

Glickman Announces New Proposal For Organic Standards

WASHINGTON (USDA) — On Tuesday United States Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced a new proposal for uniform and consistent national standards for organic food.

"This is the most comprehensive and strongest organic standard in the world," said Glickman. "I believe that is exactly what American consumers and organic farmers want."

Essentially, the proposal offers a national definition for

the term "organic." Currently, organic food is certified by various private and state organizations that each use their own standards for the term "organic."

"A single national organic standard, backed by consistent and accurate labeling, will greatly reduce consumer confusion," said Glickman. "Consumers will know what they are buying and organic farmers will know what is expected of them."

The proposal details the

methods, practices, and substances that can be used in producing and handling organic crops and livestock, as well as processed products. It establishes clear labeling criteria and rules so that consumers know exactly what they are buying when they purchase organic food. It specifically prohibits the use of genetic engineering, sewage sludge, and irradiation in the production of food products labeled "organic."

The proposal also prohibits

antibiotics in organic livestock production and requires 100 percent organic feed for organic livestock. USDA's proposal will allow organic farmers to more easily export their products because trading partners can more easily deal with one national standard rather than multiple state and private standards.

The revised proposal is the result of careful analysis of more than 275,000 comments USDA received in response to its initial

December 1997 organic proposal.

"We listened to consumers and organic farmers and closely followed the recommendations of the National Organic Standards Board to develop a national organic standard that is better than our original proposal," Glickman said. "We believe these new standards fully meet consumer expectations and reflect current organic farming practices."

Secretary Glickman also announced several other steps the Administration is taking to promote organic agriculture. President Clinton's fiscal 2001 budget proposes five million dollars for research to develop improved organic production and processing methods, evaluate economic benefits to farmers, and develop new organic markets.

Glickman said USDA will establish a pilot organic crop insurance program to help organic farmers better manage risk. He also announced that USDA and the University of California at Davis will conduct research on organic production and ways to enhance farmers' ability to market organic fruits and vegetables.

The proposed national standard and additional steps Secretary Glickman announced this week will help stimulate one of the fastest growing sectors of American agriculture. USDA estimates that the value of retail sales of organic foods in 1999 was approximately \$6 billion.

The number of organic farmers is increasing about 12 percent per year and now stands at about 12,200 nationwide, most of them small-scale producers.

Fact sheets and other background materials on the proposed organic rule can be accessed on the web at www.ams.usda.gov/nop.

30th ANNUAL SPRING SALE

MARCH 6th To MARCH 25th, 2000

10% DISCOUNT SALE: HARDWARE • TOOLS • PAINTS • OIL • PIPE FITTINGS • IMMERGUT BATTERIES • RED BRAND FENCING • WHEEL BARROWS • EXPRESS WAGONS

RED BRAND WIRE
10% OFF Of These Prices

32 in Fence Wire, 6 in Stay	\$106 ⁵⁰
39 in Fence Wire, 6 in Stay	\$122 ⁵⁰
47 in, 6 in Stay	\$139 ⁰⁰
47 in, 6 in Stay, Solid No 9	\$210 ⁰⁰
16 Ft Hog Panels	\$16 ⁹⁵
16 Ft Cattle Panels	\$17 ⁹⁵
12 Ga 4-Point Barbed Wire	\$45 ⁰⁰
High Tensile Barbed Wire	\$29 ⁹⁵
High Tensile Wire 2,000 Ft Rolls	\$36 ⁰⁰
4,000 Ft Rolls	\$65 ⁰⁰
200 Ft Horse Wire	\$167 ⁵⁰
Keep Safe Diamond Horse Wire, 165 Ft. Rolls	\$212 ⁰⁰

We Have Special Prices On Poly Wire & Tape. All Styles Of Post & Fence For Grazing Purposes.

SQUARE TUBING GATES

4' \$38	10' \$52	16' \$67
6' \$44	12' \$57	18' \$78
8' \$47	14' \$63	20' \$88

LAWN CARTS, HOT BEDS & DOG KENNELS

★ FREE DRINKS & DONUTS MARCH 7 & 8 ★

FAMOUS NAME BALER TWINE SPECIAL:
\$20⁵⁰ Net Per Bale
Guaranteed Full Length Measure
Price Increase of \$1 00 After Sale

SPECIALS ALSO INCLUDE PAINT

15% DISCOUNT
On Orders of \$600 or more Plus your pick of free gifts

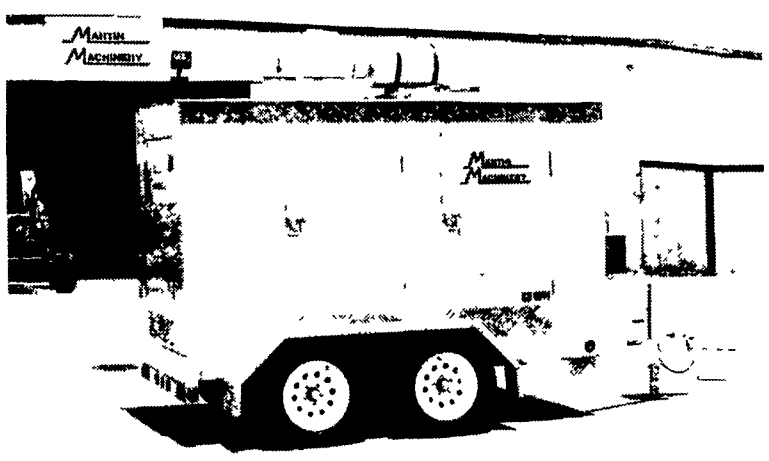
20% DISCOUNT
On orders of \$1 200
Quantity discounts must be paid by one check good by March 25

SPECIAL: 50 lb. BOX OF NAILS
\$15 per box LESS 10% during sale

CARRIAGE & MACHINE BOLTS NUTS & WASHERS
SPECIAL PRICE 95¢
Lb Net by the Pound Including Grade 5 in Machine (Full & Half Sizes)

25% OFF ALL MAKITA POWER TOOLS

VALLEY HARDWARE
958 Vintage Road, Christiana, PA 17509
Tools • Hardware
Martin Senour Paints • Kendall Motor Oils



GENERATORS

Sales ★ Service ★ Rentals
Complete Generator Systems
PTO • Portables • 2-1600 KW
We Service It If You Have It,
And Sell It If You Need It.

MARTIN MACHINERY
34 W. Mohler Church Rd.
Ephrata, PA 17522
Tel: 717-738-0300
Fax: 717-738-4329

HAY FARMERS! RED HOT DEAL ON ALFALFA SEED

BARALFA 54 NO. 1 ALFALFA in Penn State Trial
In Landisville, Lancaster County
3 Yr. Average yield 8.14 Ton.
Against 30 other varieties from 1996-98, BARALFA 54 also had highest stand score of the top 10 varieties. In the 1997 seeding Baralfa 54 had a 1998 yield of 9.89 ton.
A well proven alfalfa in this area by both dairymen and cash croppers.

BARALFA 32-IQ (Increased Quality) ALFALFA Makes More Milk
Extra Leafy
Exceptional Disease Resistance
BARALFA 32 IQ is very persistent and outperforms other varieties as years go by. In Rock Springs (PA) the variety moved from a 10th ranking in the first year to a 5th ranking in the third year! In each case Baralfa 32 IQ was not significantly different from the highest yielding variety.

Good for hay or grazing. Both have very fast regrowth.

\$10 a BAG REBATE ON ALFALFA SEED
Low Starting Cost Plus Early Order Discount

■ BARENBRUG Forages For Profit GREAT IN GRASS

AARON KING SEEDS
Fairview Fruit Farm, 96 Paradise Lane, Ronks, PA
717-687-6224
Also Available from -

Little Britain	Lebanon Co.	Perry Co	Lanc County	Centre Co.	Atglen
Landis Weaver	Lynn Fahnestock	Glenn Martin	Composters	John Glick	Sylvan Smoker
717-529-2609	717-665-7655	717-582-2730	717-293-9701	814-383-4529	610-593-2831
Manheim	E. Drumore Seeds	Ephrata Carl Martin	Blue Ball Bio Farm Service	Berks Co. Paul Keller	Cochranville Ag Service
717-665-2010	Henry King	717-733-7155	717-445-4794 800-216-1271	610-589-2614	610-869-9627

Also Available:
Baralfa 54 & 32IQ Alfalfa
BG 34 Ryegrass
Red & Alice White Clover
Chicory Bromes
Timothy Reeds
Canary Fescue
Horsemaster
Orchardgrass
Green Spirit

On Farm Test Plots

LOTS OF SEED IN STOCK

Also Available:
Brown Mid-Rib Sorghum
Blends for Intensive Grazing
Kemal Festulolium
Mega Green
Sudangrass
Hi Protein Corn
Brassicas
Forage Soybeans
Forage Oats
Triticale
Cereal Rye

LIME-COATED SEED IN STOCK

BUY, SELL, TRADE OR RENT THROUGH THE CLASSIFIED ADS IN Lancaster