

Flea Control

EBENSBURG (Cambria Co.)

— You may be itching to get home at the end of your vacation. Just make sure your itch isn't the result of a house full of fleas.

Fleas may become a problem whenever dogs, cats or other furry pets share our homes. When the house has been deserted by owner and pet alike, flea eggs and larvae that have fallen on the carpet or furniture will continue to mature. And, adult fleas will be waiting to make a meal on the first warm body to cross the threshold.

To control these pests in your home, here are some suggestions

½ teaspoon cinnamon (optional)

⅔ to 1 cup sugar

4 cups fresh berries

Mix cornstarch with water or fruit juice, lemon juice, and cinnamon until smooth. Add sugar and fold in berries. Pour mixture into pastry-lined pie plate and cover with top crust or lattice top. Bake in preheated 450-degree F oven for 20 minutes. Reduce the heat to 350-degree F and bake about 40-45 minutes or until pastry is golden and the pie bubbles in the center. Cool before cutting. Serves 8.

from Penn State Extension in Cambria County.

Begin with a thorough vacuuming that includes baseboards and carpets. Vacuum under rugs and on furniture. Don't forget other areas where your pet sleeps or rests. Dispose of the vacuum bag immediately in an outdoor trash can to dispose of fleas, eggs and larvae.

Be sure to clean your pet's bedding. If the pet sleeps on your bed, wash these linens, too.

You can get a jump on flea season by applying an insect growth regulator to carpet in the spring. Wait until after temperatures reach 60 degrees F both day and night and humidity is at least 50 percent.

Insect growth regulators are chemicals that imitate a hormone produced by fleas and interfere with their development. They have low toxicity to people and pets but can prevent flea egg hatch and inhibit larval development. They are available in ready-to-use aerosol sprays, usually in combination with a synthetic pyrethroid insecticide.

Look for flea control products containing methoprene, hydroxyurea or fenoxycarb. When applying these products, concentrate on areas where pets sleep.



Berks Society 1

The June meeting of Berks County Society of Farm Women Group 1 was held at the home of Joan Haas, Douglassville. Special guest speaker to the group was Matthew Harley of Douglassville who spoke and also showed slides of his four-week trip to Holland, which was part of his senior year curriculum at Penn State University where he is majoring in criminal justice. He will graduate from the university in August.

The business meeting was conducted by President Evelyn Heacock. Members present greeted two visitors, Elaine Shannon and Debbie Shirey.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Evelyn Heacock, Boyertown. A doggie roast will precede the business meeting.

You Ask, You Answer

(Continued from Page B22)

QUESTION — Amos Stoltzfus is looking for "Got-A-Minute," a word game by Selchow and Righter. It must be complete and in playable condition. Please do not send the game without contacting him first at R.R.1, Box 106 SR 17, Blain, PA 17006-9714.

QUESTION — Rose and George Plitt of Painted Post, N.Y., grow mint in their garden. They would like to know how to package it as a dry tea. Are the leaves stripped from the plant and put on a screen to dry in the sun or the oven and for how long? How long can it be stored after drying? How much is used for a cup of tea?

QUESTION — A reader is looking for two products that she was able to purchase years ago but can no longer find them: Pine Jelly Disinfectant and Musterol, a salve to rub on your chest when you have a cold.

QUESTION — Coralie Grant, Coopersburg, would like to find an outlet for old colored feedbags, and an outlet for wool remnants suitable for making braided rugs.

QUESTION — Mrs. Snyder of Fleetwood writes that she is desperate to find out how to get rid of an army of bats that live in her attic. Every summer the bats manage to squeeze through a tight door that leads to the downstairs and terrify her small children in their beds. It is a summertime nightmare. Editor's Note: Contact the state game commissioner. We understand they will come to your home and help eradicate the bats. If someone else has a solution, please write.

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 — J. Keith O'Leary would like to know how to eliminate voles without gassing them. They seem to be too smart to trap and gassing is not only expensive but it can kill other ground-dwelling animals.

QUESTION — Jeff Connors, Perryville, Md., would like to know where a good FFA school is in Lancaster Co. or a good, clean Christian family farm, or a Virginia-style dairy barn.

QUESTION — Jeff Connors, Perryville, Md., would like to know where he can purchase a toy Farmall 560 1958 NFAN 1456.

QUESTION — L. Zimmerman, Stevens, would like to know where to get coal grates for a Frank's FWC 140 wood and coal furnace.

QUESTION — Harold Stoudt, Hamburg, would like to know where to buy a continuous timer that can be set to turn a fan on and off at preset intervals of 20-30 minutes.

QUESTION — Mrs. Joseph Boll, Harleysville, would like to know where to purchase mendettes, a small disc with a screw that fits a small hole in pans and holds the other side on.

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

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

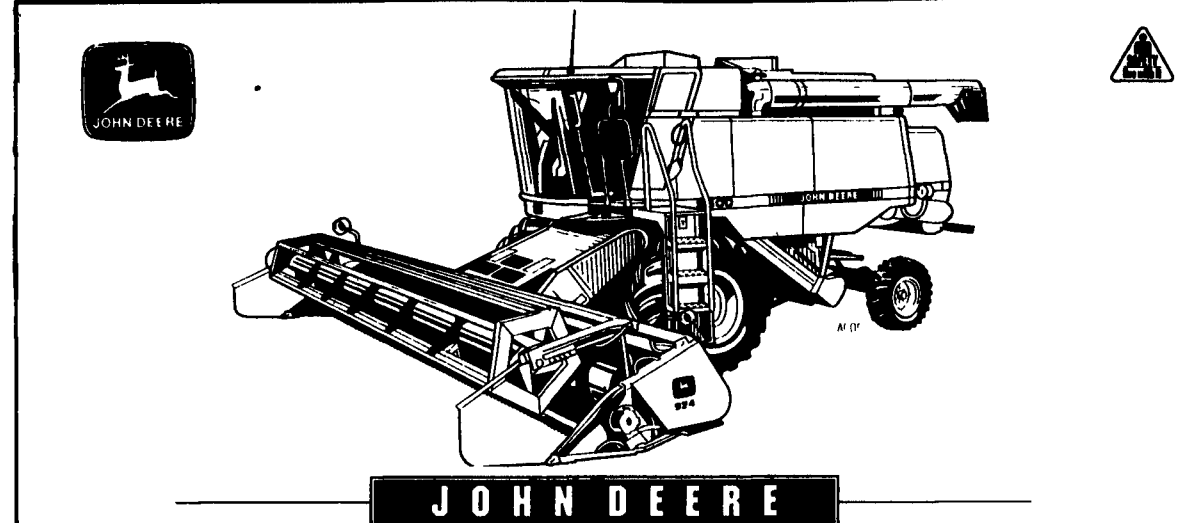
ANSWER — Esther Miller, Coatesville, and Edgar Jackson, Ligonier, wanted to know how to puff wheat, rice, corn, and other grains for making cereal. Thanks to Allen Hoover, Ephrata, who writes that puffing wheat and other grains is not a home process as it is too dangerous. Here is one way that it is done.

The grain is wetted and put in a long narrow sealed cannister. The cannister is heated until the steam pressure reaches 100 to 160 psi (depending on the cereal). The pressure is instantaneously released by opening the lid on one end. The resulting explosion puffs the grain and shoots it out of the cannister with terrific force, usually through a cooling tube and into a holding compartment.

ANSWER — Alma Grady, Falls Creek, wanted to know how to get in touch with sewing factories in the Harrisburg area to get fabric salvage suitable for weaving rag rugs on a loom. Thanks to Leona Simko, Shamokin, who writes that she has material that may interest her. Please call her at (717) 797-4712.



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