

Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



Thanksgiving is over and the turkey is eaten except for some frozen leftovers. I made several pumpkin pies as this year I raised so many green and white striped neck pumpkins. Most of them have been given away as they are decorative too.

One big job this fall has been washing windows. As we had to have papers attesting to our water being pure, we could not move into the house when we'd planned. Even though the well is more than 400 feet deep the water had to be tested twice.

So, Allen washes the outside windows on a 14-foot ladder as our house is on a hill. And, I wash the inside glass after removing the plants from the sills. We had an awful time trying to get the five paper stickers off each new window.

Tree Seedling Sale

CHAMBERSBURG (Franklin Co.) - The annual tree seedling sale of the Franklin County Conservation District is now in progress.

This excellent stock comes from a state certified nursery. This year's seedlings must be purchased in bundles of 25 per species. This insures you of receiving first quality seedlings since packets will not have to be opened upon arrival from the nursery.

Seedlings offered this year include (with 25/bundle prices in parenthesis): Northwest Scotch Pine (\$7.50), Austrian Pine (\$10.00), White Pine (\$9.00), Douglas Fir (\$7.50), Colorado Blue Spruce (\$8.00), Norway Spruce (\$8.75), Canadian Hemlock (\$14), White Oak (\$12), Sugar Maple (\$10), and Red Maple (\$9). Fertilizer briquettes are also offered at \$2.50 per 25.

We expect the seedlings to be

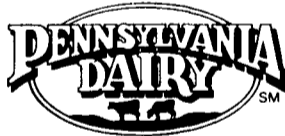
Our Grandfather's clock was the last thing that we moved. It took us a while to get around to doing it and I asked a professional his price for doing the job. It was more than \$100 so we took a chance and did it ourselves with Philip's help. After it was leveled it worked fine.

Each year I dry some flowers and weeds and arrange small bouquets. However, I've accumulated too many and will have to destroy some. This bothers me as I hate to get rid of them. Not everyone feels the same way though as my daughter went through her high school and college things and "pitched them." But, if everyone did this there would never be any antiques. Even paper items like old magazines and postcards bring high prices now.

available for pickup around the end of April. Those ordering tree seedlings will be notified by mail as to the date and pickup area.

If you are interested in ordering seedlings, please contact the Franklin County Conservation District, 550 Cleveland Avenue, Chambersburg, or by calling 717-264-8074; for an order form. Office hours for the District are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

All orders must be prepaid. Deadline for ordering seedlings is January 31.



Myths Persist About Holiday Plants

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Some reports about poisonous holiday plants are as mythical as tales of Santa, says a Penn State horticultural specialist.

"Certain holiday plants believed to be fatal if eaten are relatively harmless, while others are truly toxic," says Dr. J. Robert Nuss, professor of ornamental horticulture in Penn State's College of Agriculture.

"The bottom line is that children and pets can't make the distinction between what's dangerous and what isn't. It's best to keep plants out of reach until they learn not to put unknown substances into their mouths."

Many people persist in believing that the most popular Christmas plant, the poinsettia, is

extremely poisonous. "People allergic to the plant's milky sap can develop a rash if it gets on their hands," says Nuss.

"But the poinsettia isn't fatal if eaten. If a child or pet accidentally eats any part of the plant, at the worst they might experience some stomach discomfort."

About 20 years ago, two Ohio State researchers fed large quantities of poinsettia parts to rats, with no ill effects. In 1975, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission exonerated the poinsettia of the false charge that it is lethal if ingested.

The commission also refuted allegations that the berries of American mistletoe are fatal if eaten. "But mistletoe is not intended for human consumption

and should be placed out of the reach of children," says Nuss. "Berries that fall from the sprig should be removed from the floor immediately before children and pets are tempted to eat them."

About 700 plants are known to be poisonous. Among them are these holiday plants: holly, ivy, Jewrusalem cherry, laurel, rhododendron and yew.

If a child or pet accidentally ingests these plants, consult a physician or veterinarian immediately. Do not induce vomiting without the advice of a doctor. If a plant containing corrosive juices has been eaten, vomiting can damage the digestive tract.

The Poison Information Center for Pennsylvania is 1-800-352-7001.

Trees Contribute Environment

HALIFAX (Dauphin Co.) — During the Christmas season, natural Christmas trees give joy to over 30 million American families. But those trees also serve an important function while growing in Pennsylvania, according to the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association.

"An acre of Christmas trees can supply enough oxygen to keep 18 people alive," said Melissa Nelson, Pa. Christmas Tree Growers' executive secretary. Trees are nature's way of cleansing and purifying the air. Growing trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air and convert it into oxygen.

Although 1.8 million Christmas trees will be harvested in the state this year, next spring at least one new tree — and often two or three trees, will be planted to replace it. This continues the natural cycle of planting and harvesting Christmas trees in the state. Young, newly-planted trees generate even more oxygen for our communities, according to Nelson.

A Christmas tree's contribution to the environment does not end after Christmas. A growing number of families prefer to use their tree to attract birds in their backyard. Trees can even be sunk into

ponds for fish shelters or be taken into the woods as shelters for small wild animals. Christmas tree limbs also make great mulch for plants and gardens.

Many municipalities and counties are now chipping Christmas trees and recycling the material for use in parks and recreational areas.

For more information on Christmas trees and their benefit to the environment, contact the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association at 717-362-3705.

FRANK A. FILLIPPO, INC.
- WANTED -
DISABLED & CRIPPLED COWS, BULLS & STEERS
Competitive Prices Paid
Slaughtered under government inspection
Call: Frank Fillippo -
Residence - 215-666-0725
Elam Ginder - 717-367-3824
C.L. King - 717-786-7229

KEN CLUGSTON
(717) 665-6775

CRAFT-BUILT CONSTRUCTION INC.

FARM-HOME BUILDING
1242 Breneman Road
MANHEIM, PA 17545
PH: (717) 665-4372

BUILDING & REMODELING FOR —
DAIRY RESIDENTIAL
SWINE POLE BUILDINGS
BEEF STORAGE

The Key To Soil Management Is Fall Fertilizing

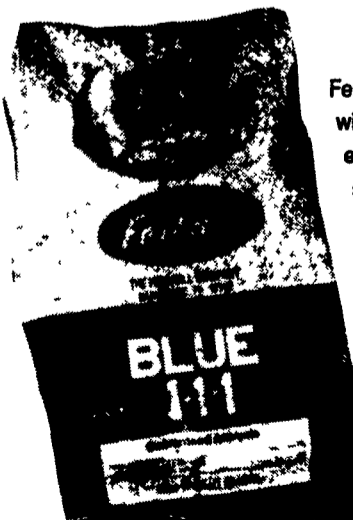
Fertrell FERTILIZER PRODUCTS

FERTRELL BLUE LABEL 1-1-1

Fertrell Blue Label is a multi-nutrient fertilizer used as a soil builder where soil fertility is low, or when nutrient maintenance is needed.

Fertrell Blue Label provides time-released phosphorus and potassium, and since the rock powders are untreated, they contain the secondary nutrients calcium, magnesium and sulfur, as well as many trace minerals.

It is formulated specifically for broadcast application on hay fields, pastures, or as a plow down for corn. Fertrell Blue Label can be used comparably to a 5-10-20 commercial fertilizer.



FERTRELL BLUE K 1-1-2

Fertrell Blue K is an extension of Fertrell Blue Label with an increased potassium level formulated especially for crops requiring high levels of potash, such as alfalfa, corn silage, and vegetables. It is excellent for correcting low potassium soils or where potassium would be the first limiting factor in crop production.

Fertrell Blue K is more convenient and efficient than applying single ingredients. The potash ingredients are not highly leachable, and there is no need to worry about a high salt content. The total nutrient value is comparable to a 5-10-30 commercial fertilizer



Box 265, Bainbridge, PA 17502 (717) 367-1566

Easily Connects To Forced Air/Hot Water Systems

HARDY "Outside" Wood Furnace

Perfect For

- New Homes
- Existing Homes
- Swimming Pools
- Greenhouse - Barn
- Milkhouse - Office
- Business Places

SAVES MONEY - Heats your home and domestic hot water (save to 25% of electric bill). No need for building or chimney.

SAFE - Furnace sits outside - eliminates fire danger and flue fire forever

CLEAN - No smoke, wood, ashes, dust in the home.

CONVENIENT - Load furnace every 10-12 hours - burns logs up to 16" in diameter, 30" in length.

All Stainless Steel Thermostat Controlled

Save \$50.00 to \$100.00 on heating and hot water costs at barn and milkhouse.

ATTENTION FARMERS

For More Information Contact **STANLEY WENSEL, JR.**
 General Contractor
 Box 24, Barree, PA 16615
 814-669-4558

We Install 24 Hr. Service