



# Have You Heard?

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## NOTHING LASTS FOREVER

While most of us really do know that nothing lasts forever, we tend to forget that maxim when it applies to foods on the pantry shelf and in the freezer. All food has a definite shelf life whether it is on the pantry shelf or in the home freezer.

Shelf life for food in the home freezer refers to the period of time that food scientists recommend it be stored before it is used. Keeping it in the freezer for longer than the recommended time does not mean that it has spoiled or is unsafe to use; however, food stored long beyond its shelf life may lose its quality. Storage over a long period of time may cause some change in appearance, color, moisture, texture and taste for most foods.

While storage charts, found in home freezer booklets, developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and food science research offer basic guidelines for freezing and storing foods, storage times

will vary based on the following factors:

\* Quality of the food before it was frozen. Select fresh, unbruised top quality fruits and vegetables for freezing.

\* Packaging or wrap used. Start with moisture-proof, vapor-proof packaging material. Remove all air and seal package well.

\* Storage temperature. Recommended storage times are based on a freezer, temperature of 0 degrees F. or below. At higher freezer temperature, shelf life will be shorter.

For example, the recommended storage time for home frozen berries, cherries and peaches is 12 months. That estimated shelf life may be only 6 to 8 months if the freezer temperature is 10 degrees F. If you do not have a thermometer in your freezer, you would be smart to invest in one. They are not expensive.

While freezing maintains much of the flavor and texture of food, it cannot improve on its quality. For

example, if the fresh fruit you freeze is past its ripeness peak or is bruised, it will have these same qualities when you take it from the freezer.

The keys to successful freezing are to select high quality food, prepare and package it properly, date and label the package, store it at 0 degrees F, and then use it within the recommended storage time.

## INSURING COLLEGE STUDENTS' PERSONAL PROPERTY

Most parents will be happily surprised to know that their homeowners policies will likely provide adequate coverage on most college student's belongings located in dormitories, with the possible exception of the personal computer, less the deductible. However, you should call your insurance agent to be sure.

Typically, coverage of property stolen away from home is limited to 10 percent of your personal-property insurance. For example, if your home is insured for \$100,000, your personal property is covered for \$50,000. The items your children take to college are covered for \$5,000 minus the deductible.

There are several ways to handle additional coverage on the items a student takes to school if they are worth more than the 10 percent off-premises coverage provided as part of the homeowners policy. For a student who is under the limit, except for a few valuable items, you may add a personal articles

floater to the policy. This enables you to insure specific items named in the floater at their full value. This is an excellent option if your student is protected by your homeowners with the exception of specific valuables such as jewelry, camera equipment or furs.

For the student who lives in an apartment and has a whole household of goods, the simplest way to take care of covering all articles is to get additional coverage - "personal property in a secondary residence endorsement." That is a long name for a short addition to a homeowners policy. It gives one the ability to go beyond the 10 percent limit stated in the policy.

When packing for this semester,

parents or students should have made an inventory of the items going to school and checked with their insurance agent whether or not there is sufficient coverage on that property. If you did not do this, have your college student make the inventory and send it to you. This inventory will give the family a record of where items are located so that in the event of a loss, you will know what is missing.

Insurance Information Institute in New York publishes a free pamphlet which helps consumers keep track of their belongings. To receive your free copy, dial their toll free hotline, 1-800-221-4954 and ask for your free copy of Taking Inventory.

# Watch How Beekeepers Prepare For Winter

NEWARK, DE — Would you like to know how beekeepers prepare for the winter? You'll find out about this subject if you tune in the "Farm, Home and Garden Show" on KYW-TV 3 (Philadelphia) the week of September 26-30 at 6:15 a.m.

During one of the shows that week, University of Delaware

Extension entomologist Dewey Caron will discuss steps beekeepers take to make sure their bee colonies survive the winter months.

Caron, a bee specialist, will display an observation beehive and explain how beekeepers prepare bees to pollinate crops and gather honey in the spring.

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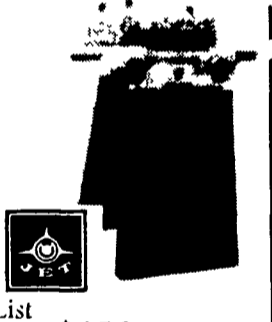
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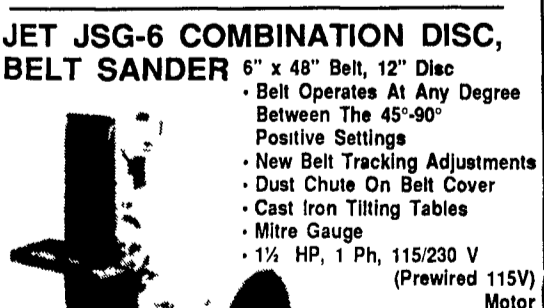
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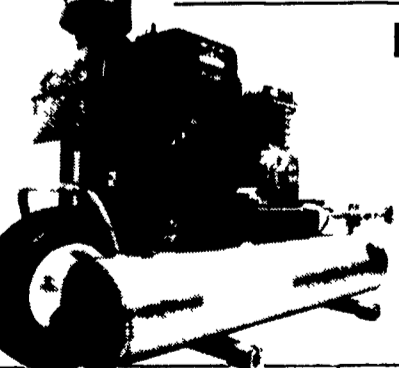
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K5HGA 8P	14.6	8.5	10.7	8.9		Recoll	Honda	175	43	18	26

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