Referendum called

Soybean growers to vote

A referendum on a proposed Michigan Soybean Promotion and Development program will be conducted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture June 14 through 30, B. Dale Ball, MDA director, said the proposed program, if approved, would provide for advertising, promotion, research, projects to expand markets, and market information. Administrative costs would be limited to not more than 15 percent of net income, and an exemption clause would be provided. Producers would be assessed one-half cent per bushel to finance the program.

A public hearing was held by MDA April 12 after more than 300 soybean producers signed a petition requesting adoption of a program, according to Ball.

Ballots will be mailed to the state's approximately 3,400 soybean producers, whose 1975 crop was about 17 million bushels. Ballots will also be available in the department's Lansing office and in Extension offices of soybean producing counties.

Grain marketing meet planned

The Second Annual Grain Marketing Seminar sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau will be held on June 29, 1976 at the Hilton Inn, Lansing.

The seminar is designed to help you in making management decisions in marketing which give you the best possible prices.

Among the topics to be discussed are: Market Analysis and Market Outlook; Grading and Inspection Changes and How They Will Affect You; Agricultural Finance - How To Work With Your Banker in Making Marketing Decisions.

This promises to be an interesting and educational Marketing Seminar. We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday, June 29th. The seminar will begin at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. Cost of the noon lunch will be $4.00. Please make reservations thru your County Secretary or by calling Michigan Farm Bureau, phone (517) 485-8121.

MEE Saginaw terminal to be operational by mid-July

The major Michigan Elevator Exchange Saginaw terminal is scheduled to be back in operation by mid-July. This 2,000,000-bu. complex located on the Saginaw River was put out of action January 22 by a blast and fire, but work already is underway to restore this important agri-business facility for Michigan farmers.

While work on the main head house remains to be started, a new loading and unloading leg is being installed adjacent to the storage silos, enabling the terminal to begin accepting self-unloading trucks about July 10.

The new leg, equipped with connecting belts to move grain into most of the storage silos, will tower 60 feet above the bin level.

Also scheduled for simultaneous completion are repairs to the terminal dryers which suffered some damage in the January blast.

The new installation will re-open more than 1,000,000-bu. of terminal facilities for use during the current harvest year.

Although conceived initially as an emergency measure, the new loading leg will be kept intact even after repairs are completed to the main head house. Thus, in the future, the added loading and unloading facilities will provide auxiliary services during periods of peak terminal activity.

When the new leg is completed, the terminal will be able to load grain and bean trains but renovation of facilities to load ships from the river side will have to wait until later.

The new leg will have the capacity of handling 10,000-bu. per-hour.

Structural engineers have examined foundations and basic structural strength of the area where the head house was located. This tower was virtually torn apart by the January explosion and the remnant walls had to be demolished in the interests of safety.

Plans call for rebuilding the head house as soon as the engineering analysis is completed and new designs are drafted. The head house area contains the central controls for grain moving equipment servicing the multiple silo bins. Very little of the original equipment could be salvaged following the tragic explosion and fire.

Meanwhile, work is progressing on the 2,000,000-bu. addition to the Michigan Elevator Exchange's Ottawa Lake terminal near Toledo. This addition will increase grain handling facilities by 50 percent at Ottawa Lake.

While the Saginaw MEE terminal has been out of action, the reserve facilities serving farmers at Ottawa Lake have witnessed a sharp increase in activity.

During April, for example, some 1,050 inbound truckloads of grain were received at Ottawa Lake and 150 truckloads were outbound.

The importance of both terminals to Michigan agriculture has long been recognized for their value in the marketing system. Because of this Michigan Elevator Exchange is moving rapidly to improve and expand these grain and bean handling facilities to serve Michigan farmers as the 1976 harvest season nears.
It's spreading again

Look out for the govt. umbrella

It's a popular notion today, it seems, that the average American no longer believes himself to be from being bilked, deceived or malnourished. And so he must come under the ever-expanding umbrella of "protection" provided by federal and state agencies.

The thought of some Great Protector in Washington and some other locale -- watching over our health, safety, environment, economy, etc. -- may be comforting, but let's not be lulled into complacency. The cost of being wrapped in the mythical Great Protector's "security blanket" is high -- in terms of money, loss of freedom, and a strangulation of our own private enterprise system.

Currently under consideration here in Michigan is legislation designed to -- once again -- "protect" consumers, this time against insurance companies and their high premiums. HB 6175 is known as the Assessment Bill, because it would assess Michigan insurance companies a tax, based on their premium incomes, for the operation of the State Insurance Bureau, the government agency which regulates the insurance industry. The Insurance Bureau is now financed from the state's general fund and triennial examination fees, paid by the insurance companies. Under the proposed legislation, Michigan insurance companies would carry the full load of financing the agency which "polices" them.

Sound reasonable? To many consumers and legislators, it probably does. But let's take a closer look at what it effects you -- the farmer, the Farm Bureau member, the consumer. This "fairness" looking piece of legislation, and related bills regulated by existing plans of dental care corporations, etc. -- all by the Insurance Bureau] would impose a "hidden tax" on you, regardless of whether you buy your insurance.

Consumers who expect protection from higher premium rates through this legislation will be disappointed. It's a simple matter of fact, life -- the more you pay your insurance, the less protection you get.

In addition to the economic concerns is the fact that it means more regulations, more intrusion of government into the operations of private businesses. How long can our private enterprise system -- the system which has made this young nation of ours the envy of the world -- survive in the face of continuing increases in government regulatory agencies?

The proposed legislation also opens the door for further growing bureaucracy. Government agencies -- state or federal -- have one common characteristic -- an almost unlimited potential for growth. We have no reason to believe the Insurance Bureau would be an exception to the rule. It takes a big budget and lots of highly-paid personnel to keep government agencies running. And remember -- consumer protection programs are not something you voluntarily sign up for; you shall be protected -- like it or not!

Farm Bureau members have expressed their concern, through policy, about the growing power of regulatory agencies. The result of this legislation is a "nanny state" attitude. Let's take this opportunity to execute this policy and, at the same time, reaffirm our basic belief in the private enterprise system.

First, express your concern on HB 6175 to your state representative, pointing out some of the underlying dangers. He may be of the conviction that what's good for the consumer (voter) is good for him. You may find him by employing regulations is NOT good for the consumer. You might remind him, too, that as a farmer, YOU ARE ONE of a populace growing insurance group.

Secondly, you can talk to other consumers who may not realize that there is no such thing as a "free lunch," that things we pay for have cost -- and the control. Tell them: "Do not ask for what you wish you had not got," something which happens so often today. Be demanding and get "protection" and, too late, discover they have to pay for it.

OSHA calls for new "Field sanitation rules"

New "field sanitation" regulations have been proposed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that, if adopted, would require farmers who use field labor to place toilet and hand washing facilities within a five minute walk of each employee.

According to the proposed regulations, a toilet and hand washing facility for 40 workers must be provided, except where the health officer finds that the location in which case transportation must be provided to the facilities.

M. J. Buschlen, manager of Michigan Agricultural Services Association, suggests that interested persons with comments, objections or suggested changes to the proposed regulations should write to the Department of Labor OSHA Docket Office Docket No. S-87 of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N 3620, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Room 355, 300 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

Farm News editor to go to Michigan Farmer

Jim Phillips, editor of the Michigan Farm News, is moving to the Farm News Bureau for the past two years, will be leaving the Michigan Farm Bureau June 4 to become editor of the Farm News Bureau for which he had not had a position.

In announcing Phillips' resignation, Jim Ewing, Director of Information and Public Relations, said: "Jim has made many contributions toward improving the quality of the Michigan Farm News and I'm sure members throughout the state will join me in wishing him success in his new position."

A new Farm News editor will be announced in the near future, Ewing said.
When white men learned from the Indians about corn, they also learned the Indian custom of planting corn seed with dead fish. The decaying fish, or sometimes just fish heads, would provide the necessary nutrients to ensure the survival of the newly planted seeds. Fish were also used to fertilize fields, with dead fish scattered the ground to enrich the soil with nutrients. The early settlers, however, didn't always follow this practice, and as a result, soil fertility was often neglected. The settlers' lack of understanding of proper soil management contributed to the widespread clearing of forests and the over-exploitation of natural resources. This had profound implications for the long-term sustainability of agriculture in the region.

Asparagus promotion turned down by growers

A proposal to establish an asparagus growers' association and development program was narrowly defeated in a referendum conducted in May by the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

B. Dale Ball, MDA director, said only 200 ballots were cast, although more than 300 asparagus growers had earlier signed a petition requesting adoption of a promotion and development program for the commodity.

Asparagus producers voted 129 yes, 71 no on the proposal. On a production volume basis, the vote was 64 percent yes (5,478,779 pounds) and 36 percent no (3,080,898 pounds).

Farrow is Northeast regional representative

Kenneth Farrow, former regional representative in the west region and MACMA staff member, took over regional representative duties in the Northeast region May 5. According to Chuck Burket, director of MFB's field operations division, he is replacing Bob Lee who is returning to the land and taking over the family farm.

Farrow is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a major in Agriculture. He and wife Kathy will be moving to the Northeast region shortly.

Proper Soil Stewardship Was Gradual Development on Farms

The early settlements were notoriously land-hungry. They wanted not just land, but cleared, open fields to be plowed and planted.

Taking their cue once again from the Indians, the settlers soon learned that it wasn’t necessary to clear trees down to clear a field. It was only necessary to girdle them by chopping through the bark all the way around the trunk. Thus the trees died. Whole forests were destroyed in this abused manner, and well into the 19th century, travelers could ride from the Atlantic to Missouri through endless miles of barren cemeteries.

It was but the beginning of American agriculture. With the trees dead, so leaves fell on the flowers. Sunlight could reach into the rich humus of the forest floor, which yielded a bounty of grain and vegetables and grass for livestock.

While this method of land clearing is a modern conservationist’s nightmare, it would be hard to fault the early settlers for their lack of foresight. America was land rich and labor poor. The first farmers saw no need to laboriously clear the land by felling trees and hauling them away. When the fields of one area were out, there were always fertile fields available, farther west, at a few dollars an acre.

Only the thrifty and industrious Pennsylvanian Dutch, who scorned girdling, cleared the land clean— even to stump pulling—the first season. They were the only group of settlers who made good use of the animal manure which was and is an inevitable by-product of farming.

Visitors from Europe, where cow and horse dung were properly valued, were appalled at the waste of this valuable resource in America. A huge stockyard on the estate of General Philip Schuyler, by New York’s Hudson River, was built so that the animal droppings fell through the floor to the ground below. From there, the spring rains washed the wastes directly into the Hudson river.

An English farmer visiting Ohio in the early 1800s wrote with astonishment in his journal, “I dare say the fisn we put up in does not tumble into the water less than 300 loads of horse dung every year.”

Even with all this mismanagement and waste, though, some American farmers were beginning to adopt the practices that would help change the young nation into the world’s most abundant food producer. Crop rotation was beginning to gain favor in the long settled regions, thanks partly to the introduction of the Reverend Jared Eliot of Connecticut in the mid-1700s. A Frenchman gave alfalfa to the new world.

And Jefferson, a great believer in crop rotation, was among the first proponents of contour plowing, a practice that promised to do much to minimize soil erosion.

America’s dairy families prove their worth twice a day, 365 days a year.

Twice a day— in spite of blizzards, vacations and fieldwork— those cows have to be milked. And, faithfully, dairymen do just that to make sure the test of America has enough wholesome, nutritious dairy foods, at a fair price. □ PCA has long been committed to helping the dairy business by supplying credit for buildings, equipment and improved breeding stock. □ PCA people are proud to be part of this industry and join in saluting dairy people during Dairy Month... and all year long.
CAPITOL REPORT

Robert E. Smith

The sunset law

SUNSET LAW

House Minority Leader Dennis Cawthorne has proposed that Michigan adopt the "sunset" law concept used in Colorado. This would place expiration dates upon all state programs and agencies, including social services, and would require legislative action to continue a program. Rep. Cawthorne believes the idea could be worked into budget bills for the fiscal year that is two years away. He said that such a program would "force department heads to stay more on the ball and demonstrate the programs are working." Governor Milliken will be appointed to submit a task force to study the "sunset" approach during the next year. It has been suggested that 1/3 of all state programs could be terminated each year and over a five-year period of time, all programs would be studied for their effectiveness and the renewal of any program would be based on continued need.

Many maintain that current appropriations procedures give momentum toward continuation of existing programs. However, "zero" budgeting has been in effect this year which requires many agencies to fully justify their continued existence. The "sunset" idea has much merit, however, it can be handled many ways. For example, many program appropriations essential to agriculture would be affected.

This means that the Legislature would have an opportunity to re-examine them. Farmers would have to be on their toes with strong support in order to maintain necessary support. Several important agricultural programs were targeted under the "zero" budgeting program. For example, early in the year, the Bureau of Management and Budget recommended that the fruit and vegetable inspection service program be terminated. This is an essential program for producers of fruits and vegetables and also processors and consumers. The program is 1/3 of the budget and 1/2 of the state. Farm Bureau was effective in helping to restate the program at a 50-50 cost-sharing in the recommended budget. However, the House Appropriations Subcommittee headed by Rep. Hellman has restored the 1/3 - 2/3 funding level based on last year's budget. Similar problems were involved with PFA/Funding and Soil Conservation appropriations.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

There are two tax bills now on the House calendar that will be of interest to every property owner. H.B. 6454 (Rep. Powell, et al) would eliminate last year's "sunset" proposal, provide a public right of way, such as highways, from all forms of property taxation. This could be especially important for those who have property along highway rights of way. It is estimated that about one acre in a 40 acre is taken up by the highway. Rep. Powell introduced the legislation because of a problem of a farmer in his district whose farmland is on a corner and has considered road improvements. H.B. 6139 (Mathieu, et al) amends the section of the Tax Act which defines "cash value" by adding "the assessor shall not consider normal repairs and maintenance in determining the true cash value of property for assessment purposes..." It contains a list of repairs that would not be considered "a part of a complete or substantial alteration of the property..." The above is only part of a longer list of tax provisions H.B. 6315 (Rep. Forbes, et al) has been introduced to amend the State Constitution Code of 1972. The bill broadens the agricultural definition and continues the key provision providing that "the property is "does not include a structure incident to the use for agricultural purposes of the land on which it is located, the land, part thereof, and or equipment therein."

The broadening of the agricultural definition should further help to exempt agricultural buildings from building codes. However, to be sure, farmers should check with their local officials. The Construction Code was passed in 1972 permitted local units of government to adopt recognized national building codes and in that manner, comply with the State Act. In some areas, local codes apply to agriculture.

H.B. 6306 (Rep. Gast, et al) would amend the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MISHA) by providing a new "state plan" district or greater than a federal standard covering the same or similar subject.

Page had legislation inasmuch as there have been attempts to make state standards stronger than existing federal standards, thereby eliminating uniformity, creating confusion and leading to harassment.

There are plans and bills for codification of several different sets of laws. The latest is perhaps the largest bill ever written, containing 441 pages, H.B. 6891 "a bill to protect and promote public health, to curtail, revive, consolidate, classify and regulate all laws relating to the health of the State, and to provide for the prevention and control of disease and disabilities..." Other important bills include (1) a bill to implement the federal farm price support program by establishing a state plan implement the federal farm price support program by establishing a state plan; (2) a "limitations act" to provide a road to a rational interpretation of the Single Business Tax; and (3) a "land use" bill to provide certain uses for farmland, and to restrict agriculture to certain uses.

Interest on debentures 5-15 year maturity

Farm Bureau Bureau Services, Inc. & Farmers Petroleum Co-Operative, Inc.

Interest paid semi-annually on September 1st. The purchaser to be offered the option to receive their interest in quarterly payments on September 1st, December 1st, March 1st, and June 1st. Interest would start the date of purchase.

This is neither an option to sell nor a solicitation to buy these securities. The offering is made only by the prospectus.

Single business tax amendments called for

Several efforts are being made to amend the Single Business Tax passed last year in order to moderate its impact on small businesses. Two identical bills have been introduced, S.B. 1328 (Davis, et al) and H.B. 6972 (Ostling, et al) would affect those with gross receipts of $1.3 million or less. If the federal tax is somewhat on the high side, if the state tax is $1 million or less, the state tax would be reduced by 75 percent. If it is more than $1 million but not more than $2 million, the tax would be reduced by 50 percent. If it is more than $2 million but not more than $3 million, the tax would be reduced by 25 percent.

While the Single Business Tax will not affect most farmers, many of the larger farmers may be subject to this tax. S.B. 1328, which has had a public hearing, would be helpful in that case. Farm Bureau testified in support of the bill and also recommended to the Committee other changes that should be made to the bill. The bill, which is the averaging of income of the current year plus the previous four years, would be an adjustment to the Single Business Tax amendment to the Act, but the Treasury Department has seen fit to lobby against this change, which would become effective only one year at a time. Another suggestion was that the state income should be retained by the state, and that the federal income tax should be a deductible income item.

Several other ideas are also being considered. The change to the Single Business Tax is most complex of all, as it is a step toward taxing a farmer's income and other changes are helpful to some and harmful to others.

Governor Milliken has appointed a special 37-member task force to monitor the Single Business Tax. It has been a great deal of misunderstanding on the Single Business Tax. For example, many believe that the tax is on "gross receipts", this is not true. The major figure on which the tax is based are:

1. Add: (1) Compensation; (2) interest expense; (3) depreciation; (4) net income from the business and (5) Capital Gains, if any.

2. This is deducted: (1) 20 percent of the tax paid in 1976; (2) 100 percent of any new depreciable investment; (3) interest expense from wages that are included in the tax base; (4) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (5) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (6) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (7) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (8) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (9) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (10) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (11) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (12) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (13) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (14) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (15) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (16) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (17) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (18) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (19) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (20) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (21) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (22) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (23) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (24) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (25) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (26) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (27) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (28) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (29) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (30) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (31) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (32) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (33) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (34) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (35) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base; (36) the make the tax totally deductible from the tax base; (37) Social Security and Unemployment Compensation payment, etc., from wages that are included in the tax base.
Packer bonding and disaster loans

Last month it was reported in this column that federal estate tax reform legislation would be considered by the House Ways and Means Committee following public hearings held in March. The Committee has not yet reached a decision on the final language for the legislation. Some believe the Committee will make such a decision by early June while others feel that it will be somewhat later. The Ways and Means Committee's tax reform continues to be a top legislative goal of Farm Bureau, and members will be kept informed of significant developments as they occur.

Packer Bonding

Legislation to provide protection to livestock producers who sell directly to packers and Stockyards Act to assure livestock producers of greater certainty and promptness in receiving payment for their livestock was reported in this column. Prior to action by the House, the bill was the subject of considerable opposition by the National packer and meat marketing organizations. It was also opposed by major financial institutions which finance packers. However, amendments to delete tax provisions and the packer bond provisions were defeated. The bill now goes to the Senate where the Senate Agriculture Committee is expected to consider similar legislation before June 1.

Both the House and Senate have approved a conference report of H.R. 7666. This bill would establish authority for a voluntary check-off program to finance beef promotion and research. As passed by the Congress and sent to the President for his signature, H.R. 7666 provides for registration of beef producers prior to a valid referendum. Beef producers would register by mail or in person at locations specified by the Secretary of Agriculture to seek information on the issues and events affecting the livestock industry.

Farm News In-Depth is an in-depth report on the issues affecting Michigan farmers and consumers. The following radio stations carry Accents on Agriculture, a 15-minute public affairs program focusing on the issues and events affecting Michigan farmers and consumers.

WATC Gaylord
WTVG Traverse City
WMPC Lapeer
WION Ionia
WLIS Almont
WKLA Ludington
WTVB Coldwater
WWDE Coldwater
WBN Big Rapids
WABJ Adrian
WCMC Sandusky
WCBY Cheboygan
WPKP Kalamazoo
WIEQ Big Rapids
WHFB Benton Harbor
WAGN Menominee
WDIV Charlotte
WSMA Marine City
WKYO Care
WODG Escanaba
WDIG St. Ignace
WCSR Ubly
WJTV Saginaw
WBSD Bay City
WSSO Sault Ste. Marie
WNIL Niles
WMIC Sandusky
WSMM-AM Sault Ste. Marie
WION Ionia
WMUK Kalamazoo
WDDC Traverse City
WRBL St. Johns
WJAC White Hall
WPLF Port Huron
WTRX Flint
WXNK Battle Creek
WSHN Freeland
WLEG Bad Axe
WCRW Clare
WPCH Port Huron
WSSG Sault Ste. Marie
WIGD St. Ignace
WRBL St. Johns
WJQY Bay City
WJSE New Baltimore
WJOF South Haven
WJW Cabot
WJVB World Wide
WMC Sandusky
WCSR Hillsdale
WJRT Port Huron
WHMI Howell

The Farm News In-Depth program is produced by Farm Bureau and carries on the important role of informing the public about the issues affecting Michigan farmers and consumers.

AFBF supports market system before Democrats

The American Farm Bureau Federation told National Democratic Party Platform writers May 17 in Washington D.C. that the national farm and ranch families "support efforts to maintain constitutional government by maintaining a market system, reduce government interference in the management decisions needed to stabilize the general price level, restrain monopoly, promote private enterprise and management of resources, and expand international trade."

He added that president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, said that the recommendations of the nation's largest general farm organization "will promote a climate of freedom which will lead to increased incomes for farm families and raise living standards for all Americans."

Sledge placed the control of inflation high on the list of recommendations presented to the platform committee. He said the Farm Bureau supports an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to require the congress to operate on a balanced budget each year, with provision for the waiver of the fiscal constraints only in "extreme emergencies" with the concurrence of congress and the president.

AFBF is the largest general farm organization in the nation representing a member of the American Federation, and it is dedicated to the principles of freedom which will lead to increased incomes for farm families and raise living standards for all Americans.

The Tax Policies, particularly those relating to estates, was another area of concern for Michigan farmers heard daily over these stations and the Michigan Farm Radio Network.

WPAM Ann Arbor
WBCT Bay City
WKOY Kalamazoo
WCRH Charlotte
WCMR Clare
WCCF Coldwater
WDBC Escanaba
WHTC Holland

AFBF supports market system before Democrats

To be passed on from one generation to another, to relieve unnecessary hardships on survivors, and to maintain privately owned open spaces in urban areas.

New legislative guidelines are needed, he said, to prevent any one economic group from taking undue advantage of other groups. And added, "to permit labor to maintain the monopoly power it now has is neither right nor fair."

Sledge emphasized the importance of expanding mutually advantageous international trade. He said Michigan farmers share the same objectives with American farmers everywhere.

NOW AVAILABLE

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU'S BICENTENNIAL PUBLICATION!

* Proud to Be an American?
* Proud to Be a Farmer?
* Proud to Be a Farm Bureau Member?

Then you'll want "200 Years of American Agriculture" with beautiful color photos as a bicentennial keepsake.

Includes the 1975 County Award Winners, too.
On sale following the MFB Annual Banquet Thrusday evening December 11 in Grand Rapids and all day Friday, December 12. Only $1.50 each. Or by order by mail (add $1.00 for postage and handling).

LIMITED EDITION! * DON'T MISS YOUR COPY!

Send to: Information and Public Relations Division
Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 960 Lansing, Michigan 48904

Send copies of "200 Years of American Agriculture" to:

Name
Address

Make Checks payable to Michigan Farm Bureau
Mr. Ramadhar, chairman of India's Bihar State Agricultural Marketing Board, toured MEE's Ottawa Lake grain terminal with host Bob Siedl, terminal manager. Ramadhar was especially impressed with the terminal's new drying facilities.

Michigan's "Mother of the Year" Myra Spike was honored with a special recognition award from the MFB Board of Directors. Standing by are proud sons Bill and Tom and husband Cyril.

The district 6 women's rally in Lapeer was great fun for all.

At a well-attended news background in Big Rapids MFB President Elton Smith was interviewed by Cadillac's channel 9.

These children at Livingston County's Brighton Mall are amazed to learn where wool comes from. Livingston County Farm Bureau Women sponsored the successful mall display.

This baby pig just had to be touched by an inquisitive onlooker at the Brighton Mall display.
OSHA rules go into effect

As of June 7, all Michigan farmers who hire farm labor must comply with the new Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations on proper guarding of all moving machinery parts.

"The law covers all new and old field equipment and stationary farmstead machinery. Most of the requirements stem from a common sense approach to protect the farmer, his employees and family members from potential accidents," says Howard J. Doss, Michigan State University agricultural engineering safety specialist.

While most of the new regulations concern new machinery, there are three areas in which the farmer has new responsibilities.

- Adequate guarding for power take-off drives on all farm and field equipment, regardless of the date of manufacture or purchase.
- The power drive line between the tractor and an implement must be completely guarded when the equipment is being operated. This guarding must include a master shield on the tractor PTO, except when the shield would interfere with the proper operation of the trailing implement. If the guarding devices or shield have been lost or damaged beyond repair, new PTO guards must be installed before the equipment can be operated by an employee. OSHA standards dictate that these guards must provide protection equivalent to the guards originally furnished by the manufacturer.
- All farmers must annually re-instruct their employees in the safe operation and use of stationary farm machinery and farmstead equipment they operate. Such instruction should occur immediately upon hiring new personnel.

Field equipment guarding includes all farm tractors and all harvesting and forage equipment. Self-unloading wagons, gravity-unloading grain wagons, all manure spreaders and portable grain auger mixers are also considered field equipment.

Farmstead equipment to be guarded includes auger and flight conveyors, mechanical bunk feeders, all silo unloaders, bin unloading systems, grain dryers, grinders, mixers, tables, coolers and all other types of material handling equipment.

On farm field machinery, functional components must be fully guarded so they will not substantially interfere with crop and soil conditions. This includes hinging and hunking rolls, straw spreaders and choppers, flail rotors, rotary beaters, mixing augers, feed mixers, hammer mills, augers, and feed augers must be likewise guarding.

Solid baffle style covers. Grated guards shall have the largest opening no more than 6 in. inches long. Each individual rectangular opening cannot be larger than 10 square inches but no closer than 2 1/2 inches to the rotating auger. Slotted openings in solid baffle style guards shall be no wider than 1/2 inches or looser than 1/16 inches to the exposed auger.

Here is a summary of the OSHA guarding standard, effective date June 7, 1976:

It is the responsibility of the farmer-employer to insure immediately that tractors, farm field and farmstead equipment have been equipped with adequate PTO guards — even though the standard does not go into effect until June 1977.

Signs shall be placed at prominent locations on all tractors and all PTO-driven equipment specifying that proper guarding of system safety shields must be kept in place.

Heritage of 76 Tours

July 24-August 1, 1976
August 14-22, 1976
September 11-18, 1976
(Depart and return from Detroit)

TOUR ITINERARY

Saturday - Fly American Airlines non-stop from Detroit to Boston

Sunday - Tour of Boston, Bunkerhill, Frigate Constitution, Lexington and Concord.

Monday - Tour to Plymouth, Plymouth Rock, library of John Q. Adams and birthplace of John Hancock.

Tuesday - Fly to Philadelphia to visit the restored buildings and sights of America's birthplace of liberty and freedom. Tour Valley Forge and site of the first Battle of Saratoga. Visit of Philadelphia.

Wednesday - Sightseeing to include government buildings with stop at the Whitehouse and Mt. Vernon.

Thursday - Entire day at leisure for you to visit Smithsonian Institute, Library of Congress, etc.

Friday - Special buses to Williamsburg, Va. Tickets provided for visit to attractions.

Saturday - Devoted to visiting new Buesch Gardens outside Williamsburg.

Sunday - No plans for morning. Depart in afternoon for Washington, D.C. and flight to Detroit.

COST OF TOUR $440.24 per person from Detroit.

Cost includes air transportation as outlined based on minimum group of 18 persons. Extra charge for single person: $80.00. See attached schedule for full details.

RESERVATION REQUEST

Please enter my reservation for the 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau Bicentennial Tour. Enclosed is my check made out to Hoeister Travel Service, Inc. in the amount of $75.00 deposit for each reservation. I will accept the reservation agreement for this tour. I understand I will be billed for the balance of the tour according to the schedule contained in this.

NAME

ADDRESS

Zip code: Telephone

MACMA forms direct market division

A new MACMA Division, the Direct Marketing Division, has been established by the Board of Directors to expand the sales of Michigan grown agricultural commodities. This latest addition to the other twelve operating divisions will handle the Farm Bureau "Member to Member" high quality food products program, which has grown greatly in the past several years.

Major emphasis will be placed on developing sales of Michigan produced commodities and products furnished by other state Farm Bureau marketing associations through county Farm Bureaus in Michigan.

The Direct Marketing Division sales will complement and supplement the marketing activities of other MACMA divisions. The division will have the capability of innovating in the marketing of food products direct to consumers.

The "Member to Member" program has grown in Michigan where it now includes Florida fresh mangos, Maine blueberries, pecans, and peanuts; California dates and walnuts; Wisconsin fresh cherries, Wisconsin fresh asparagus, frozen fruits, and apple concentrate. Contacts with buyers to the "Member to Member" program have revealed interest in handling Michigan grown products.

Agriquotes...

With attention to the cutlure of the future, FARM CREDIT has brought on board Emmett Erich, who is now able to double the value of an old farm in a few years and over a span in which their predecessors had nearly starved — Benjamin Rush.

Agrifacts

One or more Guiana bees were placed in blocks of fowl to prevent molting from sickness.
NOW YOU HAVE A CHOICE

✓ YOUR CURRENT HIGH BENEFIT  Comprehensive Plan
✓ THE NEW LOWER COST  Econo-Plan

SPECIAL OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD
JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 12

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COVERAGE
AUGUST 20, 1976

(SEE THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE FOR MORE DETAILS.)

Will be effective in August

Blues introduce Econo-Plan to members

Michigan Farm Bureau members will now have a choice in selecting a health care protection plan to best fit their individual needs.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan will implement a new lower cost program, called the Econo-Plan, effective August 20, 1976. Eligible members may select either plan to be effective on this date.

During a special open enrollment period (July 1 - July 12) members having a paid membership by January 31, 1976, may either change or enroll in the new plan.

Subscribers to Blue Cross and Blue Shield through the Michigan Farm Bureau group plan may switch from the current high benefit comprehensive plan. Members who are not enrolled but who had a paid membership on or prior to January 31, 1976 will have the opportunity to enroll at this time.

Cost of the new program is not yet available because new rates effective August 20, 1976 have not been issued. However, a comparison of the current rates shows that the new Econo-Plan will be approximately 30 percent lower.

Lower costs are achieved by subscribers sharing in the cost of services provided under the new plan. This can be illustrated by a comparison of basic coverage benefits. (All benefits are based on usual, customary, and reasonable charges.)

I. Comprehensive Plan
Hospital Benefits:
365 days of hospital care
Full cost of hospital room (Ward or Semi)
Full cost of meals, general nursing care, special diets
Additional hospital services covered in full

Full cost of hospital outpatient care (except medical emergencies)
Maternity and Nursing Care
Medical Surgical Care Benefits:
Surgery - including pre & post operative care
Anesthesia - by a physician anesthetist other than physician in charge of case.

Technical surgical assistance
Obstetrical care
Medical care
Unlimited consultations
Emergency first aid
Radiological therapy
Diagnostic x-rays
Diagnostic laboratory and pathology
Master Medical Benefits
H. Econo-Plan
Hospital Benefits:

You have the same hospital benefits described above in the Comprehensive plan except you share the cost by paying 30 percent of the charges for covered services you receive - up to a maximum of $500.00 for each inpatient admission.

Medical-Surgical Benefits:
You receive the same Medical-Surgical benefits as described in the Comprehensive plan above except you share the cost by paying 30 percent of physicians' reasonable charges for covered services received. There is no maximum dollar cutoff for payment on these services.

For diagnostic laboratory and Pathology benefits you share the cost by paying your physician $5.00 for each service (with no sharing of the cost if the services are performed while you are hospitalized except for electrocardiograms).

Complementary Care (Medicare Recipient)

1. Comprehensive Plan
Part A - Inpatient Hospitalization
Blue Cross and Blue Shield pays the first $104 and the $26 a day from the 61st day to the $104, after the 365th day, until the 45th day in a lifetime reserve day used.

Part B - Professional
For members enrolled in Part B, Blue Cross and Blue Shield pays the first $104 per year and 20 percent of the remaining reasonable costs as required for services covered by Part B - excluding charges for regular medical home and office calls.

Master Medical Benefits
II. Econo-Plan

Part A - Inpatient Hospitalization:
The benefits are the same as the Comprehensive Complementary contract except Blue Cross and Blue Shield will not pay the first $104.

Part B - Professional:
The same as the Comprehensive Plan but does not pay the first $60 per year and also excludes regular medical home and office calls.

Master Medical Benefits:
The new Econo-Plan does not include services covered under the Master Medical program.

The next opportunity to change plans will come at the next scheduled Blue Cross and Blue Shield open enrollment period. This is usually held in March for an effective date of May 20.

To enroll or to change plans, members must complete a new application card which is available at the County Farm Bureau Office. The county secretary can offer assistance in enrollment or in providing additional information on the program.

Young Farmers announce four topics for 1976 discussion meet competition

Four subjects have been selected by the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Advisory Committee to be the official 1976 Discussion Meet topics.

The topics are: 1. What should be the position of Farm Bureau relative to the further development or continuance of social programs? 2. What should be the role of Farm Bureau for agriculture in an expanding urban environment? 3. What should be Farm Bureau's role in providing America's transportation needs in the next decade? 4. What is the impact of vertical integration on agricultural production and marketing needs?

The four topics will be used during Young Farmer discussion meets at the district level in the fall and later and the state annual meeting in December where Michigan Farm Bureau's state meet winner will be chosen.

The state winner will go to the AFBF annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii in January 1977 to compete in the national contest. Michigan's state discussion meet winners for the past two years have been AFBF finalists.
Fun for all

4-H sponseres "Salute 76"

East Lansing -- Doc Severinsen, the Tonight Show's trumpeter, has announced that The Tonight Show's trumpeter, playing his ever-changing, ever-shifting, and his nightly "bantering" with Carson. Severinsen began playing the trumpet at the age of 9 and has never had the storm's music contest.

Before he finished high school "Doc" went on the road with Riba's band, doing his homework when he wasn't playing his horn. Upon graduation from high school "Doc" played with big band favorites like Tommy Dorsey, Carleton Barnett and Benny Goodman.

While still in his early twenties, Severinsen went to New York and was hired as an NBC staff musician. He played on dozens of shows being a member of Skitch Hendarson's orchestra.

"Doc's" performance at MSU will be the first concert ever to be held in MSU's Spartan Stadium. Advance concert tickets are $5 and available by writing to Salute Seven, 175 S. Anthony, MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824 before June 15. The concert will begin June 16 at the door for $5.50. All proceeds will be used for the support and expansion of the Michigan 4-H program.

Throughout the day, and after school, entertainment will be provided by 4-H members who will perform on "Salute's" three stages - the open stage, the show boat and the dance hall.

"Salute 76" will provide the opportunity for the general public to attend an all-day birthday party for America.

The day's activities will include antique car exhibits, parades, a baby animal farm, auctions and antique and traditional craft demonstrations and much more.

There is no general admission charge.

Activities begin at 9 a.m. and conclude with a final salute at 6 p.m. The event is jointly sponsored by the Michigan 4-H Foundation and Cooperative Extension Service.

Agrifacts...

In 1925, the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture offered a $5,000 prize to any person who could produce cow's milk, worth $50 to any person who could produce cow's milk, worth $50, without using any artificial agencies on his property, except when prescribed by a physician, for a period of two years. There was no claimant for the prize and home dairying for many years was the chief cash crop of farmers.

Agriquotes...

"The Pilgrims are used to a plainer cuisine and life and ye innocent trade of husbandry," said William Bradford, Governor of the Plymouth Colony in describing early farmers.

Per capita civilian milk consumption in 1975 approximated 4/S gallons on a milk-eqivalent basis, according to the dietary guidelines. This means expressing dairy products in terms of the amount of milk of standard butterfat content that would be required to produce the product. For example, this could be a consumer drinking 156 quarts of whole milk in 1975.

Milk's Role in History

Milk is milk is milk. Even Gertrude Stein would have agreed that milk is important and essential to present and future of tomorrow.

Milk's sole function in nature is to serve as food, not as water or a nutrient. The functions of milk in the Old Testament, the Promised Land are described as a 'land flowing with milk and honey.'

Today, domesticated cows produce most of the milk consumed by humans. But other milk-producing animals are the water buffalo of India and South West Asia, with its strong-flavored milk primarily used to make a form of butter, the yak of Central Asia and the pinu a, a cross between a yak and a yellow cow, found in China and Mongolia. Desert-dwelling Arabs enjoy soured camel's milk and Arctic Laplanders milk reindeer. Mare's milk is drunk by various primitive peoples, but the llama, once a milk-producing animal, is now a beast of burden in South America, valued for its wool.

Pre-Domesticated Era

Prior to 10,000 B.C., the ancestors of today's cows were hunted as wild animals. Many of the primitive cave paintings in Spain (carbon-14 dated as 20,000 B.C. to 12,000 B.C.) show caves, which indicates an era of pre-domestication of these animals. Other paintings depict scenes of cows and cattle.

The milk trail through unrecorded history finds cows everywhere from caves and fossilized bones to temples, sleeping fossilized on plains and in caves and migrating to great rivers and grazing areas.

No one really knows when man discovered that the milk of animals was good food for humans. Perhaps a nomad became the first dairyman.

In the beginning, nomads milked whatever animals they could catch. Later, they followed the animals from one grazing area to another. According to Sandburg, the nomads lived in hovels "which could be erected in a few hours, and left again as the cattle moved into higher ground in the approach of spring or descended into the valley when winter approached."

It is generally believed that the people of Southwest Asia were the first to feed and care for animals in order to collect their milk. As the nomads settled for food and learned to grow some of their food, they discovered that the milk-giving animals could also be used for work. They already knew the animals could provide meat, so the first multi-milk ing animals was begun.

During the Neolithic Age, early man learned to grow some of their food, they discovered that the milk-giving animals could also be used for work. They already knew the animals could provide meat, so the first multi-milk ing animals was begun.

Modern Milk Period

There were no cows in America before the arrival of Europeans. Some historians believe that the Vikings may have brought cattle to North America about 1000 A.D. but some survived. Columbus brought long-horned cattle from Spain to Santo Domingo. Their descendants found their way to Mexico and finally became known as Texas longhorns.

The first cows arrived in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1611. And four years after the Pilgrims survived starvation and disease, cows were brought to New England in 1624.

Man has long been aware of milk's value, but it wasn't until science and industry combined to refine the process that milk was provided as the safest milk in the world. Leeuwenhoek's discovery of spermatozoa in 1750 and Mendel's results of genetics in 1900, led to 200 years later made possible the breeding of high-producing cows through artificial insemination.

There are some of the great developments that led to today's highly sophisticated and efficient dairy industry.

- Pasteurization was standardized as a process by which milk was heated to 145 degrees, held 30 minutes and then cooled.

- A Frenchman, A. Gaulin, developed homogenization, which blends butterfat globules back into milk so that the heated liquid through small apertures, then cracking it as it strikes a smooth surface under great pressure. The first commercial success with homogenized milk was made by a Michigan dairy in 1834. Today nearly all fresh milk in the U.S. is homogenized and most of it is fortified with vitamin D.

- The first railroad tank car for transporting milk was introduced in 1822. Later, this design was adapted to truck bodies.

- The milk wagon, with its stop-and-go horse, was replaced by the first step-and-drive trucks in 1926. Today the industry boasts refrigerated tankers and trucks, automatic dairy products, steel piping and holding tanks and computerized, automated processing plants for a wide range of products.

- For the last hundred years, geneticists, physiologists, animal husbandmen, veterinarians, biochemists, even climatologists, have taken advantage of the adaptable nature of the dairy cow to produce harder, healthier and more productive breeds.

Yet, milk has been vitally important to man through his history of growth and change.
Ask your Farm Bureau Services dealer a question about today's farming methods... he'll either have the answer right away, or he'll find out for you fast. He can draw on the services of such specialized Farm Bureau experts as a seed specialist, agronomist, veterinarian, nutritionist, agricultural engineer, farm fuel specialist, chemicals specialist and grain and bean marketing specialists.

He is also backed by seven cooperative research farms all over the country, an international cooperative-owned fertilizer company, and shipping experts... all working to develop more rewarding and easier farming methods for you.

As modern agriculture finds better ways of doing things, find out about them from us, the Farm Bureau people.

For an informative brochure on Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum, write: Farm Bureau Services/Farmers Petroleum Marketing Services Division, Box 960, Lansing, MI 48904.

ASK THE FARM BUREAU PEOPLE
Lamb care is essential

Good lamb care is even more important this year in view of the recent commercial market recovery.

"Lambs can reach Choice market grade directly off pasture but they also use grain efficiently, reaching market Choice at a younger age than when maintained only on pasture," says Stephen Baertsche, Michigan State University Extension sheep specialist.

Lambs start eating 10 days to two weeks after birth, making efficient use of hay and grain provided in a good creep ration such as 40 pounds of cracked corn, 10 pounds of soybean meal, 3 pounds of trace mineral salt and 2 grams of antibiotic (Aureomycin or Terramycin).

"Feeds must be kept clean and fresh, in easy-to-reach dispensers. Place good quality legume hay in the creep area, preferably in a rack hanging over it. Replace hay daily and give the unused to the ewe" Baertsche says.

Adequate roughage intake is important in preventing enterotoxemia (overeating disease), even when antibiotic is used in the creep. Vaccination is the best way to prevent the disease. The first should be given when the lambs are 7 to 10 days old and a booster given about two weeks later.

Lambs are also susceptible to white muscle or "stiff lamb" disease, resulting from selenium and-or vitamin E deficiency, both essential for good health.

Lambs become stiff or lame in one or more legs and may die suddenly when the heart or diaphragm muscles are affected. If the deficiency is present at birth, it is especially dangerous, according to Baertsche.

An injectable product containing selenium and vitamin E is available from veterinarians and can be given to ewes as a preventive six weeks before lambing. It may be given to lambs a few days after birth.

Lambs born March 15 and fed on adequate creep ration can be weaned by May 15. Keep market lambs on the creep ration until they are sold. Those kept for breeding may be turned to pasture after weaning but a good parasite program must be followed.

Common stomach worms cause the most problems but nodular worms and tapeworms can also be serious. Prevention is called drenching - giving the sheep medicine to control the problem.

The first step in controlling most of these internal parasites is to feed phenothiazine (a worming material) each day in the salt. Mix 1 pound of phenothiazine with 10 pounds of trace-mineralized salt and keep it before the flock at all times in a salt box that protects the mixture from the weather.

Small flock owners will usually find it more convenient to buy a commercial phenothiazine and salt mixture from a farm elevator or feed store.

Sheep also may become infested with two kinds of external parasites - lice and ticks (keds). When sheep rub a great deal and the fleece looks rough and stringy, lice are likely present. There are two kinds of lice - biting or chewing and blood sucking. They can be seen if the wool is parted near rubbed areas on the skin.

Sheep ticks are wingless brown flies about one-fourth inch long. They spend their entire life on the sheep but crawl readily from ewes to lambs and other sheep whenever the animals are in close contact.

Large numbers of ticks cause serious damage, especially to young lambs, by sucking blood. Shearing ewes before they lamb helps control ticks because they do not survive easily on a freshly shorn sheep.

Lice and ticks can be controlled by dipping, spraying or dusting. Two treatments exactly 14 days apart are necessary for lice. The second treatment kills the young lice that hatch from eggs present at the first treatment.

An important part of flock care is providing adequate, clean water. Sheep and lambs will drink about a quart of water for each pound of dry feed they eat. Ewes eating four pounds of hay per day will drink about one gallon of water daily.

The need for water increases during later gestation and when ewes and young lambs are nursing. For greatest production during these periods, ewes must have an unlimited water supply.

Suggestions on caring for the flock may be obtained from numerous bulletins available through the county extension office.

In response to this concern, Milliken checked into ongoing investigations and found that the FDA was testing a number of Farm Bureau elevators.

Grains were tested from the following elevators: Farm Bureau Services - Battle Creek (2); Fremont Coop Production Company, Hesperia; Farm and Feed Company, Farm Bureau Services - Stanwood, Farm Bureau Services - Battle Creek (2). (Cont. on page 15)

FDA says:

FBS feed mills clean of PBB

Gov. William G. Milliken announced results in early May of feed and fertilizer tests that were conducted in response to the contention of some Michigan farmers that tests were continuing to receive grain contaminated with PBB.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted spot checks at 12 Farm Bureau feed mills and reported that it detected no PBB in any of the samples of feed collected.

"I am reassured by the tests results furnished by the FDA," Milliken said, "and hope that this information will help reduce the anxiety that continues to be expressed over this problem."

Milliken has met with a number of farming groups on the PBB issue. In some of these meetings farmers have expressed a concern that contaminated grain continues to be marketed.

In the case of PBB, the AFB is living in the grain with its "nose" on the grain, not affected by the PBB. The FDA would have to prove that there was a "nose in the nose." The FDA never proved there was a PBB nose in the nose and PBB was never detected in samples of feed by them. PBB was never found in Michigan feed samples.

mfrn

farmers of the week

QUALITY FARMING OPERATIONS • AGRICULTURAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Leland Sanford 880 acre Bratsch County dairy farm • Member of MFB state board • Chairman of MFB dairy advisory committee • Member of board of review.

Richard Wieland 1060 acre Astrum County dairy farm • Member of MFB dairy advisory committee • Member of school board for eight years • Member of county planning committee.

James Quisenberry 160 head Montcalm County dairy farm • Delegate on MMPA board • County Farm Bureau member • Bel Dene community group chairman • Member of township board of review.

Robert Howland 640 acre Lapeer County dairy farm • Lapeer County Farm Bureau membership chairman • County DHIA board • Former MMPA market committee chairman • Member of MFB dairy advisory committee.

sponsored by MICHIGAN FARM RADIO NETWORK AND FARM BUREAU INSURANCE GROUP TM

the effective answer to control of flies on the dairy farm

Flintrol

Total-electric fly exterminators

The Flintrol® system is a highly efficient, proven method of controlling flies and other flying insects in food, industrial and agricultural processing plants, dairy barns and other areas plagued by flies.

- Attracts flies and kills on contact, trapping and containing their remains. Operates 24 hours a day.
- Limits or no gas, odor, chemical or basic substances that could cause product contamination.

ONLY FLINTROL OFFERS:

- (1) Allanodized aluminum construction.
- (2) 5-Year Warranty on each unit.
- (3) Bright red bulb that is twice as effective as other black light bulbs.

For further information: Clip and mail to John J. Smith, Box 43, Wilsonville, Michigan 48895 Phone 213-415-1104
DAIRY NOTES

The M-W series price for the month of April was down 54.4. This is a drop of 16 cents per pound compared to the March M-W series price. This move reflects the normal downward trend in milk prices during the spring flush production season. Butter and cheese stocks remain at relatively low levels accounting for the strong demand for manufacturing milk that we have experienced in recent months.

Utilization of Class I and Class II milk in April decreased 3.04 percent and 2.07 percent respectively from April, 1973. Class III utilization increased 23.30 percent from a year ago. All experts are looking at the M-W series price to continue downward in the next few months with the bottom being somewhere in the 55 to 56 range. The second half of 1976 should see the usual seasonal increases in price, but not as much of an increase as was experienced in late 1975.

The Crop Reporting Service indicates that farmers are planting cotton, okra, corn and hay this year. This should indicate that, if the weather is good, the milk-feed ratio should be favorable in the coming months.

COUNTERVAILING DUTY THREATS EFFECTIVE. Imports of quota type cheese last year were equivalent to only 61 percent of the calendar year quota (Table 1). Although no countervailing duties were imposed on dairy imports in 1975, the threat that the U.S. might impose additional duties to offset any subsidies on imported cheese substantially reduced cheese imports. Farm Bureau filed two of the threats—requests that the U.S. Treasury investigate cheese prices from Switzerland and Austria.

Bertie Bishop, Marketing Specialist
Market Development Division

TABLE 1. IMPORTS OF QUOTA TYPE CHEESE, UNITED STATES, 1975

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Calendar Year Quota Imports</th>
<th>Thous. lb.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cheese, Quota Types:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American-Ceddar</td>
<td>10,935</td>
<td>10,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian-Original</td>
<td>6,056</td>
<td>6,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11,501</td>
<td>10,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian-Original</td>
<td>1,496</td>
<td>1,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edam and Gouda-Natural</td>
<td>9,204</td>
<td>9,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed</td>
<td>3,156</td>
<td>3,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Mold</td>
<td>5,017</td>
<td>4,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Emmentaler</td>
<td>3,040</td>
<td>3,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gruyere-process, 92c</td>
<td>11,425</td>
<td>5,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other-Over 0.5 percent fat</td>
<td>40,730</td>
<td>17,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 0.5 percent fat</td>
<td>9,801</td>
<td>9,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>127,700</td>
<td>81,120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By Greg Sheffield

FRUIT

Cold weather and poor pollination have combined to create a problem of sizable proportions for fruit growers. These problems have dealt a severe setback to growers not involved in Michigan but in states such as Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, and Appalachia. Packers as well as growers share in the concern. While there may be scattered areas which escaped frost and unseasonably cold weather, 1976 does not stack up at this point in time as a very good year for most fruit growers in the East and Midwest. Certainly at this juncture it is only speculation to state that prices will be high but this has invariably been the case when short crop conditions have prevailed in the past. However, high prices will probably mean very little to most producers this year!

Paul E. Kindiger
Director
Market Development Division

VEGETABLES

Asparagus growers in Michigan have settled on a price for processing grades. The base price for number one grade will be 27 cents with a premium for select grade. These prices and others were recently established by mutual agreement between growers and processors. Although there have been no new problems this year put on the cold weather in Michigan. In some cases producers have already lost 2 or 3 cuttings from this season's crop.

A final note—The recent referendum on the federal anti-trust re-


dedium put before Michigan asparagus growers was defeated by a very narrow margin. With only a handful of additional affirma-

votres the Check-Off program will become a reality. There were many growers, according to M.D.A. officials, who signed petitions but did not vote on this important issue.

John E. Kindiger
Director
Market Development Division

Supply Report

By Greg Sheffield

The rubber workers' strike at first did not hurt Farmers Petroleum dealers because they had adequate supplies going into the spring season. But now, as warehouses are being put under pressure and supplies are tightening up fast. Farmers Petroleum dealers can still offer more tire sizes, but if you need 'em, get your tires right away and be sure.

FERTILIZER - The trend is now toward less fertilizer being available where dry nitrogenous fertilizers are used. Farmers who applied fertilizer to their fields are ahead of many farmers who delayed weather, and planting is now going on at a furious pace. With farmers anxious to get planting chores over with, supplies of anhydrous ammonia, dry fertilizer, herbicides, and root-wool materials are being drawn down fast. Corn planting in- tentions are always low but this year, with many dealers to replace rapidly, Farm Bureau dealers, however, are experiencing a shortage of space, having prepared for this eventuality.

Pesticides - When the planting season started, pesticides disappearance was ahead of the crop. Preferred rootwool chemicals will be short in the state. Farmer Weather will signal the middle of May some dealers to replace rapidly. Farm Bureau dealers, however, are experiencing a shortage of space, having prepared for this eventuality.

SEEDS - Corn and other seed producers have been moving at a steady pace. So far the 1976 crop is ahead of the 1975 crop. Earlier weathers caused delayed seed-sowing, but the Michigan Soybean Producers Association have been working hard on the proposed program for the promotion of soybean products. This program, if approved by the farmers, will provide for advertising and promotion, research, projects to expand markets and market information.

Producers would be assessed one-half cent per bushel to finance the program. There will be an exemption program which provides the opportunity for any producer to participate in the Check-Off Program to get his money back. Ballots will be mailed to the states approximately 5,400 soybean producers by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The referendum will be conducted between June 1th and June 30th and will provide you, the producer, the opportunity to decide whether or not you will participate in the Check-Off Program.

Paul E. Kindiger
Director
Market Development Division

Commodity Futures Trading

BUY OR SELL

Meats, grains, metals for future delivery sugar, potatoes.

Call or write: Milt Tyner
23077 Greenfield Rd. Suite 158
Southfield, Mich. 48075
Phone (313) 557-6587

Universal Cooperatives, Inc. also owns The Farmers, a co-op in Canton, Ohio, which may have the best prices in the nation.

FEEDS - Increasing market prices of soybean meal should reinforce the fact that feed is an important consideration for livestock producers. Farmers who feed soybean meal in their ration will see an increase in the cost of their feed.

PACKERS - The board of directors of the National Live Stock and Meat Board will be meeting in Kansas City to decide if there are sufficient profits to pass on to the farmers, the company which handles the meat.

FARMER'S BID - The only farm supply store in Michigan which sells farm supplies at the lowest prices is the Farmer's Bid. The store is located at 23077 Greenfield Rd. Suite 158, Southfield, Mich. 48075.

New Refinery - The time this is printed, you are

(Cont. on page 15)
Summer is fair season in Michigan

Join in the fun and excitement at Michigan fairs this summer. The season opens July 1 with 85 county, 4-H and agricultural fairs and two state fairs scheduled.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Ball said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States.

"There’s something of interest for everyone," said Director B. Dale Hall of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "Animal shows, agricultural, educational and commercial exhibits, family entertainment, prize-winning contests, and midway rides are major attractions.

"Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange between consumers and the producers of Michigan’s agricultural bounty. There are nearly 50 important crops produced in our state," Hall said. Michigan has some of the most productive agricultural land in the United States. Counties can earn from FBIG

County Farm Bureaus without offices have collected more than $2,400 from Farm Bureau Insurance Group for devoting at least half of one meeting to insurance topics.

Through a program designed specifically for non-office counties, FBIG agreed to pay 50 cents a member to each county that reserves at least half of one meeting to an insurance presentation. Also as a requirement for the payment, the County Farm Bureau must make a special mailing of insurance information to all members, inviting them to attend the meeting.

Counties have three insurance topics to choose from — Estate Planning, Worker’s Compensation, and Individual Retirement Plans. Presentations are made by representatives of FBIG.

Thirty-two counties with a total of 11,443 members are eligible to participate in the reimbursement program. Several counties have already taken advantage of the program.

Donna

(Cont. from page 2)

Those eyes seem to look right inside you, transmitting wordless queries about what you’re doing, what you’re thinking and why you’re doing it.

It was an inquisitive cow’s eyes that kept me on the straight and narrow once upon a time when I was a teenager. Parked on a lonely country lane one moonlit night, my date and I were startled by a curious cow looking through the car window. No amount of sweet-talk could convince me that the cow wouldn’t be disappointed if I failed to remember my mother’s teachings.

So, you see, there’s a lot more to a cow than dairy products. And every June, I’ll continue to pay tribute to Bossy, for my own personal reasons.

Start your pigs with AUREOMYCIN feed additive per ton of complete feed. Compared with the typical “growth-level” antibiotic, 50 grams of AUREOMYCIN gives you added disease protection, ensuring excellent weight gains and improved feed efficiency. It aids in prevention of bacterial enteritis. Maintenance of weight gains in the presence of atrophic rhinitis. And reduction in the incidence of cervical abscesses. And there’s no withdrawal required.

Now, if all this isn’t enough to get you to take a closer look at your hog finishing feed tag, consider this. You can probably switch from 20 grams of another antibiotic to 50 grams of AUREOMYCIN without it costing you a penny! Check it out with your feed supplier. And ask for details of the AUREOMYCIN GUARANTEE.

You have nothing to lose and a whole lot to gain.
America's food the worlds most healthful

Not all revolutions lead to the downfall of governments. Some are quiet and unnoticed, for a while at least. These are social revolutions. This briefly concerns one of them.

In the past few years a great growth has occurred in the authority of government to regulate consumer goods...
**AFBF supports market system**

(Cont. from page 5)

farm exports (1) reduce farmers' incomes needed to support domestic markets which are already well supplied, and (3) have a detrimental impact on the balance of payments situation.

The North Carolina Farm Bureau President told the FDA says:

(Cont. from page 11)


The Michigan Department of Agriculture, in response to specific charges, said checked the Evart Milling Company in Evart and the Kent Elevator Company in Ada, and reported no detectable traces of FB, Milliken said.

**Capitol Report**

(Cont. from page 4)

powers and duties of departments and boards, etc., other agencies, transfers of properties, penalties, removal and removal of licenses, if such a bill will not receive consideration before the Legislature adjourns, but, like all proposals to codify laws, will be a time-consuming and possibly controversial issue for the Legislature.

NEW: Among the bills recently signed by the Governor are H. B. 5513, clarifying areas

where a shotgun is permitted in hunting during deer season and S. B. 1207, permitting voter initiation of township highway projects by petition of 51 percent of the voters, or objection to a petition by 20 percent of the voters.

**UTILITIES**

Capitol Report Page in this Michigan Farm News outlined the rate changes by the Public Service Commission which approved a revised rate system.

Farm Bureau notified the Commission of farmers' concerns with such a system. The FS has now assigned a person to work with Michigan Farm Bureau on what problems may be created by inverted rates. Presently the inverted rates have been mandated by the Commission for the Pacific Gas & Electric Power Companies. We have also been notified that it is unlikely that the inverted rates could be extended to other, smaller utility companies in the state, such as the cooperatives.

**OBSCENITY LAWS**

Michigan's obscenity laws are at last being written to comply with the Court rules. The first of a series of bills is H. B. 5916, re-writing the statute, is presently before the House; it will bar dissemination of obscene materials to minors. These include books, motion pictures, photos, or anything else that would be deemed harmful to the development of these minors.

Distribution of such material would be punishable by up to two years in jail and/or a $10,000 fine. Displaying such material would carry a 90-day to 5-year sentence. Offenses occurring later by the House Judiciary Committee will deal with non-complying adults and then convicting adults.

---

**FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE**

PAGE 15

**AFBF supports market system**

Price support and production adjustment programs should be financially self-supporting, rather than fix prices, he added.

"We are opposed to government support of commodities. Such reserves are bad for producers, costly for taxpayers, and unnecessary for the protection of consumers," he said.

To have some control over federal government, particularly over items that affect our citizens' lives, sludge recommended that all legislation creating new agencies or expanding authority of existing ones should include specific provisions for continuation beyond the life of the Congress.

AFBF plans to present an idea for a national pork producers' panel to the Republican party platform committee in August.

---

**Today—It Pays**

Don't Forget — Don't Forget Your Farm Bureau Membership

---

**FARM EQUIPMENT**

FOR SALE - 10 ft. Clay 12 inch mangler, sugar beets, hay, corn, etc. $450.00. Also 10 x 3000 simple self-tie broadcaster spreader. No. 30 14 inch single tine, 40 ft. wide, 12 inch tine thirty pitch hitch, both three row wide. P.O. Box 240, New Ulm, Minn. 56073. (5.6t.25p)

WE SELL AND SERVICE NEW AND USED SMITH & ASKEE, rebuilt used singles, install complete line of new and used equipment ranging in size from ground storage, Silva-marine unloaders and complete manure systems, including above ground storage. Silo-matic unloaders and complete manure systems, including above ground storage. Smith & Askee, Detroit, Mich. 48207.

DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH MATERIAL WOULD BE PUNISHABLE BY UP TO TWO YEARS IN JAIL AND/OR A $10,000 FINE. DISPLAYING SUCH MATERIAL WOULD CARRY A 90-DAY TO 5-YEAR SENTENCE. OFFENSES OCCURRING LATER BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WILL DEAL WITH NON-COMPLYING ADULTS AND THEN CONVICTING ADULTS.
NOW YOU CAN AFFORD MORE LIFE INSURANCE THAN YOU THOUGHT!

Announcing new Whole Life Insurance with Extra Protection Which We Call PROTECTION PLUS from Farm Bureau Life

The new Protection Plus Policy with the Extra Protection Option* ... designed to provide you with a minimum of $30,000 worth of life insurance protection. The kind of sound coverage you want for your family and your estate ... the secure kind of protection you need these days.

Now, with Protection Plus, you can close the gap between the amount of life insurance you need and the amount you feel you can afford. Because, the Extra Protection Option makes the Protection Plus Policy different from most other types of whole life insurance. And that's a big plus ... for you and your family!

Your First Policy?
Consider Protection Plus. Even if you're just starting out, you may be able to afford much more life insurance than you thought. For example, if you're in your early twenties you could pay less than $30 per month and have $30,000 worth of protection.

Building an Estate?
With Protection Plus you can create an immediate and guaranteed estate for your family ... one which assures the kind of substantial protection you want for them if something should happen to you. You get more protection and cash value for estate planning with a Protection Plus Policy ....

Your Farm Bureau agent will be glad to answer all your questions and show you how Protection Plus can work for you. Contact your Farm Bureau agent today ... listed in the Yellow Pages.

*Dividends are based on current scale and are neither estimates or guarantees for the future. If dividends are reduced or not paid in the future it may cause a reduction or elimination of the supplemental coverage.