

You ask You answer

This column is for readers who have questions but don't know whom to ask for answers.

"You Ask—You Answer" is for non-cooking questions. When a reader sends in a question, it will be printed in the paper. Readers who know the answer are asked to respond by mailing the answer, which will then be printed in the paper.

Questions and Answers to this column should be addressed to You Ask—You Answer, Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522. Attention: Lou Ann Good.

There's no need to send a SASE. If we receive an answer to your question, we will publish it as soon as possible.

QUESTION — Eva Eby, Manheim, would like to know how to get climatis vines to bloom.

QUESTION — Lois Burkholder, Washington Boro, wanted to know why her iris does not bloom.

QUESTION — George Ueltzen, Saylorburg, wanted to know how to get rid of carpenter bees in his barn and out buildings, which are full of holes. Nothing but a tennis racket seems to stop them.

QUESTION — Lois Burkholder, Washington Boro, wanted to know why her rhubarb goes to seed as soon as it starts growing.

QUESTION — Margaret Diamond, Kunkletown, would appreciate information on hair embroidery, instructions on the craft, items owned with a history, or items for sale. Send it to 80 Evergreen Lake, Kunkletown, PA 18058-9329.

QUESTION — Joan Francisco, Stroudsburg, would like to know where to purchase oil of cassia, used in Italian cooking.

QUESTION — Norma Jean Yankey, Mt. Solon, Va., has a Burpee pressure canner Model #AR 1525. The screw in the control valve is weak and the pressure will not register properly. Does anyone know where she can find another control valve. The canner is approximately 40 years old.

QUESTION — Yvonne Lawrence, Newburgh, N.Y., would like to know where to purchase a rhubarb and soda mixture used for indigestion. She used to purchase it in a pharmacy but finds the New York pharmacies don't stock it anymore.

QUESTION — Mrs. William Pierce, Palmyra, would like to know where to purchase antique two-bottom dishes for crock-type chicken water fountains. Must be white with 10-inch top and 8-inch bottom.

QUESTION — Esther Miller, Coatesville, and Edgar Jackson, Ligonier, would like to know how to puff wheat, rice, corn, and other grains for making cereal. Esther writes that when she visited Europe, the Austrians especially served puffed cereals and one of her favorites was puffed peas served with soup.

QUESTION — Patricia Varchol, Reinholds, writes that she started plants from seed for her large garden. She used a commercial planting mix for starting the seed, grew the plants under lights for 15 hours a day, watered from the bottom and watered only enough to keep them from drying out. She had a great germination rate, but since then has lost almost all the seedlings to damping off. Every time she has tried to start seeds, the seedlings met the same fate.

She knows it's too late this season, but are there tips or tricks to try next year to keep this from happening?

QUESTION — Kay McGrath, 68 Hunter St., Tamaqua, Pa., writes that she found an antique in the attic of a deceased relative. She believes it is a spinning wheel loom. She has a picture of it if someone collects such objects.

QUESTION — Paul Early, R.R. 1, Box 632A, Annville, Pa. 17008 has a hopper to a wheelbarrow grass seeder that was made in the 1920s. He would like to hear from someone who has the wheelbarrow part or he would be willing to sell the hopper.

QUESTION — Ruth Dundore would like the book with the following poems: Brier Rose, The Old Man Goes To School, The Station Agent's Store, and The Last Hymn. It was published about 1900.

QUESTION — Maxine Tutton, Fort Royal, Va., would like the address for a mail order company that sells patterns for clo'ing that fits cement lawn geese that are so popular now.

QUESTION — Julia Rissler, Mohnton, would like Sue Barton books by Helen D. Boylston, especially Sue Barton, Superintendent of Nurses. Call (717) 484-0515, or write to Julia at 448 Orchard Rd., Mohnton, PA 19540.

QUESTION — George Rousis, Bally, hopes to move to the Midwest or Montana in a few years. He'd like to know how to find out weather temperature highs and lows, rainfall, and snowfall for the individual states during the past 10 years.

QUESTION — Jenny Palovitch of Lancaster County would like to purchase a wrought iron bench that wraps around a tree. It may be new or used.

QUESTION — Several years ago, Harold R. Stoudt of Hamburg purchased aluminum-clad electric fence wire by direct shipment from South Star Industries in Tenn. The dealer discontinued his business. Does anyone know of the company or one that sells similar high quality aluminum clad maleable steel wire? It did not recoil when unspooled and could be hand spliced.

QUESTION — A Leighton reader would like to know the market price for goose and duck eggs.

QUESTION — Marian Mosemann, Summit Hill, would like to know where to purchase gift boxes for jellies and breads. Candy boxes are too small.

ANSWER — A Lebanon reader wanted to know where to purchase a Kistka, an instrument that resembles an old-time fountain pen that is used to apply the wax for egg decoration. Thanks to Deidre Welisewitz, Flemington, N.J., writes that a kistka and all pysanky (Easter egg decorating) needs may be found in a very complete 1995 spring catalogue called Pysanky Our Specialty, Hanusey Music and Gifts, 244 W. Girard Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19123 (215) 627-3093, FAX (609) 235-6884.

and peeled) in one layer in a simmer until tender, about 45 in and cook in boiling water to shell and brown skin while hot.



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