the Farm Credit System. Sen. David Boren has set a May 6 deadline for all bills to be submitted to his credit subcommittee. The government is also due to run out of borrowing power at mid-

month unless action to raise the national debt ceiling is completed. Slowness of Congress in adopting appropriation bills also is affecting the Department of Agriculture. Putting the pressure on for supplemental appropriations for the Commodity Credit Corporation, the USDA has announced suspension of all farm program payments to farmers until the CCC gets additional funding. **CCC RAISES INTEREST RATE**—Commodity loans obtained from the Commodity Credit Corporation in May, after payments can be resumed, will bear an interest rate of 6 1/4 percent. The increase from the previous rate of 6 percent reflects the cost of money to the CCC from the U.S. Treasury. **FARM CREDIT SYSTEM MOVES ACQUIRED PROPERTY**—The financially troubled Farm Credit System has been attempting in several areas to move acquired properties back into private hands without disrupting local real estate markets, according to its publication the Farm Credit Letter published in Englewood, Colorado. Most successful area has been St. Paul where a sales program ended March 15 after accepting offers on 2,145 properties totaling 388,042 acres worth \$168.5 million. Of those sales, 90 percent went to local farmers at prices averaging 104

percent of appraised market value. Louisville and Omaha districts also have arranged special programs to sell acquired farm properties and the Spokane district has sent out advance notices of an upcoming sales program featuring interest rates as low as 8 percent. **SECONDARY MORTGAGE MARKET STILL DISCUSSED**—The Farm Credit System and commercial banks are still trying to reach an agreeable format for establishing a secondary market for farm mortgages. A secondary market that would work like that already in use for home mortgages is one of the steps recommended by the American Farm Bureau Federation to help restore the Farm Credit System to financial health and to improve the overall farm credit situation. **NEW U.S. FARM PROGRAM BEING FELT IN EUROPE**—Dean Kleckner, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, just returned from trade discussions in Europe with

Common Market leaders, government officials, farmers and General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade officials. Kleckner said the EEC is finding its agricultural subsidy programs financially burdensome, spending as much as two-thirds of its total budget to support the Common Agricultural Policy. Kleckner said U.S. determination to stay the course on the 1985 farm bill is putting pressure on Europeans to change their farm policy of heavy subsidization. **SOVIET WHEAT SUBSIDY ONLY WAY TO MAKE SALE**—“This agreement means we are going to sell 4 million tons of wheat to the Russians,” said American Farm Bureau president Dean Kleckner of the export bonus sale to the Soviet Union. Speaking from Europe via telephone Friday, Kleckner said the sale will be based on competitive conditions. “There will be a subsidy involved but, regrettably, that is the world today. A market price means a subsidy price for many sales.”

**Plant Publication Available**

**ITHACA, N.Y.** — Anemones, asters, chrysanthemums, dahlias, foxgloves, peonies, poppies, Chinese lanterns and violets have something in common: diseases and insect pests will attack them all. Growers of herbaceous perennials need to have strategies for prevention and control of these problems. To help combat these diseases and insects a new Cornell Cooperative Extension publication has been written by Margery L. Daughtrey and Maurie Semel, “Herbaceous Perennials: Diseases and Insect Pests.”

root and stem rots, dampings-off, rusts, mildews and viruses. This publication provides color photographs and detailed descriptions of disease symptoms and insect damage, and it suggests approaches for non-chemical control of pests and diseases. Close-up color photographs show some of the insects which attack perennials so the grower can make positive identification and choose appropriate control measures.

Daughtrey is an extension associate in plant pathology and Semel is an associate professor in entomology at Cornell University's Long Island Horticultural Research Laboratory. The 25-page publication is useful to both home gardeners and commercial growers. Some of the disease concerns covered are crown gall, leaf spots and blights,

A 12-page insert, “Chemical Pest Control for Herbaceous Perennials,” lists specific effective controls for insects and diseases. The insert will be updated each year. “Herbaceous Perennials: Diseases and Insect Pests,” (IB 207) may be obtained from the Cornell University Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. The cost, including insert for 1987, shipping and handling is \$5.50.

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