

July Is Ice Cream Month



Proclaiming July Dairy Month with his signature, Gov. Robert Casey poses with other members of the dairy industry. From left, sitting are state Alternate Dairy Princess Angela Spickler, Casey, and state Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff. Standing, from left, are Raymond J. Diebold with the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program, Ken Stomsky with the Mid-East UDIA, Alan Roszel, with the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Inc., and George Carroll with the Keystone Ice Cream Association.

Soybean Farmers Praise Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senate Agriculture Committee action establishing a soybean marketing loan and additional planting flexibility in the 1990 Farm Bill is a victory for U.S. soybean farmers. The Committee approval of the soybean program prompted widespread enthusiasm from farmers.

"We've worked for nearly three years for a soybean program that combines income support and planting flexibility in the 1990 Farm Bill," said American Soybean Association President Marilyn Jorgensen. "We're obviously pleased with this step forward and appreciate the steps taken by the Senate Agriculture Committee."

The Senate Committee-approved program establishes a marketing loan program with a loan rate of \$5.50 per bushel for crop years 1991 through 1995.

The loan rate could be reduced to \$5.25 if projected stocks exceed 20 percent of use and to \$5.00 if stocks exceeded 25 percent of use. According to Congressional Budget Office projections, the effective loan rate would be \$5.25 in 1991-1992, and \$5.50 in 1993-1995.

The Senate Committee last week approved a planting flexibility package that allows producers to plant oilseeds on up to 25 percent of their program base without loss of base. The package also includes a Flexi-ARP program which gives producers the option of voluntarily reducing acreage in exchange for a corresponding reduction in conserving use deficiency payments. Oilseeds, including soybeans, could be produced on the "freed-up" acres.

"Congress has developed keen

awareness of the problem soybean farmers face. We wish the income support level and planting flexibility could have been greater but the Committee had to consider budget restrictions," said Jorgensen.

According to USDA statistics, the United States has lost its position as the dominant world producer of soybeans in the last 10 years, partly because of U.S. farm policy. The American Soybean Association has been urging Congress to enact a program that puts soybeans on a more level playing field with other crops.

"Soybean farmers want a program that will allow them to compete in the world market," said Jorgensen. "We will continue working with our Congressional representatives to achieve the best possible program for American soybean farmers."

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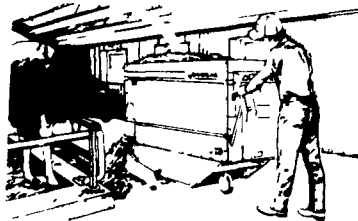
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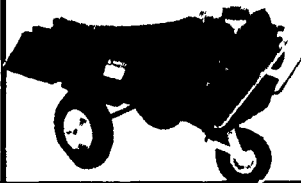
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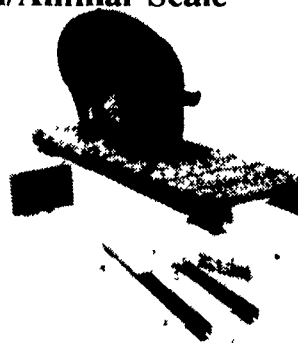
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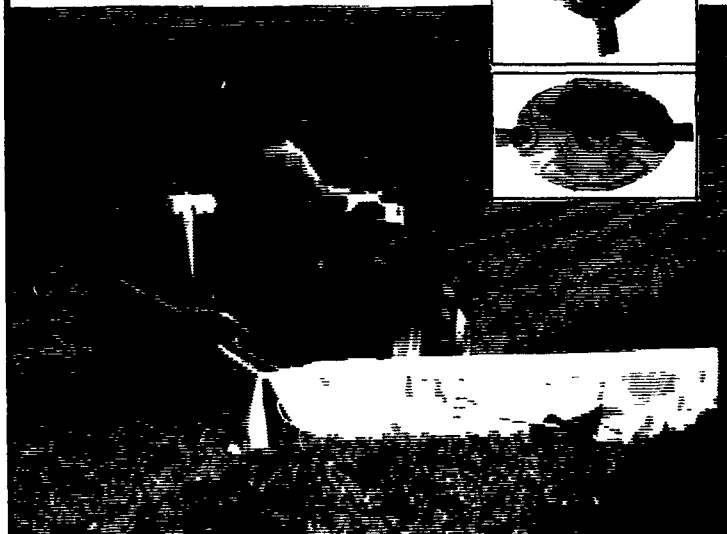
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