



OPINION

Beware Of Deadly Silo Gases

Did you ever consider a silo full of freshly chopped corn silage as a potential death trap?

Jennie Hess Brown, York Extension agent says complex chemical reactions involved in the formation of silage give off lethal nitrogen gases and carbon dioxide. The nitrogen gases (predominantly nitrogen dioxide) present the greatest threat in and around upright silos. No one ever should enter an oxygen-limiting silo because there never is enough air to support life.

Avoid breathing silo gas. Two or three breaths of strong gas can permanently damage the lungs. Staying in the gas may seem okay because you lose the smell. Several hours may pass before serious problems occur.

Silo gas has a disagreeable odor which has been described by some as being bleach-like. The color may range from red through orange to dark brown. Silo gas is heavier than air so it will settle to the lowest area. It will settle on top of the silage or drain down into the silo room if silo doors are open. In the silo room or barn, it becomes a hazard to both man and beast.

Follow the precautions: stay out of the silo for at least two weeks after filling, if at all possible. If you must enter to level out the silage, do it immediately after filling and leave the blower running while you are there. Keep the doors between the silo room and the main barn closed, but open all windows and exterior doors of the silo room to allow fresh air to enter. If you experience any coughing or throat irritation in the silo, get out immediately and seek medical attention.

If a person becomes disabled in the silo and you suspect silo gas - do not enter the silo -- call emergency medical personnel at once and start the blower if it is still at the silo. The life you save may be your own or the life of a family member.

Farm Forum

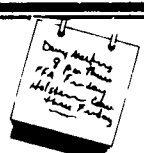
Editor:

Dr. Benjamin Spock sold out the welfare of the American children to a minority group known as "The Coalition to Eliminate Animal Agriculture". The group is quite obviously sponsoring this most recent milk scare. This is evident when one reads the front page of September 30th Reading Times, and I quote: "Spock made

his remarks prior to an appearance before a meeting in Boston of the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine, a group that promotes preventive medicine and alternatives to medical research on animals". It's a stretch to suggest that this has anything to do with our children drinking milk.

What should truly concern all of us is the news media's obvious attempt to sensationalize this, (Turn to Page A:5)

Farm Calendar



Saturday, October 10
National 4-H Week
Eastern Pennsylvania 4-H Beef and Lamb Sale, Allentown Fairgrounds, 10 a.m.

Sunday, October 11

Monday, October 12
Columbus Day
Sire Power Sale '92, Penn State Ag Arena.

Dairy Breeding Management Discussion Group meeting, Kinzer Fire Hall, Kinzer, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13
Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. annual meeting, Delmarva Convention Center, Delmar, Md.

Dillsburg Community Fair, thru October 17.

Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program, Holiday Inn, Denver. ADC District 9 meeting, Bernville Grange Hall, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, October 14
Basic Arboriculture, Fairmount Park, Phila., thru October 16 and October 19-23.

"Starting a Small Business," Meyer's Family Restaurant, Quakertown, 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Red Rose 4-H Beef Club, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 15

National Meeting on Poultry Health and Processing, Sheraton Ocean City, Ocean City, Md., thru October 16.

Ag Issues Forum, Kreider's Restaurant, 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m.

4-H Leadership in Action, Canaan Valley, West Virginia, October 15-18.

Maryland State Grange Session, Venice Inn, Hagerstown, Md.
American Dairy Association and Dairy Council annual meeting, Sennett Federated Church, Sennett, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.

Lancaster County 4-H Swine Club banquet, Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant, Bird-In-Hand, 6:30 p.m.

Adams County Holstein Association Banquet, Gettysburg Fire Hall, 7 p.m.

ADA/DC District 4, Greenwich Elk Lodge, Greenwich, NY, 7:30 p.m.

ADA/DC District 6, Club 211, West of Middletown, NY, 7:45 p.m.

ADA/DC District 12, Sennett Federal Church, Sennett, NY, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 16

Pesticide Test, Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension Office, 9 a.m.-noon.



NOW IS THE TIME
By John Schwartz
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Protect Stored Corn From Insects

Corn harvesting time is fast approaching.

As the grain goes into storage, one of our concerns is to protect it from insect damage.

There are two major insects to be concerned about. One is the foreign grain beetle. It does not feed on the grain but on fungi and molds. These beetles are more of a problem when corn is stored wet, poorly aerated, and not cooled down.

The other insect, the Indian Meal Moth, feeds on corn. It webs corn together with fine silken threads.

To protect corn from these two insects, thoroughly clean the storage facilities and areas around them. Also, clean augers and harvesting equipment. Then spray all surfaces with an insecticide to kill any lingering pests.

Be sure the corn is clean and dry before going into storage. Then aerate it well and drop the temperature to about 40 degrees.

Spraying the surface with an insecticide will provide additional protection. Make sure any pesticide you use is labeled for corn and follow all label instructions, especially holding times, before feeding to animals.

To Keep Maintenance Records

Keeping records is a necessity in any business.

Farming is no exception. Recordkeeping for the IRS is

Saturday, October 17

Keystone Autumn Classic Sale, Woodside Farm.

Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension annual banquet, Pine View Acres, Pottsville, 6 p.m.

Second annual Harvest Fest of York County Farmland Trust, Brown's Orchard and Farm Market, Loganville, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

"Pennsylvania's Finest Tailgate" Promotion, Penn State's Beaver Stadium, 9 a.m.

Sunday, October 18

Cambria County Dairy Club Banquet, extension office, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, October 19

Flower Growers' Day, Penn State, Keller Conference Center, University Park.

ADA/DC District 1, St. Lawrence Inn, Canton, NY, 7:30 p.m.

ADA/DC District 14, Tally Ho Restaurant, Kanona, NY, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 20

Perennials Conference, Swarthmore College.

Ephrata Area Adult Farmers meeting, Ephrata High School Ag

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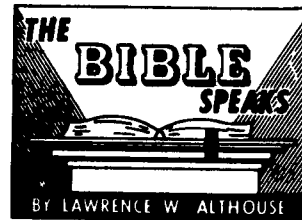
required. But keeping records of other things on the farm will help in making many management decisions.

Good records also help the farmer take better care of his equipment.

Dr. James Garth, Penn State agricultural engineer, said, "The owner's manual and a complete service log should be kept for each piece of equipment on the farm." The owner's manual tells us how often to change oil, lubricate moving parts, check belts for proper tension and wear, and how to make adjustments necessary for efficient operation.

The service log records tell us when things were done. This eliminates the need to guess when the equipment was last serviced or when repairs were made.

One of the major keys of profitability is longevity of equipment. The best way to extend the longevity of your equipment is to follow the instructions in the owner's guide and keep a service log.



LOOKING ON THE HEART
October 11, 1992

Background Scripture:

1 Samuel 16:1-13;

2 Samuel 2:1-7: 5:1-5.

Devotional Reading:

1 Samuel 16:1-13.

King Saul was an impressive-looking man. He probably would have done well in politics today. He was tall and attractive and had the look of a leader. But, although Saul looked the part, the reality was that he was a failure as king of the twelve tribes. Eventually, God said to Samuel, the prophet, "I have rejected him from being king over Israel" (1 Sam. 16:1).

What was wrong with Saul? It was not that he did not have the gifts to be king. He was capable, but he was lacking in character. In his heart there was a void and all his talents he possessed and all his impressive physical features could not make up for it. Saul, the man who had been reluctant to be king, now wanted nothing else. His initial humility had quickly turned to selfish arrogance. He probably could have been a great king, but instead of using the royal power for the sake of the people, he hoarded it for himself.

So, now God comes to Samuel, telling him that he is to anoint a new king over the twelve tribes. Of course, Saul is still king, so we can appreciate that Samuel is fearful of Saul's wrath. God instructs him to carry out his commission secretly. Go to Bethlehem as if to perform a sacrifice and ask the locals to join with you. While doing this, God will reveal to you his choice as the new king.

DO YOU COME PEACEABLY?

The response of the elders of Bethlehem is interesting: "Go you come peaceably?", they ask Samuel. Apparently, Samuel's reputation as the prophet of God causes them to stand in awe. Wherever and whenever Samuel is doing the work of the Lord there is likely to be something disturbing going on — perhaps some change; that's always disturbing! Samuel's not the kind of man who comes to drop in for a cup of tea. What does he want with us?, they wonder.

It appears that the ensuing dialogue between God and Samuel is

To Understand Part Per Billion (PPB)

Today we have the ability to detect traces of materials or chemicals at the part per billion or part per trillion level.

This is an extremely small amount that until recently would go undetected.

The following example should help you better understand what a part per billion is. If one aspirin was dissolved in 96,000 gallons of water, you would have one part per billion. If you drank one gallon of water each day, it would take over 260 years to consume that one aspirin tablet.

At the one part per trillion level, you would have to dissolve one aspirin tablet in 96 million gallons and live over 260,000 years to consume that aspirin by drinking one gallon per day.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both." — Dwight D. Eisenhower

an inner dialogue and the Bethlehemites do not realize that a momentous process is taking place. They think it is all part of the ritual. Only Samuel is aware of what is happening. So, God can act mightily in our midst without our being aware of it. In reality this was an event that would change the whole course of Israel's history, but it was taking place at the level of a prayer-conversation in Samuel's mind. You and I may sometimes discount our silent prayer-conversations with the Lord, but Samuel did not.

JUST A YOUTH

When the sons of Jesse begin to pass before him, Samuel tries to determine which of these the Lord has chosen. And he decides as most of us would decide, by appearance. Eliab looked like the right man, but God said, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him" (16:7). This was also true of Abinadab and Shammah. This may have temporarily stumped Samuel, but then it occurs to him to ask Jesse: "Are all your sons here?" Well, said Jesse, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep" (16:11).

We can well understand why Jesse didn't think it important to present David to the prophet. After all, David was just a youth and the extent of his capabilities at present was tending sheep. That's the way it looked to Jesse and that is the way it would look to most of us. But the standards by which we choose our leaders must be somewhat less than satisfactory, if you consider some of the mistakes we have made over the centuries or if you consider some of the criteria by which some people will vote for the next President of the United States.

The problem, as God puts it to Samuel, is that "the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance; but the Lord looks on the heart" (16:7). And it is what is in the heart that makes the difference!

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