

# MICHIGAN FARM NEWS



July 15, 1994

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## Smaller Michigan Cherry Crop Expected

Below, enumerators begin the long process of counting cherries in developing the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service tart cherry forecast.

Michigan's 1994 tart cherry crop is estimated at 185 million pounds available for harvest, according to the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service (MASS). That represents a 31 percent decrease from last year's crop of 270 million pounds, and is 4 percent below the 1989-93 average of 193 million pounds.

That projection is slightly higher than an earlier industry estimate of 179 million and should provide Michigan cherry producers a profit opportunity, according to Randy Harmson, general manager for the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association.

"Of course, the big unknown at this point is the impact of the severe winds and rains that we've experienced recently," Harmson said.

The MASS yield projection is based on conditions as of mid-to-late June, and assumes 53 pounds per tree. There are an estimated 3.5

Continued on page 6...see  
**Michigan Cherry Forecast**



## EPA Announces Two-Step Ethanol Phase-In

Plan to hike corn prices 8 cents per bushel when fully implemented, says USDA.

The long-awaited ethanol decision by the Environmental Protection Agency will require that at least 15 percent of all the oxygenates used in gasoline come from renewable sources - primarily ethanol - beginning in January 1995. The percentage would be increased to 30 percent in January of 1996.

The phase-in is expected to help ensure adequate supplies of ethanol and allow distribution channels to be developed, according to EPA. Despite the phase-in, some analysts still expect the petroleum industry to challenge the decision in the courts and in Congress.

The cleaner-burning gasoline will be required in nine cities with the worst air pollution, including Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, San Diego, and Hartford, Conn., according to *Knight Ridder News*.

The reformulated gasoline will account for approximately 37 billion gallons, or roughly 30 percent of all the gasoline sold annually, and is expected to add 3 to 5 cents per gallon to the cost of gasoline.

USDA Chief Economist Keith Collins said, the agency expects the decision to boost ethanol demand by 500 million gallons per year once the phase-in is complete. In the first year, he expects the demand for corn to increase by 100 million bushels, and then to 250 million bushels in subsequent years.

Michigan Farm Bureau President Jack Laurie praised the EPA announcement, saying it will boost the state's rural economy while also improving the environment.

"The phase-in certainly wasn't our first choice. Farmers would have preferred to have the program fully implemented in the first year," Laurie said. "However, the EPA decision will ultimately benefit national taxpayers by reducing federal budget outlays and generating thousands of jobs in rural areas as the demand for ethanol expands."

## Heavy Rains Taking Their Toll on Michigan Crops

Farm Bureau calls for assessment of serious mid-Michigan crop losses.

Heavy rains the last week of June and first week of July have prompted calls from Michigan Farm Bureau President Jack Laurie for a rapid and immediate assessment of crop damage and losses, particularly to dry beans, which have suffered losses from 30 percent to as high as 50 percent by some estimates.

"Farm Bureau is willing to work with county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services (ASCS) and Michigan State University Extension Service staff to assess the situation," Laurie said. "If the problem is as bad as we fear it is, then it's important to make sure that our multi-peril crop insurance carriers are made aware of the potential losses."

According to Larry Sprague, dry bean merchandiser for Mueller Bean and Grain, the Saginaw Valley, including the Reese, Bay City, Breckenridge, and Ithaca areas are the worst hit.

A familiar site in the Saginaw Valley, this field of beans, near Essexville in Bay County, was under water for several days, with still several more days of rain forecast. Nitrogen deficiency was also a growing problem in corn fields across Michigan due to heavy rains.



"You're going to see initial damage with drowned out spots in fields, but the total damage won't be known until the combines hit the fields this fall, because we will see considerable damage from root rot," Sprague said. "There's been talk of the total bean crop being down 20 percent, which will continue to add up day-to-day."

According to Sprague, dry bean producing areas in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Manitoba are also experiencing severe water saturation problems to their dry bean crops.

Ted Leipprandt, with the Cooperative Elevator in Pigeon, said producers in that area went from extremely dry to extremely wet, preventing plant emergence and/or planting in many cases. Beans that are emerged are suffocating.

"July 4 is typically the cutoff date for dry bean replanting, which was impossible with the amount of water standing on the fields," Leipprandt said. "I've never seen it this wet this early in the crop year. We have probably lost 20 percent of the planted acreage, and 25 percent of the total yield. But that's a moving target right now."

Nitrogen deficiencies are evident in many corn fields with the heavy rains either preventing side-dress applications, or leaching of nitrogen below the root zone. Heavy rains could also prove costly for cherry producers as their harvest season was just getting underway.

## AgriPac Endorses Gov. Engler for Re-Election

The Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPac endorsed Gov. John Engler for re-election following a July 6 meeting. The endorsement was based on the unanimous recommendation of all 53 county Farm Bureau Candidate Evaluation Committees submitting recommendations, according to MFB AgriPac Chairperson Faye Adam.

"County Farm Bureau committees recognize the fact that Gov. Engler has delivered on each of his campaign promises made when he was originally elected - a rarity in today's political arena," Adam said. "Engler's accomplishments in improving Michigan's economy, while getting historical tax reform measures implemented, clearly demonstrates his political savvy and ability to get the job done."

Here are some of the comments made by the committees on their evaluation forms:

- "We feel he has been good for Michigan!"
- "We feel he tries very hard to cooperate with farmers and Farm Bureau."
- "Property tax reform success is a promise made and kept."
- "We appreciate his courage to go head-to-head with the special interest groups."
- "Stands up for his principles."
- "He has been one of the most valued agricultural friends that we have seen in a long time."
- "Has proven by his past record to be familiar and concerned with problems facing agriculture."

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## Making Progress on Property Rights Protection

It was a tremendous victory in the war to protect private property rights. By a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court, in the case of *Florence Dolan v. City of Tigard, Oregon*, ruled in late June that government may not force a landowner to give up part of her/his land for public use as a condition of receiving planning permission to develop the remainder of her/his property. This sort of action, the Court said, constitutes a "taking" of private property under the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution for which government must pay just compensation.

The American Farm Bureau Federation and the Oregon Farm Bureau filed a "friend of the court" brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in the Dolan case. The Farm Bureau brief asserted that government may not, without paying just compensation, impose conditions on the use of any privately owned land unless stringent conditions are first met. While the Court did not apply the very strict standards which Farm Bureau urged, the Court clearly moved away from the vague standards applied by the Oregon court.

The Dolan decision marks the second time in recent years that the court has extended the obligation of federal, state and local governments to compensate landowners for takings of private property. Two years ago, in *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, the Court decided that a state could not prohibit a landowner from building a home on an ocean-side plot unless it paid compensation.

The Dolan and Lucas decisions together amount to an important change in the law about takings. These rulings show that the Supreme Court is now much more conscious of the tremendous economic harm and unfairness that results from excessive government restrictions on how a person may use his or her own property.

In particular, the Court's renewed interest in protecting private property rights benefits farmers, whose use of land is often restricted by government wetlands and other environmental regulations. Like Dolan, farmers and ranchers might well find local governments imposing new permitting requirements for innocuous uses of their land, and then discover that the necessary permits are conditioned on giving up part of their land to public use. The Dolan decision should make it much more difficult for government to put the cost of projects that benefit the public at-large on the backs of individual landowners.

While this U.S. Supreme Court decision is a step in the right direction, farmers and other landowners ultimately need solid legislation to protect their property rights. Farm Bureau strongly supports H.R. 3875, the Private Property Owners Bill of Rights.

A critical part of the Tauzin-Fields bill is a provision to require compensation to property owners who have been deprived of 50 percent or more of the fair market value, or of the economically viable use, of their land when a federal "taking" occurs. There must be a balance between the rights of property owners and the need to protect the environment. This bill would provide that balance, and this Congress needs to act on it.

*Jack Laurie*  
Jack Laurie, President  
Michigan Farm Bureau

## MSU Agronomists Hosting Plant Problem Diagnosis Field Day on MSU Campus July 26

Growers who are perplexed by troublesome diseases in small grains or poor weed control in corn can find solutions July 26, during the MSU Plant Problem Diagnosis Field Day at the MSU botany and plant pathology field laboratory, from 8:30 am. through 3 p.m. The Michigan Department of Agriculture will also award four recertification credits to category 1A cardholders and to private applicators who complete the field day's events.

MSU agronomists will focus on problems -- diseases, insects, weed, herbicide injury, etc. -- that can occur in corn, soybeans, small grains and alfalfa. The \$15 registration for the event is due by July 20 and will cover refreshments, the noon meal and handouts. **Checks should be made payable to MSU and sent to PPD Field Day, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824-1325.**

## More Michigan Milk Produced in May

Dairy herds in Michigan produced 485 million pounds of milk during May, up 10 million pounds from a year ago, according to the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service. Milk per cow averaged 1,440 pounds, increasing 40 pounds from a year ago. The Michigan dairy herd was estimated at 337,000 head, 2,000 less than last May.

The preliminary value of milk was \$14.30 per hundredweight (cwt.) in May, \$1.10 more than last year and \$.50 greater than April's price. Mid-month May slaughter cow prices averaged \$46.40 per cwt., \$3.30 less than the previous year.

Milk in the 21 major states totaled 11.5 billion pounds, 1 percent more than production in these same states in May 1993. Production averaged 1,431 pounds per cow, 29 pounds more than last May. The number of cows on farms was 8.02 million head, 122,000 head less than May 1993 and 3,000 more than April 1994.

## Wisconsin Dairy Producers Making a Comeback?

Putting a stop to three consecutive years of declining herd numbers, Wisconsin dairy farmers added about 4,000 cows to the state's dairy industry last month, bringing the total population of "Dairy State" cows to 1.49 million. Last month's figures were still nearly 85,000 cows short of May 1993 herd numbers.

The California dairy industry is continuing to make a strong run at Wisconsin for top dairy producing state status. California producers are already producing more milk than Wisconsin with fewer cows -- 1.21 million -- but are making up for the spread by averaging 34 more gallons of milk per month, per cow, than their Wisconsin bovine cousins.

## In Brief...

### Nationwide BST Labels Proposed

Rep. Bernard Sanders (I-Vt.) introduced legislation that will require labeling milk and other dairy products that are produced from cows supplemented with the bovine growth hormone (BST). He said he has 20 cosponsors for the legislation that is similar to a bill the Vermont Legislature passed earlier this year.

Sanders said his bill will replace the "growing patchwork of state laws and individual labels." The bill would also require the development of a test to detect the naturally occurring hormone's presence in milk and require an assessment on farmers who choose to use the hormone supplement on their animals.

### Dairy Self-Help Bill Marked Up

A House Agriculture subcommittee marked up and reported H.R. 4235, a dairy self-help bill that will create a private dairy board to dispose of surplus dairy products through exports. The approved legislation will provide for the election of processor members to the Dairy Market Development Board and provide board space for international marketing experts, eliminate bloc voting, directly reduce producer pay price, give the board more autonomy from USDA and reduce budget reconciliation assessments to three cents.

The bill also targets pay reductions on producers expanding production if Commodity Credit Corporation purchases exceed seven billion pounds. It would allow some older dairies and new producers a partial exemption from pay reductions.

### Meat Prices - So High, Yet So Low

American Farm Bureau President Dean Kleckner is urging 30 of the nation's top food retailers to lower their retail beef prices to correspond with the prices cattle feeders are receiving at market. Kleckner said it is "especially critical" that the record price spread of \$1.42 per retail pound between meat counter and farm prices be reduced in a timely manner.

With market prices near the \$60 per hundredweight range and break-even prices around \$80 per hundredweight, many fed-cattle producers are losing up to \$200 per head. "The beef price in the stores should reflect the abundant supplies available," Kleckner said. "I would like to urge food retailers to be sensitive to this situation."

### Senate Committee OK's Crop Insurance

The Senate Agriculture Committee approved a bill to reform the federal crop insurance system. The bill included a provision sought by Sen. Howell Heflin (D-Ala.) that would guarantee farmers enrolled in the program insurance of their production costs.

Under the approved provisions, farmers can obtain catastrophic coverage for a cost of \$50 per crop per county and would be protected against yield losses of more than 50 percent and would be provided payments of 60 percent of the expected market price of the affected crop. The bill would also allow farmers to "buy-up" to higher coverage levels and provide incentives to make such purchases.

### A to Z Not A-OK!

A discharge petition is being circulated in the House by backers of legislation known as the A to Z spending cuts proposal, which would provide a special 10-day session to cut federal spending programs. Farm Bureau does not support the discharge petition effort. The organization has expressed support for the Common Cents Budget Reform Act, sponsored by Reps. Charles Stenholm (D-Texas), Tim Penny (D-Minn.) and John Kasich (R-Ohio).

Common Cents would eliminate baseline budgeting, spending cuts would go toward deficit reduction, and it would allow enhanced rescission authority to vote on expensive or low-priority spending programs without vetoing an entire appropriations bill and prohibit unrelated riders on emergency spending bills.

### Farm Program Cuts Won't Finance GATT

The recent announcement by the Office of Management and Budget Director Leon Panetta that there will be no new cuts in farm programs to help pay for implementing the GATT agreement ensures the administration is deeply committed to the American farmer and U.S. agriculture, according to Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

Espy says farm program payments should fall by an estimated \$1.7 billion over the next five years to help offset the loss of revenue from import tariffs. He also cited increases in jobs and agricultural export sales that are expected to accompany the Uruguay Round implementation over the next 10 years.

### Farm Program Means Test on the Table

As part of a welfare reform bill, the Clinton Administration has proposed excluding farmers from farm program eligibility if their non-farm income exceeds \$100,000 per year.

The welfare proposal will cost nearly \$9.3 billion more than the existing program, but the cost increase will be offset by changes in programs with little or nothing to do with welfare, hence the agriculture tie-in. The administration projects a savings of approximately \$500 million over a five-year period if some farmers are excluded from program participation.

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## MFB AgriPac Friends of Agriculture Endorsements Determined

MFB's AgriPac committee has made its 1994 primary election endorsements with the "Friends of Agriculture" designation, after receiving recommendations from county Candidate Evaluation Committees, according to MFB Public Affairs Director Al Almy.

"Those recommendations are based, in part, on a review of the incumbent's voting record on key ag issues, as well as possible interviews on a local basis," Almy explained. "The MFB AgriPac Committee then considers those county recommendations in making its final 'Friends of Agriculture' designations."

Almy says the farmers who serve on the county Farm Bureau Candidate Evaluation committees are vital in the process since they know the attitudes of their county members, and they know whether the candidate recognizes the importance of agriculture.

"Local committees conduct candidate interviews, evaluate voting records, study position statements, and review individual candidate questionnaires," Almy said. "That's the kind of frontline evaluation our AgriPac Committee uses to determine which candidates will be designated 'Friends of Agriculture.'"

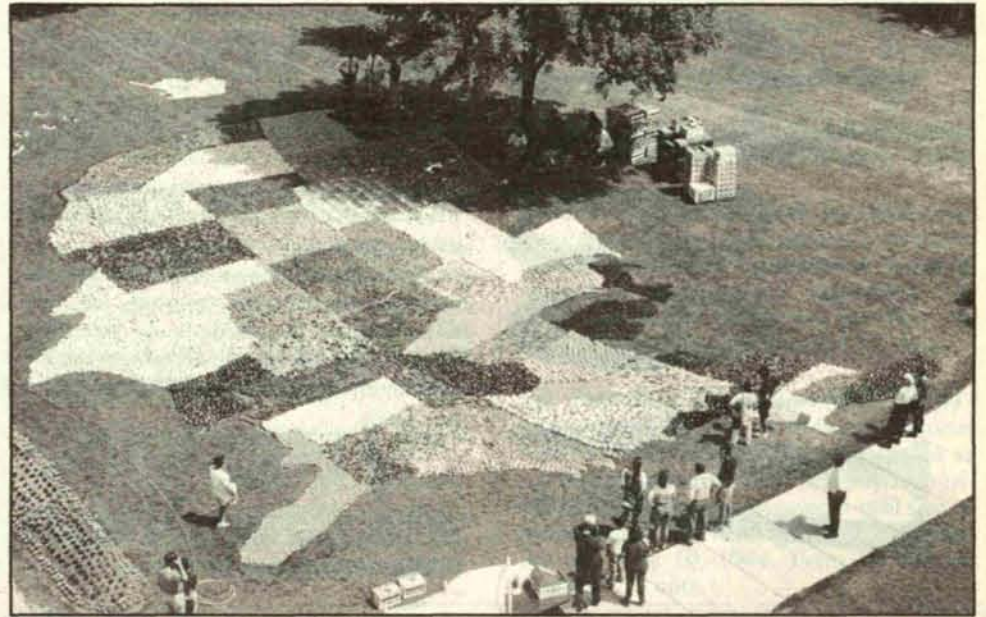
Other criteria used by the county committees and AgriPac for incumbents include the degree of special effort to introduce, support or oppose legislation in accordance with Farm Bureau policy; and communications with farmer constituents.

According to Almy, this meticulous process has earned the AgriPac endorsement a great deal of respect in the political arena, and is highly sought for reasons other than sheer financial support. The endorsement does not automatically mean a direct financial contribution to the candidate's campaign.

It does mean, however, that AgriPac can use MFB's extensive communication network of publications and volunteers to promote the endorsed candidates among the 128,000 Farm Bureau members in the state.

"Everyone, including the candidates, knows that farmers are a minority, but they have the potential of being a majority at the polls because they take their citizenship rights and responsibilities very seriously," Almy said. "Consequently, we can deliver on the commitment we have made to agriculture's friends."

A huge (60' x 83') map of the U.S. was constructed entirely of fresh fruit and vegetables on the Michigan capitol east lawn June 15 to celebrate National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month. The celebration was aimed at encouraging consumers to eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day. The Van Eerden Co. Inc. of Grand Rapids constructed the map in conjunction with the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association. At least a dozen people began construction at 6 a.m. on June 15, which took about five hours and used approximately 20,000 pounds (500 cases) of produce. The exhibit was dismantled at 6 p.m. and the produce donated to local charities. Several Michigan commodity groups assisted with the effort.



## 1993-94 Voting Record of United States House of Representatives

**1. FY 1994 Budget Resolution/No Tax Substitute (House Concurrent Resolution 64)** - Vote on passage of a substitute amendment to achieve \$495 billion in deficit reduction over five years through various spending cuts but without any new taxes. The U.S. House of Representatives defeated the motion March 18, 1993. Farm Bureau opposed any tax increases and favored a "Y" vote.

**2. FY 1994 Budget Resolution Adoption (House Concurrent Resolution 64)** - Vote on passage of the FY 1994 budget resolution incorporating the guidelines of the administration's economic package, plus an additional \$63 billion in spending cuts, reducing the deficit by \$510 billion over five years through \$264 billion in spending cuts and \$246 billion in new taxes. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the resolution March 18, 1993. Farm Bureau opposed the resolution because of the tax increases and favored a "N" vote.

**3. Enhanced Recision Authority (H.R. 1578)** - Vote on passage of a bill to allow the president to rescind any part of an appropriations bill and require Congress to vote on the recision within a specified time. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill April 29, 1993. Farm Bureau supported enactment of the bill to achieve more control of federal spending and favored a "Y" vote.

**4. 1993 Budget Reconciliation (H.R. 2264)** - Vote on passage of the 1993 budget reconciliation bill that raises \$275 billion in new taxes, mandates \$68 billion in spending cuts, and achieves another \$152 billion in deficit reduction through discretionary spending cuts and interest savings for a total of \$496 billion in deficit reduction over five years. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill May 27, 1993. Farm Bureau opposed the bill because of the tax increases, which included the energy (BTU) tax, and favored a "N" vote.

**5. GATT Fast-Track Extension (H.R. 1876)** - Vote on passage of a bill to extend the administration's authority to negotiate an accord strengthening the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and require Congress to consider the accord under procedures that do not allow amendments. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill June 22, 1993. Farm Bureau supported the extension of fast-track authority to allow additional time to complete the GATT negotiations and favored a "Y" vote.

**6. Agricultural Appropriations/Honey Program (H.R. 2493)** - Vote on a motion to concur with an amendment passed by the Senate to prohibit FY 1994 spending on the

honey program. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill Sept. 30, 1993. Farm Bureau opposed making farm program changes through the appropriations process and favored a "N" vote.

**7. National Biological Survey/Volunteers (H.R. 1845)** - Vote on amendment to delete a provision in the bill authorizing a National Biological Survey that would allow the Secretary of Interior to utilize volunteers to conduct the survey. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the amendment Oct. 6, 1993. Farm Bureau supported the amendment to assure persons with adequate training would be used to conduct the biological survey and favored a "Y" vote.

**8. National Biological Survey/Permission (H.R. 1845)** - Vote on amendment to require persons conducting the National Biological Survey to obtain written permission before going on private property and require reports describing the survey's activities on the property. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the amendments Oct. 6, 1993. Farm Bureau supported the written permission and report requirements which strengthen private property rights and favored a "Y" vote.

**9. North American Free Trade Agreement (H.R. 3450)** - Vote to approve NAFTA and create a free-trade zone between the United States, Canada and Mexico by gradually eliminating tariffs over 15 years. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill Nov. 17, 1993. Farm Bureau supported NAFTA because of the expanded trade opportunities for U.S. agriculture and favored a "Y" vote.

**10. EPA Cabinet Rule** - Vote on adoption of the rule providing for consideration of the bill to elevate the EPA to cabinet-level status. The U.S. House of Representatives rejected the rule Feb. 2, 1994.

Farm Bureau opposed the rule because it would not allow a vote on amendments

dealing with risk assessment, cost/benefit analysis or unfunded federal mandates and favored a "N" vote.

**Mich. Senate Endorsements - page 5**

**Mich. House of Representatives Endorsements - page 12**

### AgriPac Endorsements for U.S. House of Representatives

**KEY:** y or n Voted "yes" or "no" and against Farm Bureau position.  
Y or N Voted "YES" or "NO" and for Farm Bureau position.  
? Did not vote.  
• Not elected to House at time of vote.

| United States House District and Name    | AgriPac Endorsements         |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     | VOTES SUPPORTING FB POLICY | VOTES OPPOSING FB POLICY | ABSENT OR NOT VOTING | FB SCORE (%) |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
|                                          | 1 No Tax Substitute (HCR 64) | 2 FY 94 Budget Resolution (HCR 64) | 3 Enhanced Recision Authority (H.R. 1578) | 4 1993 Budget Reconciliation (H.R. 2264) | 5 GATT Extension (H.R. 1876) | 6 Honey Program (H.R. 2493) | 7 Biological Survey Volunteers (H.R. 1845) | 8 Biological Survey Permission (H.R. 1845) | 9 NAFTA (H.R. 3450) | 10 EPA Cabinet Rule |                            |                          |                      |              |
| 4 Camp, David (R-Midland)                | Y                            | N                                  | n                                         | N                                        | Y                            | y                           | Y                                          | Y                                          | N                   | 8                   | 2                          | 0                        | 80                   |              |
| 8 Chrysler, Dick (R-Brighton)            | NON-INCUMBENT                |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     |                            |                          |                      |              |
| 3 Ehlers, Vernon (R-Grand Rapids)        | •                            | •                                  | •                                         | •                                        | •                            | •                           | •                                          | •                                          | N                   | 1                   | 0                          | 0                        | 100                  |              |
| 2 Hoekstra, Peter (R-Holland)            | Y                            | N                                  | Y                                         | N                                        | Y                            | y                           | Y                                          | Y                                          | N                   | 9                   | 1                          | 0                        | 90                   |              |
| 9 Kammer, Kerry (R-Clarkston)            | NON-INCUMBENT                |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     |                            |                          |                      |              |
| 11 Knollenberg, Joe (R-Bloomfield Hills) | Y                            | N                                  | n                                         | N                                        | Y                            | y                           | Y                                          | Y                                          | N                   | 8                   | 2                          | 0                        | 80                   |              |
| 12 Pappageorge, George (R-Troy)          | NON-INCUMBENT                |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     |                            |                          |                      |              |
| 7 Smith, Nick (R-Addison)                | Y                            | N                                  | Y                                         | N                                        | Y                            | y                           | Y                                          | Y                                          | N                   | 9                   | 1                          | 0                        | 90                   |              |
| 1 Svanda, David (R-Marquette)            | NON-INCUMBENT                |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     |                            |                          |                      |              |
| 1 Upton, Fred (R-St. Joseph)             | Y                            | N                                  | Y                                         | N                                        | Y                            | y                           | Y                                          | Y                                          | N                   | 9                   | 1                          | 0                        | 90                   |              |
| 13 Wilbanks, Cynthia (R-Ypsilanti)       | NON-INCUMBENT                |                                    |                                           |                                          |                              |                             |                                            |                                            |                     |                     |                            |                          |                      |              |

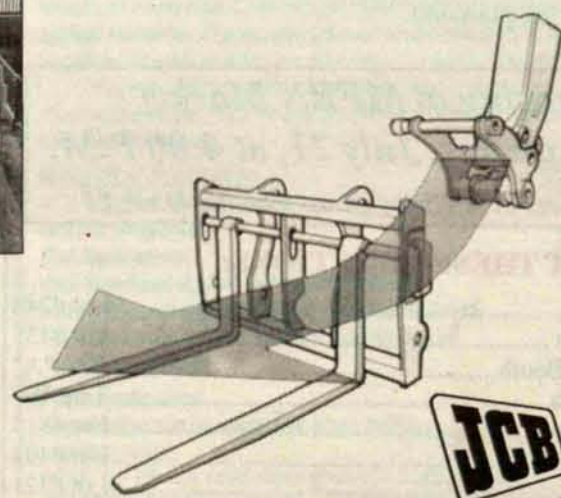
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# Weather

## 30-Day and 90-Day Forecast – Warmer Than Normal with Average Precipitation Expected

A southward shift of the jet stream led to highly contrasting conditions in Michigan by the end of the month, with widespread heavy rain (generally 2-5 inches with local totals up to 9 inches) across central and southern sections of Lower Michigan and continuing abnormally dry weather across the north. The heavy rain in the lower peninsula abruptly ended dryness and caused flooding in some spots.

In addition, a series of active frontal systems brought severe thunderstorms, tornados, and hail to the southern half of the state late in the month, causing localized crop damage. The rain may have come too late, however, to change yield prospects for overwintering crops such as wheat and alfalfa (second cuttings), which were likely reduced by the earlier dryness.

There are recent signs that some of the hot weather which was been plaguing the southwestern U.S. will gradually move towards the Midwest and Michigan, with another spell or two of hot, muggy weather likely during the next few weeks.

An active storm track near the U.S. Canadian border area should bring at least occasional chances for precipitation across the state, including northern areas where dryness and moisture stress continue to be a problem.

| 6/1/94 to 6/30/94 | Temperature   |                  | Growing Degree Days |               | Precipitation  |                |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|                   | Observed Mean | Dev. From Normal | Actual Accum.       | Normal Accum. | Actual (inch.) | Normal (inch.) |
| Alpena            | 64.5          | + 2.3            | 767                 | 681           | 3.23           | 2.90           |
| Bad Axe           | 66.8          | - 0.3            | 792                 | 870           | 5.93           | 3.36           |
| Detroit           | 72.5          | + 4.8            | 1194                | 951           | 4.17           | 3.36           |
| Escanaba          | 62.8          | + 2.1            | 519                 | 471           | 2.27           | 3.26           |
| Flint             | 68.1          | + 1.8            | 947                 | 957           | 6.51           | 3.36           |
| Grand Rapids      | 69.2          | + 2.0            | 1000                | 980           | 7.33           | 3.55           |
| Houghton          | 61.9          | + 2.5            | 579                 | 617           | 2.51           | 3.61           |
| Houghton Lake     | 66.1          | + 2.3            | 859                 | 681           | 1.75           | 2.90           |
| Jackson           | 69.0          | + 0.7            | 1002                | 967           | 5.59           | 3.57           |
| Lansing           | 67.9          | + 0.8            | 967                 | 967           | 5.60           | 3.57           |
| Marquette         | 62.4          | + 3.1            | 632                 | 617           | 2.69           | 3.61           |
| Muskegon          | 66.7          | + 1.0            | 802                 | 821           | 4.99           | 2.94           |
| Pellston          | 64.3          | + 3.2            | 728                 | 717           | 2.84           | 3.03           |
| Saginaw           | 68.0          | + 1.0            | 935                 | 870           | 5.16           | 3.08           |
| Sault Ste. Marie  | 60.8          | + 2.1            | 532                 | 471           | 2.81           | 3.26           |
| South Bend        | 72.3          | + 3.9            | 1173                | 980           | 5.10           | 3.55           |
| Traverse City     | 65.5          | + 1.6            | 799                 | 717           | 2.10           | 3.03           |
| Vestaburg         | 66.8          | + 2.4            | 889                 | 875           | 5.93           | 3.36           |

Observed and growing degree day totals are accumulated from March 1. Normals are based on district averages. Jeff Andresen, Ag Meteorologist, MSU

The latest National Weather Service 30-day (for July) and 90-day (for July through September) outlooks for Michigan both call for near to above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Given the anomalous weather of the early growing season, this comes as a positive outlook for most agricultural concerns.

### Michigan and Major Commodity Area Extended Weather Outlook

| T - Temp.        | 7/15..... 7/31 | 7/15..... 9/30 |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| P - Precip.      | T.....P        | T.....P        |
| Michigan         | A.....N        | A.....N        |
| W. Corn Belt     | A.....N        | N.....A        |
| E. Corn Belt     | A.....N        | A.....N        |
| Wint. Wheat Belt | A.....B        | N/A..... B/N   |
| Spr. Wheat Belt  | A.....N        | N.....N        |
| Pac. NW Wheat    | B.....A        | N.....N        |
| Delta            | N/A.....N      | A.....N        |
| Southeast        | A/N..... A/N   | A.....N        |
| San Joaquin      | A.....N        | A.....N        |

A-Above Average, B-Below Average, N-Normal, MA-Much Above, MB-Much Below, NP-No Precip. Source: National Weather Office

## Livestock Tips When the Weather Turns Hot and Humid

When temperatures rise above 90 degrees F and humidity above 90 percent, livestock may suffer life-threatening stress.

"At this point, the animal's physiology simply won't allow it to dissipate heat sufficiently," says Harlan Ritchie, Michigan State University beef specialist. "With some livestock, hot, humid weather can literally kill them."

Swine must expel excess heat through their respiratory system because the only sweat glands they have are in their legs. Dairy and beef cattle can perspire, but under hot, humid conditions, they are stressed quite easily, Ritchie says.

Livestock heat stress begins when the temperature rises above 80 degrees F and humidity rises above 80 percent. The danger zone develops when the temperature exceeds 85 degrees F and humidity exceeds 85 percent.

Under these conditions, livestock need free access to lots of clean, cool water and shade. If livestock are housed in barns, the structures should be well ventilated, using fans, if necessary.

Temporary shade for livestock can be provided by suspending lightweight tarps or snow-fence from tall wood or steel posts.

Producers can reduce heat stress by spraying cool water over livestock. Ritchie warns against using cold water.

"There are documented cases of livestock, especially cattle, going into shock and dying when they were sprayed with cold water while under extreme heat stress," Ritchie says.

As heat stress increases, feed intake declines, sometimes substantially. However, it is important to keep feed intake as close to normal as possible.

"Some producers don't realize that livestock maintenance requirements will actually go up during periods of heat stress because they need energy to dissipate heat," Ritchie says. "That means lower production—meat and milk—when the temperature and humidity combination exceeds 85."

Ritchie does not recommend altering the composition of the ration, but says he would not be opposed to adding a flavoring agent or sweetener, such as molasses, to the ration if it improves a depressed feed intake.

"However, don't make a major adjustment in the animal's diet—it could do more harm than good," he says.

He says that young stock will probably handle heat stress better than older animals. They, too, need access to plenty of cool water.

Ritchie says when the weather is hot and humid, livestock should be moved or handled during the cool hours of morning or evening whenever possible to avoid adding to the animal's stress.



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Once again, the Michigan Farm Radio Network (MFRN) and the participants of the MFRN Grand Giveaway invite you to join us at Ag Expo! While you are there, be sure to stop at each of our locations to sign up for this year's daily prizes and the Grand Prize. Of course, each of us would also enjoy talking with you about the latest happenings in our worlds. We'll see you July 19, 20 & 21 at Michigan State University!

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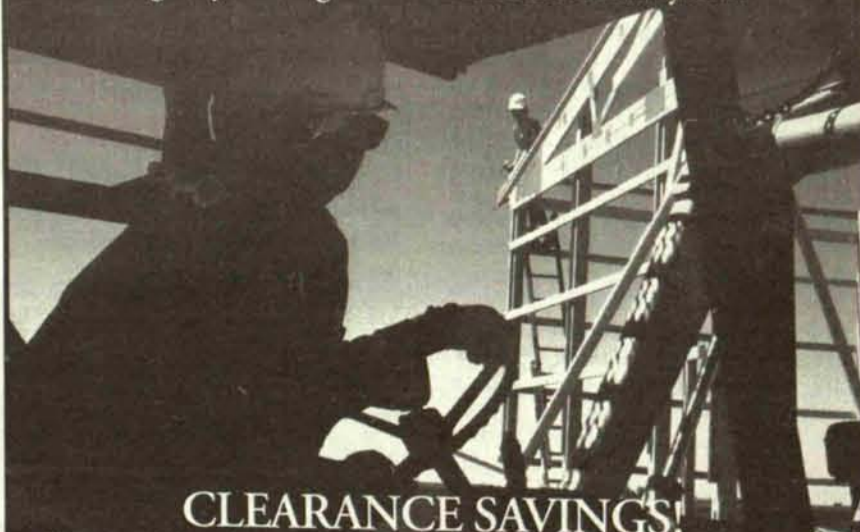
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|---------------------------------------|----------|
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| Michigan Crop Improvement Assn. Booth | Tent "A" |
| Michigan Pork Producer Assn. Booth    | Tent "B" |
| Moormans Manufacturing Tent           | Lot #815 |
| Michigan Corn Growers Assn. Tent      | Lot #403 |
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| MFRN Market Information Tent          | Lot #307 |

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## 1991 - 94 Voting Records of the Michigan Senate

### 1. MIOSHA (S.B. 459) -

Vote on passage of a bill requiring state safety and health rules to be identical to federal OSHA standards. The bill passed the Michigan Senate on Sept. 19, 1991. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 2. Soil Conservation Districts (S.B. 722) -

Vote on passage of a bill which makes supplemental appropriations for soil conservation districts. The bill passed the Michigan Senate on Feb. 27, 1992. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 3. Wetlands (S.B. 522) -

Vote on passage of a bill to prohibit local wetland ordinances more stringent than the state's protection and establish a statewide definition of wetlands. The bill passed the Michigan Senate on March 25, 1992. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 4. Medical Malpractice Tort Reform (S.B. 270) -

Vote on passage of a bill to reform Michigan's Medical Malpractice Law that will lower malpractice insurance rates and put

limits on court awards. The Michigan Senate passed the bill Feb. 18, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 5. Automobile Insurance Reform (H.B. 4156) -

Vote on passage of a bill to reform Michigan's automobile insurance laws by enacting measures to curb lawsuits, control medical costs, and reduce auto insurance premiums. The Michigan Senate passed the bill March 24, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 6. Repeal of State Inheritance Tax (H.B. 4597) -

Vote on passage of a bill to repeal the Michigan Inheritance Tax and adopt the federal pick-up tax which exempts \$600,000 of the value of an estate. The Michigan Senate passed the bill May 20, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 7. Michigan Groundwater & Freshwater Protection Act (S.B. 74) -

Vote on passage of a bill to have the Michigan Department of Agriculture develop a voluntary groundwater stewardship program to prevent contamination of ground-

water by pesticides. The Michigan Senate passed the bill June 29, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 8. Pesticide Preemption (H.B. 4344) -

Vote on passage of a bill to prohibit, under certain circumstances, the regulation of pesticides by local government. The Michigan Senate passed the bill June 30, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 9. Personal Property Tax Exemption of Certain Farm Machinery (H.B. 4833) -

Vote on passage of a bill to clarify and continue agriculture's personal property tax exemption on agricultural handling equipment for fruit and vegetables. The Michigan Senate passed the bill Dec. 14, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

### 10. Farmland Definition (H.B. 5329) -

Vote on passage of a bill to tax agricultural land that is classified for tax purposes as agricultural land or used primarily for agricultural purposes at the same 6-mill rate as homesteads. The Michigan Senate passed the bill May 10, 1994. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

## AgriPac Endorsements for Michigan Senate

KEY: y or n Voted "yes" or "no" and against Farm Bureau position.

Y or N Voted "YES" or "NO" and for Farm Bureau position.

? Did not vote.

• Not elected to House at time of vote.

|                           |                                          |                       |                                         |                                     |                                     |                                    |                                    |                                     |                             |                             |                           |                      |               |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1 M.I.O.S.H.A. (S.B. 459) | 2 Soil Conservation Districts (S.B. 722) | 3 Wetlands (S.B. 522) | 4 Medical Malpractice Reform (S.B. 270) | 5 Auto Insurance Reform (H.B. 4156) | 6 State Inheritance Tax (H.B. 4597) | 7 Groundwater Protection (S.B. 74) | 8 Pesticide Preemption (H.B. 4344) | 9 Personal Property Tax (H.B. 4833) | 10 Farmland Tax (H.B. 5329) | VOTES SUPPORTING MFB POLICY | VOTES OPPOSING MFB POLICY | ABSENT OR NOT VOTING | MFB SCORE (%) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|

| Michigan Senate District and Name          | 1             | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | VOTES SUPPORTING MFB POLICY | VOTES OPPOSING MFB POLICY | ABSENT OR NOT VOTING | MFB SCORE (%) |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 13 Bouchard, Michael (R-Birmingham)        | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 33 Cisky, Jon (R-Saginaw)                  | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 27 DeGrow, Dan (R-Port Huron)              | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 11 DiNello, Gilbert (R-Clinton Township)   | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 7 Dingell, Christopher (D-Tranton)         | Y             | Y | Y | n | n | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 8                           | 2                         | 0                    | 80            |
| 23 Emmons, Joanne (R-Big Rapids)           | n             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 20 Gast, Harry (R-St. Joseph)              | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 9 Geake, R. Robert (R-Northville)          | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 34 Gougeon, Joel (R-Bay City)              | *             | * | * | * | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 6                           | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 18 Grapp, James (R-Ypsilanti)              | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 19 Hoffman, Philip (R-Horton)              | *             | * | * | * | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 6                           | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 8 Jacokes, David (D-Belleville)            | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 38 Kolvisto, Donald (D-Ironwood)           | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | ?  | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 25 Martell, Marie (R-East Lansing)         | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 36 McManus, George (R-Traverse City)       | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 17 Miller, Sharon (R-Newport)              | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 37 North, Walter (R-St. Ignace)            | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 31 Posthumus, Dick (R-Alto)                | ?             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 26 Rogers, Mike (R-Howell)                 | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 35 Schuette, Bill (R-Midland)              | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 24 Schwarz, John (R-Battle Creek)          | Y             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 21 Shugars, Dale (R-Portage)               | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 30 Stell, Glen (R-Grand Rapids)            | *             | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | Y  | 1                           | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 32 Stille, Leon (R-Spring Lake)            | NON-INCUMBENT |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 22 VanRegenmorter, William (R-Hudsonville) | n             | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y  | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |

## U.S.D.A Conducting Inventory Survey

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is surveying farmers across the nation this month to determine crop production and stocks and livestock inventories. This year's survey is deemed particularly important by the department because it follows last summer's Midwest flooding and the drought in the Southeast, according to Fred Vogel, head of the Department of Agriculture's Estimates Division.

The USDA hopes to gain valuable information about acreage planted and potential production of major crops in 1994. A total of about 125,000 farmers and ranchers will be contacted and asked to provide the information needed for state, regional and national estimates of crops planted, grain in storage and cattle and hog inventories. Local interviewers will be used after training to obtain the information by phone or personal visits to farms and ranches.



### Identifiable Performance Parameters on Winter Wheat

The following are frequently observed plant responses from soil and foliar applications of ACA on winter wheat:

#### Visual Response

- Vigorous early plant growth
- More winter hardy
- More fibrous and extensive root system
- Increased tillering
- Larger diameter stem
- Wider, darker green leaves, fuller canopy fill row sooner
- Earlier pollination
- Heavier seed weight

#### Observation Timing (Stage of Growth)

- Fall - first to fourth leaves unfolded
- Spring - greenup and vigor
- Spring - observation on plant stand
- Fall - first to fourth leaves unfolded
- Spring - emergence of inflorescence
- Spring - from stem elongation on
- Spring - at completion of tillering
- Spring - at completion of tillering
- Spring - at flowering
- At maturity

#### The identified performance parameters typically result in:

- Increased uptake of soil nutrients
- Increased utilization of sunlight in photosynthesis
- Improved winter hardiness
- Higher yields and/or test weight
- Increased uptake of soil moisture
- Increased tillering and foliage
- Improved standability and ease of harvest

#### Yield Information Postemergence applications to Winter Wheat (1993)

- 33 total studies • 7.6 bushel per acre increase • 10.5% increase in yield
- Return on ACA investment of \$17.64 (2/3 pint/acre)
- 2/3 pint ACA per acre broadcast [Winter Wheat at \$3.00/bushel x 7.6 bushel increase/acre = \$22.80 - ACA investment of \$5.16/acre (2/3 pint/acre) = \$17.64 R.O.I./acre]

#### Application Techniques/Procedures

Test results have shown that ACA can be applied to the soil or foliage of winter wheat. ACA can be broadcast incorporated into the soil using water or a fertilizer solution as a carrier with or without a soil applied herbicide. The incorporation or movement of ACA into the soil profile can be by tillage, rainfall, or irrigation. This will position the ACA near the developing root system of the plant.

Foliar applications should be made prior to dormancy break when top dressing wheat. It is not recommended that ACA be applied with any postemergence herbicide or insecticide until further testing has been completed.

#### Methods of Application

ACA mixes easily with and fits into the following fertilizer programs:

- Soil Applications**
  - Soil broadcast applied with liquid fertilizers
  - Soil broadcast applied with dry blended fertilizers
  - Soil broadcast applied (weed & feed herbicide/ fertilizer solution)
- Foliar Applications**
  - Application can be made with liquid fertilizers as the carrier.

#### Other application methods:

- Soil applied broadcast with water as the carrier, with or without a herbicide
- To wheat foliage with water as the carrier

NOTE: The effect on weed control when ACA is added to post-emergence herbicides is unknown. Thus, it is not recommended at this time to apply ACA with any postemergence herbicide.

Contact your local Clean Crop Dealer or call 1-800-292-2701 for additional information on THE ACA ADVANTAGE

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6

Dr. Jim Hilker, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, MSU

## CORN

How's the weather? If the weather is hot and dry over the Corn Belt now, use this as a pricing opportunity -- consider finishing up old crop and locking in a significant amount of new crop. If the weather over the Corn Belt is not stressing the crop at this time, and you have not priced much new crop, it may be time to lower your pricing goals.

On June 30, the USDA released two major reports reflecting June 1 numbers. The USDA Planted Acreage Report showed 78.8 million acres of corn were planted. This was slightly less than trade expectations, but was up slightly from March 1 intentions, and up 7 percent from last year. It is certainly enough to produce a huge crop with good growing conditions. Michigan growers planted 2.5 million acres, the same as a year ago.

The USDA also released the Quarterly Stocks Report. It showed 2.358 billion bushels of corn in stocks. This was more than the trade expected by about 60 million

## SOYBEANS

The information in the two USDA reports were not friendly to the soybeans price picture, although weather will still overwhelm all other information through August. The Quarterly Stocks Report showed about 25 million more bushels of soybeans on hand than previously thought.

While this is not a large number, if projected ending stocks were increased that much in the July 12 USDA Supply/Demand Report, it would be a 15 percent increase.

The USDA Planted Acreage Report showed producers planted 61.8 million acres of soybeans. This is 1.4 million more than last year, 700,000 more than March intentions, and 900,000 more than the trade

## WHEAT

Winter wheat planted acres were estimated at 49.5 million acres, down 4 percent from last year and down 3 percent from previously reported estimates in December. However, spring planted wheat acreage was close to last year and estimated spring wheat harvested acreage is up 6 percent. This leaves total expected wheat harvested acreage down less than 1 percent.

June 1 wheat stocks, the number used as the 1993-94 marketing year ending stocks figure, was placed at 571 million bushels. This was 20 million bushels more than the trade expected and the USDA had forecast in the

## CATTLE

January-May beef production was up 7 percent compared to the same period in 1993, with increased slaughter making up 2-3 percent and increased weights making up the remainder. The June Cattle-on-Feed Report showed total cattle on feed down 1 percent, but this is a bit misleading for near-term supplies as May placements were down 22 percent. Marketings were up 1 percent.

It's interesting to note that the inventory of feedlots over 1,000 head was up 2 percent and they make up 89.5 percent of the total

## EGGS

## Henry Larzelere

Egg prices at the end of June were about 14 cents a dozen below last year. Feed ingredient prices were slightly over 1 cent a dozen above a year earlier.

Wholesale prices in New York for Grade A large white eggs in cartons are expected to average in the upper 60s during July and August, then moving to the 70s in September.

## Market Outlook...

## Seasonal Commodity Price Trends

|          |     |
|----------|-----|
| Corn     | ↑↓? |
| Soybeans | ↑↓? |
| Wheat    | ↑↓? |
| Hogs     | ↑   |
| Cattle   | →   |

Index: ↑ = Higher Prices; ↓ = Lower Prices; TP = Topping; BT = Bottoming; ? = Unsure

bushels. This indicates ending stocks, while still very tight, will be larger than previously expected.

It also is an indication that corn use for feed slowed down in the second quarter. This is puzzling considering livestock numbers and slaughter weights.

expected. The information in these two reports, along with trend yields and projected demand numbers, would indicate 1994-95 soybean prices significantly under \$6 per bushel. Michigan soybean producers planted 1.55 million acres, up 100,000 from 1993.

There's an old adage that August weather makes beans. This would lead to the conclusion that, given the still relatively tight stocks, we could still have more good pricing opportunities.

But it also must be remembered that the odds for that opportunity are becoming smaller. Be honest and realistic in your pricing expectations, especially if you have priced little or no new crop at this point.

June Supply/Demand Report. The two reports together were fairly neutral.

Wheat prices will continue to follow corn prices through the critical growing period and then shift to spring wheat conditions as we move through August.

Be ready to price at harvest if we are in the midst of a rally. If not, it may pay to store or at least keep some on paper to take advantage of a possible fall rally. Check your local basis to help pick the correct pricing tool.

inventory. This means the little units were down big.

In the short-term, there is little positive that can be said. Beef supplies will be plentiful and the supplies of other meats (see Hogs and Broilers) will give no relief.

On the demand side, we see both broiler production and prices up. We still have a lot of work to do on beef demand. But the first thing we need is a reflection in the beef prices at the grocery store of the cattle prices at the feedlots.

The number of layers on June 1 was 2 percent above June 1, 1993. The numbers will gradually become nearly the same or slightly lower than last year.

During the first five months of 1994, the egg-type chick hatch was below the comparable months of 1993. This trend will likely continue for a while as the number of layer-type eggs in incubators on June 1 was 7 percent below a year earlier.

## DAIRY MARKETS - Is the Bottom Near?

Larry Hamm, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, MSU

The dairy product markets have had a small summer rebound. This is good news for Michigan dairy producers because it probably signals that dairy farm pay prices will bottom out by late summer or early fall.

Dairy product prices, particularly cheddar cheese, set farm milk prices because milk product processors can only profitably pay for milk at prices that allow them to recoup their costs when selling to dairy product buyers.

Wholesale cheese prices collapsed between mid-April and the beginning of June. The Minnesota-Wisconsin (M-W) price dropped \$1.48 per cwt. in May. The June M-W will probably drop another 50 cents per cwt. in June.

The dramatic price drop had all market analysts wondering whether prices would continue to drop all the way to the USDA price support level. Fortunately, dairy product markets have undergone a slight summer rebound.

After sitting on support levels for all of 1994, wholesale butter prices have increased by \$.0125 per pound. Wholesale cheese prices for 40-pound blocks went up

## HOGS

PIGS, PIGS, PIGS, and more pigs! That's the picture you get from the June 1 USDA Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report released June 30. Total inventory, kept for market, and kept for breeding, were all up 3 percent compared to 1993 -- 2-3 percent more than the trade expected.

Farrowing intentions are also up. July-August and September-November intentions show a 5 percent increase. This would be production for next winter and spring. For every 1 percent increase in production, expect about a 2 percent decrease in price.

Are these increases coming from the traditional hog states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana,

## BROILERS

## Henry Larzelere

The broiler price situation is not very important to Michigan agriculture because of the small number of broilers grown in Michigan. However, the broiler prices are significant for consumers and affect the cattle and hog prices. Furthermore, if the hatchery supply flocks produce more eggs than are needed for hatch purposes, the extra eggs will be diverted to the shell egg market.

The U.S. supply of broilers in the first six months of 1994 averaged about 4-1/2 percent more than the same period in 1993,

## Michigan Cherry Forecast... (continued from page 1)

million bearing tart cherry trees in Michigan. That yield assumes a final state average of 6,020 cherries per tree and an average weight of 4.0 grams per cherry. "Production available for harvest" is total biological production less normal harvest loss.

The June tart cherry set varied widely across the growing regions. Only fair potential exists in the Northwest, where 75 million pounds of tart cherries are available for harvest, down from 145 million pounds a year ago. The region's five-year average is 92 million pounds.

In the West Central area, the forecast is calling for 55 million pounds, down from the 89 million pounds in 1993, but just 5 million below the five-year average.

Prospects in the Southwest region are very good, with an estimate of 54 million pounds, up almost 55 percent from 1993 and 36 percent above the five-year average. The remaining areas



\$.03 per pound in the last two weeks of June.

Most of this increase is due to the normal summer supply and demand patterns. A protracted, severe, early summer heat wave knocked milk production increases back to more normal levels. The extra flow of milk stressing manufacturing plants slowed.

The heat, combined with normal seasonal patterns, dropped butterfat tests and, therefore, the amount of butterfat being processed. The summer ice cream season, augmented by the hot weather, increased cream demand. The early summer cream shortage helped lift butter prices. All factors combined to help tighten the dairy supply and demand situation.

The M-W will still reflect the falling product markets from early June. Hopefully, these modest butter and cheese price rebounds will arrest any further M-W drops later this summer. Unfortunately, the average pay price to producers will stabilize at a much lower level than it is right now.

and Minnesota? No. North Carolina numbers are up around 30 percent, depending on the category, and Missouri's are up around 20 percent.

Michigan inventory, market, and breeding numbers are up 3-4 percent, and farrowing intentions up 3 and 7 percent for the next two quarters.

I would be very surprised to ever see an annual average hog price over \$50 per cwt. again after accounting for inflation. And I suspect we will need to be able to produce hogs for \$40 per cwt. total cost, because that is what the competition can do.

with the price about 1 cent a pound higher in 1994.

Broiler prices also averaged 56 cents -- about the same in the last six months of 1993. Early indications of supply during the rest of the summer show about 3-1/2 percent more broilers in 1994 than the year before.

This would suggest an average price in the last six months of 1994 of 57 cents. July and August prices are expected to be above the average, while November and December will be below.

of the state are expected to produce one million pounds.

Tart cherry trees that were severely damaged or killed by hard winter freezes are being blamed for reduced production. Cool temperatures in April and early May followed by frost damage in several areas hindered fruit development.

Nationally, the U.S. tart cherry forecast is calling for 257 million pounds, down 21 percent from 1993. Michigan's production accounts for 72 percent of the projected national crop.

The Michigan sweet cherry crop, hurt by poor pollination weather, is forecast at 25,000 tons, down from the 1993 harvest of 30,000 tons, but above the 1989-1993 average of 22,000 tons. The U.S. forecast of 168,200 tons is virtually unchanged from 1993 production levels.



# 7 Cash Crop Farm Returns

Ralph E. Hepp  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Michigan State University

The cash crop report number 576 is a summary of the financial and production records kept by crop farmers enrolled in the TELFARM record program through Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service. The report includes 27 grain farms producing corn, soybeans, wheat, and dry edible beans and 19 Saginaw Valley crop farms producing sugar beets, corn, soybeans, wheat and dry edible beans. The report is available from the county Extension office.

The report has three purposes:

- To provide statistical information about the financial results on crop farms during 1993.
- To provide information on the trends in resource use, income and costs during the last three years.
- To provide production costs for comparative analysis and forward planning.

The 46 crop farms are located in southern Michigan and are selected for the report because they specialize in grains and other field crops, include inventory and crop production data, and represent various sizes of crop farms.

Business analysis reports are also published for farms specializing in potato, dairy, fruit, and swine enterprises. The TELFARM participants are not necessarily representative of all Michigan crop farms, but are those that desire an excellent record keeping system and assistance in records and financial management from the Cooperative Extension Service. Typically, TELFARMERS operate larger farms than the average Michigan crop producer and obtain a larger percent of their income from agriculture.

### FINANCIAL TRENDS

Returns on cash grain farms in 1993 increased from the previous two years (Table 1). The return on owned capital was 9.3 percent in 1993, which was down from 9.5 percent in 1991 and 4.4 percent in 1992. The total value of production per acre was \$301 in 1993, \$245 in 1992 and \$288 in 1991.

Crop yields in 1993 were about the same as 1991, with the increases in crop value coming from increases in prices and crop quality due to good weather conditions. Total pro-

duction cost per acre was \$279, which was slightly higher than 1991 and 1992. Crop supplies, land change, and machinery costs increased.

Returns on Saginaw Valley cash crop farms were very good in 1993 (Table 2). Value of production per acre was \$340 in 1993, compared to \$353 in 1992 and \$317 in 1991. Management income per acre, the residual earnings after all costs are subtracted from income, was \$30 in 1993. This compares with \$9 in 1991 and \$30 in 1992. The farms in the summary this year were larger than previous years, so the average sales and expense items need to be adjusted for the acres cropped.

### RESOURCE USE

The value of farm capital owned on cash grain farms was higher in 1993, with a higher value placed on the land and machinery per acre. The estimated hours of labor per acre was 4.2 in 1992.

The value of farm capital on Saginaw Valley crop farms decreased slightly, with the estimated number of hours of labor per acre at 5.9 in 1992. The sample of farms selected for the report shows cash grain farms with 806 tillable acres and 38 percent of the land rented. The farms with sugar beets in the rotation had 937 tillable acres and 55 percent of the land rented.

### LEVEL OF PROFITABILITY

Table 3 presents analysis factors for crop farms by level of profits per acre. The 46

cash crop farms were divided into three groups by return on owned capital from less than 3 percent, 3 to 7 percent and greater than 7 percent. The major difference between the high profit farms compared to the low profit farms was the number of tillable acres, the yields and financial returns per acre. Yields per acre were higher on high profit farms which resulted in greater revenue during the year.

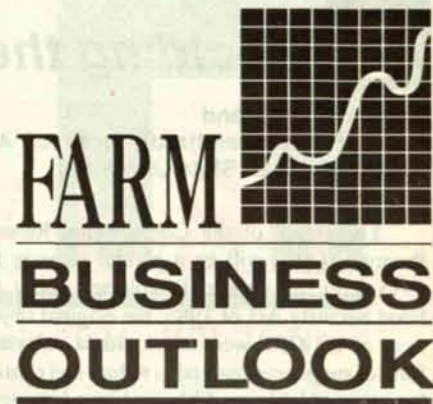
Low profit farms had fewer owned, tillable acres, less investment, and fewer hours of labor used in production. Total operating expenses per acre were lower for high profit farms, with interest depreciation, and repair expenses lower.

The return to owned capital was 13.2 percent on high profit farms and .9 percent on low profit farms. Net farm income per acre was \$90 on high profit farms and \$20 for the least profitable operations.

### FARM SIZE

The 42 crop farms were divided into three size groups by number of acres with small farms less than 400 tillable acres, medium farm between 400 and 800 tillable acres and large farms greater than 800 tillable acres (Table 4). The small farms averaged 315 tillable acres, medium farms averaged 568 acres and the large farms averaged 1,521 acres.

Capital investment per acre was about the same for the three size categories. Number of hours of labor per acre was about 5.5



hours on medium farms and 4.6 hours on the large farms. Small farm operators owned a larger percent of the land and larger farm operators rent a larger percent of the tillable land.

Small farm operators had a net farm income of \$34 per acre. When charges are placed on family labor and equity capital, the management income decreases to a negative \$32 per acre and a 2.5 percent residual return to owned capital.

Medium farm operators had a net farm income of \$65 per acre. When charges are placed on family labor and equity capital, the management income per acre decreases to \$9 per acre. The return on owned capital was 7.5 percent.

Large farms experienced lower costs per acre and had a \$86 net farm income per acre. The management income per acre was \$40 after a value was placed on family labor and equity capital. The return on owned capital was 11.6 percent.

Table 1.  
Trend in Earnings on Michigan Cash Grain Farms, 1991-1993

|                    | YEAR      |           |           |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                    | 1991      | 1992      | 1993      |
| Tillable Acres     | 778       | 767       | 806       |
| Capital Owned      | \$517,584 | \$523,146 | \$566,999 |
| Total Revenue      | \$223,674 | \$188,275 | \$243,741 |
| Operating Expenses | \$173,063 | \$160,492 | \$187,002 |
| Net Farm Income    | \$ 50,611 | \$ 27,783 | \$ 56,739 |

Table 2.  
Trend in Earnings on Michigan Saginaw Valley Cash Crop Farms, 1991-1993

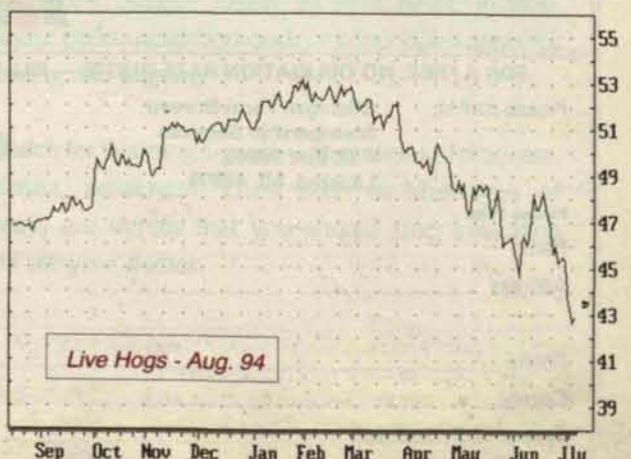
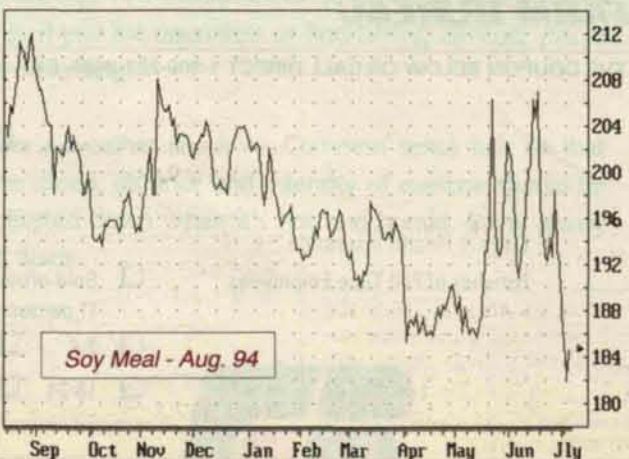
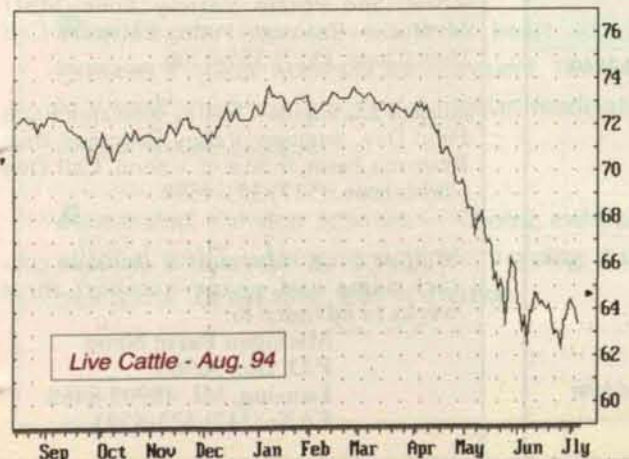
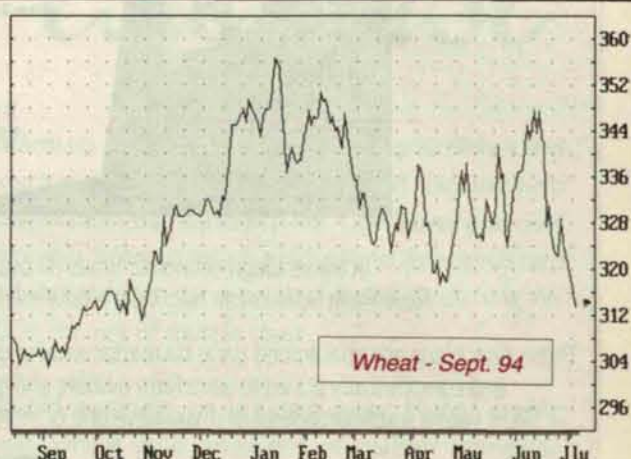
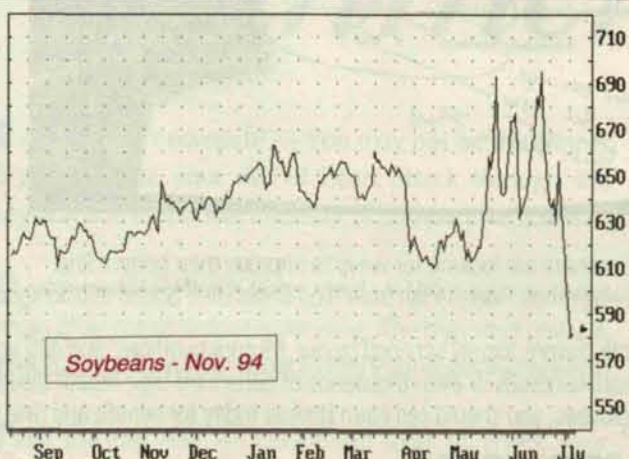
|                         | YEAR      |           |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                         | 1991      | 1992      | 1993      |
| Tillable Acres          | 856       | 806       | 937       |
| Capital Owned           | \$658,051 | \$590,835 | \$727,330 |
| Total Revenue           | \$271,736 | \$286,202 | \$320,183 |
| Total Expenses          | \$221,022 | \$222,937 | \$240,516 |
| Net Farm Income         | \$ 50,714 | \$ 63,265 | \$ 79,667 |
| Return to Owned Capital |           |           |           |

Table 3.  
Michigan Cash Crop Farms by Level of Profitability, 1993

|                          | LEVEL OF PROFITABILITY |           |           |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                          | High                   | Medium    | Low       |
|                          | Tillable Acres         | 1,041     | 602       |
| Capital Owned            | \$692,833              | \$558,111 | \$554,141 |
| Revenue per Acre         | \$ 372                 | \$ 343    | \$ 276    |
| Expenses per Acre        | \$ 237                 | \$ 277    | \$ 256    |
| Net Farm Income per Acre | \$ 90                  | \$ 66     | \$ 20     |
| Return to Owned Capital  | 13.2%                  | 6.7%      | .9%       |

Table 4.  
Michigan Cash Crop Farms by Size, 1993

|                    | SIZE                |               |                        |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|
|                    | Less than 400 Acres | 400-800 Acres | Greater than 800 Acres |
| Tillable Acres     | 315                 | 568           | 1,521                  |
| Capital Owned      | \$272,672           | \$501,220     | \$1,006,288            |
| Total Revenue      | \$ 90,777           | \$197,027     | \$ 474,857             |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 79,941           | \$160,278     | \$ 344,468             |
| Net Farm Income    | \$ 10,836           | \$ 36,749     | \$ 130,389             |





# 8 Deciding the Fate of Conservation Reserve Program

Sandra S. Batie and David B. Schweikhardt, Dept of Ag. Econ., Michigan State University

The future of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) will be a pivotal issue in the 1995 farm bill debate. Established under the Food Security Act of 1985, the original objectives of the CRP were to provide a voluntary form of supply control and to reduce soil erosion by retiring highly erodible land on a long-term basis. The latter objective was expanded in 1990 to include retirement of lands for the purpose of protecting water quality.

The first set of CRP contracts will expire in 1995, with the majority of acreage leaving the CRP in 1996 and 1997. Many people are concerned about the impact of the expiration of these contracts on both commodity prices and on the environment.

Extending these contracts or bringing additional land into the CRP, however, will require new taxpayer funding. This money could only come from either new sources -- a highly unlikely possibility -- or from another federal program. If the money comes from another program, it would probably come from a reductions in other agricultural programs.

Because changes in the CRP could impact crop and livestock prices, deficiency payments, farm income, and the environment, all Michigan farmers will be affected by the future of the CRP, regardless of whether they are currently enrolled in the CRP.

### A Brief History of the CRP

In the early 1980s, land in agricultural production reached the highest level of the post-World War II period. It was clear that American farmers were producing more of the major commodities than could be cleared by domestic and export markets. At the same time, concerns arose about the environmental impact of production on highly erodible lands.

In such a context, it made little sense for USDA programs to provide deficiency payments to grow crops on these lands, particularly since farm program costs were spiraling upwards. From these reasons, a consensus was reached to establish the Conservation Reserve Program.

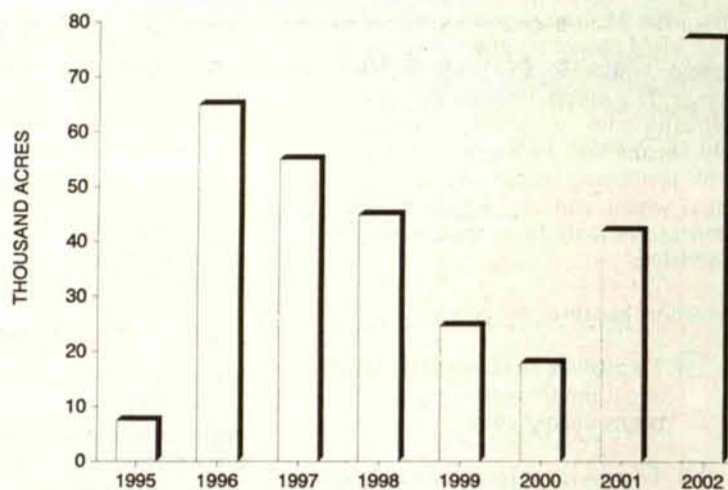
The CRP was initially targeted at highly erodible lands, and farmers were permitted to bid to enroll acreage in the CRP. Land was selected for the CRP if it met the erosion eligibility criteria and the farmer's bid price was

below a pre-determined bid price per acre. The CRP was revised in the 1990 farm bill to include land that protected water quality and wildlife habitat.

There are now 36.4 million acres enrolled in the CRP throughout the nation by over 535,000 land owners. Annual rental payments exceed \$1.7 billion dollars. Michigan has 8,039 CRP contracts, accounting for 332,853 acres that will receive \$206 million dollars in payments during the life of these contracts. Michigan's CRP payments rank 25th among the 50 states. The largest share of CRP contracts will expire between 1996 and 1998, with contracts on 164,000 acres of land in Michigan expiring dur-

# '95 FARM BILL

FIGURE 1. EXPIRATION OF CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTRACTS IN MICHIGAN



ing these years (Figure 1). Contracts on 28 million acres of land will expire nationwide during the same period.

## A NEW MONEY SAVING HEALTH PLAN

FOR FARM OWNERS & OPERATORS

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Type of Farm/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Current Health Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Full Time Employees \_\_\_\_\_

Sole proprietor (1 person group)

2-4  5-9

10-24  25 and over

### Other CRP Program Options

Option 1 - Program Termination see page 9

Option 2 - Partial CRP Extension see page 9

Option 3 - Redirecting CRP see page 9

### Calendar of Events

July 19-21, MSU-AG Expo, Michigan State University.

July 20, Summerfest, MFB Center, Lansing. Call Kevin Kirk, (517) 323-7000, ext. 2024.

July 23, Forage Field Day, Lake City Agriculture Experiment Station, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Harlan Ritchie, (517) 355-8409.

July 26, Plant Problem Diagnosis Field Day, Michigan State University. Call Jim Kells, (517) 355-2173.

July 26, KBS Agricultural Open House (gather at Kellogg Dairy), Kellogg Biological Station, Hickory Corners, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Call Jim Bronson, (616) 671-2515.

July 27, MSU Muck Research Farm Field Day, Laingsburg, 1 p.m. Call Darryl Warnke, (517) 355-0210.

June 29, MSU Weed Day, Botany and Plant Path. Farm, College Road, MSU. Call Jim Kells, (517) 355-2173.

July 29-31, ASA Soybean Expo 94, Kansas City, Mo., contact the American Society of Agronomy Office, 1-800-688-7692.

August 5-7, Llamafest, Kalamazoo Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo. Fourth annual meeting includes workshops, demonstrations, show and sale for Llamas. Call Leah Bird, (616) 657-6379, for more information.

August 17 & 18, Potato Field Day, Pig/Beef Roast, and Potato Variety Tour, MSU Montcalm Research Farm, Entrican. Call Dick Chase, (517) 355-0206.

August 23, Saginaw Valley Research Farm Field Day, Saginaw Valley Bean and Beer Research Farm, 9:30 a.m. - noon. Call Don Christenson, (517) 353-4594.

Mail or FAX information (include contact name and phone number) three weeks in advance to:

Michigan Farm News P.O. Box 30960 Lansing, MI 48909-8460 FAX: (517) 323-6793

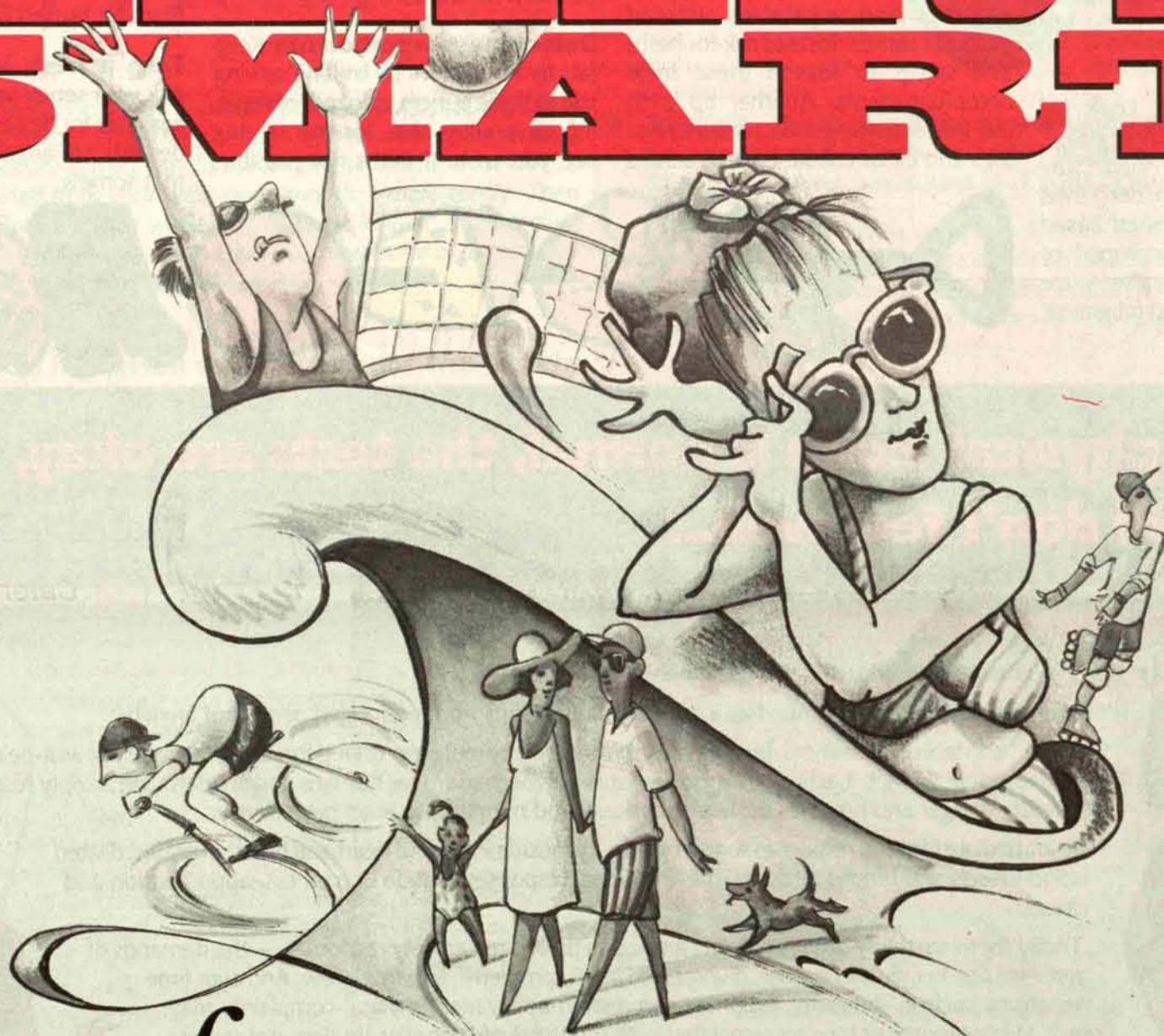


# HEALTH HARVEST

A Health and Wellness Publication of Michigan Farm Bureau

July 1994 VOL 15, No. 1

## HEART START



## ...tips for summer exercise

**S**ummer brings out the kid in all of us, so you're probably getting more outdoor exercise and that's good! But here are some tips to help you enjoy summer sports and activities without increasing your risk of heart attack. Although your chance of having a heart attack during exercise is small, it's good advice to get a doctor's OK before starting a new or increased exercise program — especially if you're older or out of shape. Then follow these tips:

**P**lan Regular Exercise — Risk of heart attack increases if intense workouts are infrequent. The key to a healthy exercise program is regular, moderate daily or weekly exercise.

**A**void start and stop activities — Choose exercise activities, such as walking, swimming and cycling, that maintain a "continuous" level of exertion.

**E**xercise, don't compete — You may not be the winner if you increase your risk of heart attack through the physical and emotional intensity of competitive sports.

**A**void exercise after a large meal — Wait two or three hours after meals before exercising. The digestive process directs away from your heart to fuel your digestive system.

**T**ake the talk test — Count out loud to check your breathing. You should be able to talk easily while exercising. If you are breathless or find talking difficult, you're overexerting.

**D**o a weather check — Common sense tells us that the speed, distance and intensity of exercise should be adjusted down when it's hot and humid. Drink plenty of fluids.

**W**arm up and cool down — Warm up stretches and exercises gradually increase your heart rate and help prevent muscle strain (and pain). Cool down exercises help your heart to return gradually to its normal rate and this reduces stress on your heart. Stretching reduces the risk of muscle strain.

**A**void running or jogging near heavy traffic areas where auto emissions of carbon monoxide reduce the oxygen supply to your heart. Instead, choose parks, neighborhoods or other open areas for running and jogging.

**W**atch for Warning Signals — Sensations of dizziness, nausea, weakness, chest pain or shortness of breath are signals that you should stop exercising and see your doctor.





# Trimming Fat on the Restaurant Menu

# Life

Knowing how to trim fat from restaurant menus is an important health-conscious skill we can all learn. That's especially so if you, like most Americans, eat one in five meals away from home.

## Here's how:

Sharpen your menu-ese: Look for dishes that are broiled, poached, grilled, roasted, steamed or stir-fried. Stay away from "crispy" fried or deep-fried dishes. Cheeses and creamed based dishes — described as scalloped or escalloped, creamed, au gratin — are tempting but likely to boost fat grams.

**Have it your way:** Ask if the chef can prepare a dish with a low-fat method. For example, the chef can broil fish fillets instead of pan-frying or deep-frying them.

**Be specific about extras:** Order potatoes and vegetables without butter or sauces. Instead ask for herbs and spices to season these meal accompaniments. Another tip is to ask that sauces, gravies, salad dressings and other condiments be served

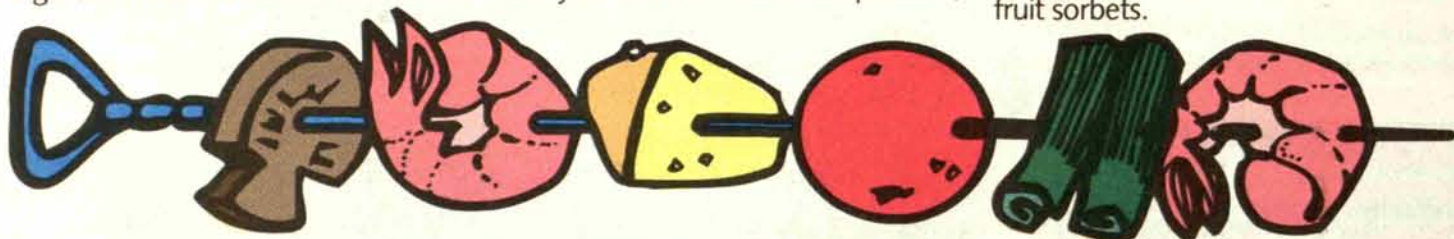
"on the side." You can dip your fork tines into the side serving before tasting your salad or other dish. That way you'll get the flavor of the sauce or dressing without all of the calories and fats. Skip bacon bits, cheese and croutons on salads.

**Determine your portion size:** Keep fats to a minimum by limiting serving size to three ounces (cooked) of meat, fish or poultry. Ask for the serving size you wish. If that's not possible,

limit the serving size by requesting that part of the entree be wrapped to take home.

**Mind the munchies:** If the server brings chips for your table, ask for something lower in fat such as bread (without butter) or pretzels.

**Take a fresh look at desserts:** Ask your server whether fresh fruit is available for dessert. Other "guiltless" desserts are angel food cake and icy fruit sorbets.



## When the physical exam is normal, the tests are okay, but you still don't feel well...

### DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?



If so, you may be suffering the effects of persistent anxiety.

Persistent anxiety can be described as a condition that results from prolonged periods of anxiety.

"Anxiety" is a state of uneasiness, fear or worry, brought on by real or perceived threats to our safety or well-being. It's an entirely normal response; in fact, it acts as an important survival mechanism for humans and animals. The anxiety response alerts us to impending danger and prepares us, both physically and mentally, to react protectively.

The immediate physical responses set off by anxiety include increased heart and breathing rates, dilated blood vessels and tensed muscles. The emotional responses include uneasiness, apprehension and dread.

Today there are many situations that can lead to prolonged anxiety responses — the demands of a stressful career, financial woes, divorce and family problems, to name a few. And over time symptoms such as irritability, edginess, depression and varied physical complaints may result. While anxiety or tension associated with the stress of everyday life does not require treatment with anxiety reducing drugs, treatment may be necessary when symptoms become persistent and severe enough to compromise function or quality of life.

### IT'S NOT ALL IN YOUR HEAD

People tend to think of anxiety as purely a "mental" or "emotional" problem. But anxiety can affect both the body and mind. Therefore, persistent anxiety can produce a variety of emotional and physical symptoms.

Common emotional symptoms include: irritability, tension, excessive worry, edginess, difficulty falling asleep, fatigue and difficulty concentrating. Depressive symptoms like feeling sad or "down" may also accompany persistent anxiety.

Common physical symptoms include: rapid heartbeat, shakiness, chest pain, burning stomach, stomach upset or pain, headaches, difficulty breathing, muscle aches and pains.

Many of these symptoms are similar to those of other diseases. In fact, they may lead you to believe you have a physical disease, not persistent anxiety. It is only when a physical examination and medical tests reveal no physical disease that your physician may suspect persistent anxiety to be the cause. Still, while it is reassuring to know that your disease is not primarily physical, persistent anxiety is a very "real" problem and can have a significant impact on your health and overall quality of life. What's more, it is a condition that can be treated.

### TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE

The most important step toward obtaining relief is to consult with your physician. Depending on your medical history and symptoms, he or she may recommend a treatment regimen that includes relaxation techniques, dietary changes (especially reduction of caffeine intake — a common culprit in anxiety-related complaints), increased exercise, and/or a course of therapy with a medication designed to relieve persistent anxiety.

In addition, to help you find better ways of coping with the pressures and circumstances that may have initially caused or contributed to persistent anxiety, your physician may suggest that you join a support group, or seek individual counseling with a qualified therapist.





# Style

## 15 Seconds to Better Health

### Breathing a little easier...

People with asthma could control their condition better through properly using and administering the steroid-based medications in their inhalers. In general, the following describes the correct way to use an inhaler: Position the device about an inch and a half from your wide-open mouth. Exhale gently. Then inhale slowly for five seconds or so while activating the inhaler, and directing the spray toward the back of your mouth. Hold your breath for as long as you comfortably can (up to 10 seconds). Exhale slowly.

### Recognize heart attack symptoms

Heart attack victims can help prevent serious damage and even death by recognizing heart attack symptoms and seeking medical treatment immediately. Statistics show that most of the damage from a heart attack and half of all heart-attack deaths occur during the first hour after symptoms begin.

Symptoms to watch for are \* a sensation of uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing, aching or pain located in the center of the chest; \* pain, aching or heaviness which may involve the shoulders, neck, jaw, arms or upper back; \* chest pain along with lightheadedness, faintness, sweating, nausea, vomiting or shortness of breath.



### Cool Treatment for Sunburn

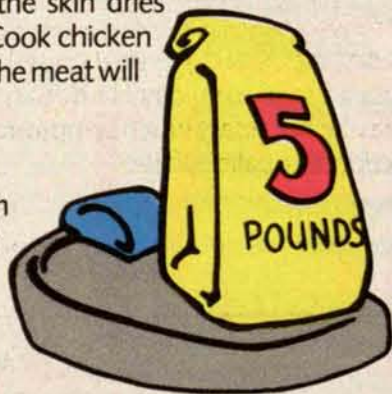
Refrigerate your sunburn cream. Most brands contain menthol, an anesthetic that stimulates the skin's nerves that perceive cold. The soothing effect of these creams is enhanced if they are cool when applied.

### Tasty Solution to Low Fat Cooking

You consume nearly twice the fat when you eat poultry without removing the skin. But cooking white meat chicken without the skin dries out the meat. Solution: Cook chicken with the skin on, but remove it before serving. The meat will be moist, but not more fat.

### Pound for Pound...

It's easy to check the accuracy of your bathroom scales using an unopened five pound bag of sugar or flour.



## When You Kick the Habit...

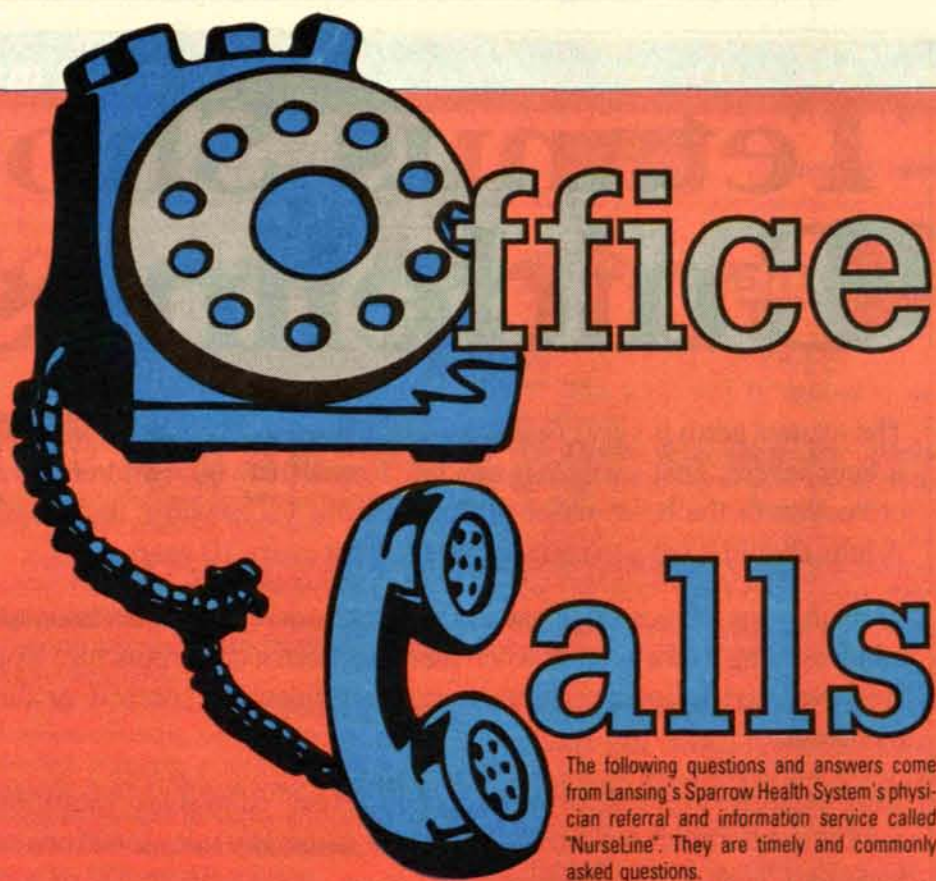
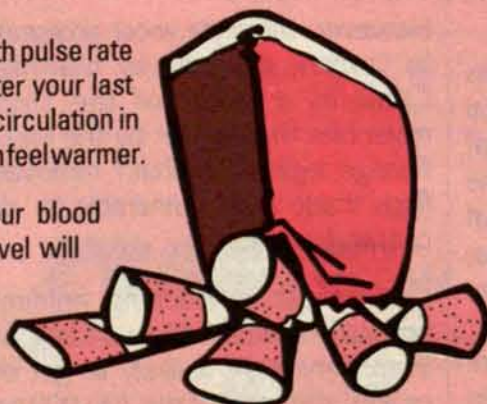
Almost as soon as you put out your last cigarette, your body begins repairing the damage to lungs, heart, blood and other organs.

\* The nicotine in cigarette smoke elevates both pulse rate and blood pressure, but just 20 minutes after your last cigarette, both return to "normal." Also the circulation in your hands and feet will improve, making them feel warmer.

\* After eight hours, the oxygen level in your blood will increase and the carbon monoxide level will drop to normal.

\* By the end of your first smoke-free day your chances of a heart attack begin to decrease.

\* After the second day, there will be a noticeable improvement in taste and smell.



The following questions and answers come from Lansing's Sparrow Health System's physician referral and information service called "NurseLine". They are timely and commonly asked questions.

**Q: Recently the media has reported a number of deaths as a result of a "flesh-eating" bacteria. What is this bacteria and is it contagious?**

**A.** Streptococcus pyogenes or "group A strep" is a bacteria that causes a variety of infections. These include skin infections, strep throat, scarlet fever and rheumatic fever. This bacteria can be found virtually everywhere in our population, and is a part of the natural flora of skin and mucous membranes of humans. In this sense, yes, it is contagious.

However, the media has focused on small groups of patients with serious infections from a particular strain of group A strep. To label this medical condition a "flesh-eating" bacteria is creating needless fear. In comparison to other strep infections such as strep throat, this condition is not considered highly contagious.

This strain of group A strep can cause an uncommon infection, which takes hold in a cut, abrasion or puncture wound, and produces a toxin which destroys tissue.

Warning signs of this infection include:

- Cuts that become red or hot to the touch within a few hours.
- A high fever.
- Extreme pain at the site of the injury.

Early diagnosis and treatment are key in reducing the seriousness of this infection. Antibiotics are effective, but in severe cases, surgery may be required.

As with any minor cut, abrasion or puncture wound, cleaning the wound, using appropriate antiseptics and antibiotic ointments and applying sterile dressings are the best preventative steps. Whenever there exists swelling, severe redness or pain, or any of the above warning signs, please see your doctor.

Dr. John Dyke is the director of infection control and epidemiology at Sparrow Hospital.

**Q: Why does contact with poison ivy cause a rash? What is the best treatment?**

**A.** Plants of the Rhus family, including poison ivy and poison sumac, can be found nearly everywhere in Michigan. These plants usually have leaves of three on a stem. Some people develop a sensitivity to oil contained in the plant, and suffer very itchy, watery blisters on exposed areas. The time that it takes to develop into a rash varies from individual to individual. Some people can begin to react in minutes, others in hours. Some people are so sensitive that they can suffer a severe reaction when exposed to the tiny droplets carried in the smoke from a wood fire, if the wood has had contact with poison ivy.

Treatment of the rash usually consists of anti-itch medications and lotions. In some cases, patients require systemic corticosteroids to control the spread of the rash.

As with most things, prevention is the key. If one suspects they have been exposed to poison ivy, it is best to wash the oil off with rubbing alcohol. In the past, it was thought that soap and water would neutralize this oil, but this is generally not effective. Some recently developed creams have been thought to prevent poison ivy if they are applied prior to exposure to the plant. Of course, what is best is to avoid exposure to the vines and leaves of these plants that cause such misery, so the best advice is "Leaves of Three Beware of Thee."

Dr. Donald Hulding is a dermatologist and associate clinical professor at Michigan State University.

The above questions and answers are for general information purposes only. If you have symptoms or health related questions, consult your physician.



# Tetanus Shot Guidelines

The tetanus germ is very common and the disease it causes — lockjaw — is very severe. That's why it is most important that your children have the protection of the basic series of three tetanus vaccinations and boosters. Adults should have a tetanus booster at least every 10 years.

Consult your doctor or physician's assistant to make a decision about administering a tetanus shot when there has been a cut or puncture wound. However, the following offers some guidelines for yourself or family members:

Tetanus germs are less likely to infect injuries caused by sharp, clean objects such as a razor blade or knife than an injury caused by rusty metal or a metal hand tool, such as a screwdriver.

Scratches or scrapes should not present a danger of tetanus infection. That's because tetanus germs cannot grow in the presence of air — the germs are anaerobic. Therefore, the greatest danger of tetanus infection from a wound comes when the skin is cut deeply or punctured.

The initial vaccination series and timely boosters are the best protection. The first series of childhood tetanus shots causes the body to develop tetanus immunity rapidly and then the protection decreases over the succeeding months. After each booster shot, the immunity develops more quickly and lasts longer. According to the U.S. Public Health Service guidelines, once the initial series of basic three shots and two boosters has been given, protection lasts about 10 years after each subsequent booster shot.

Nonetheless, if you sustain a severe cut or puncture wound and have not had a tetanus booster in the last five years, you should consult a physician or physician's assistant to make sure that you are fully protected from tetanus infection.

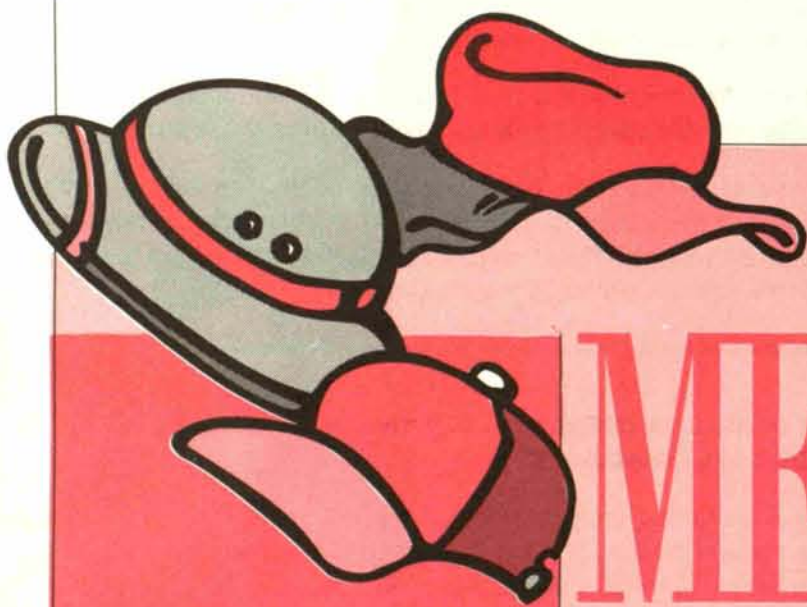


## Diagnosing and Treating Lyme Disease

Warnings about Lyme disease carried by woodland ticks captured the headlines a few years ago. Now a new test for identifying Lyme bacteria (*Borrelia burgdorferi*) in joint fluid can improve treatment of arthritis caused by advanced Lyme disease.

Research and development of the test was announced earlier this year by the New England Journal of Medicine, the New England Medical Center, Tufts University and the Mayo Clinic doctors. Thanks to their research, doctors now have a powerful new diagnostic tool for helping patients whose Lyme arthritis has gone untreated or has not responded to standard antibiotic therapy.

If the test confirms that *B. burgdorferi* bacteria are still present after treatment with antibiotics, doctors can prescribe a longer course or a different type of antibiotic. Failure to detect the bacteria indicates symptoms are due to another cause and more antibiotics won't help.



**A baseball style cap isn't your best protection from summer sun — especially if it has a mesh top.**

That's the advice of Barbara Lee, R.N., assistant director of Marshfield Clinic's National Farm Medicine Center in Wisconsin. The Center has conducted a study among farm workers on the types of hats providing the best protection from the sun.

"Our field study shows that the traditional baseball-style cap offers little or no protection from sun exposure," Lee said. Hats with mesh tops offer minimal protection for those with thinning hair.

Although none of the 11 hat types Marshfield tested was perfect, several styles offer a good combination of features. In addition to shading the forehead, eartips, temples, back of the neck, and lower face and lips, the hat must be practical for outdoor activities, ranging from sports, gardening and picnics to farm work with animals and machinery. Children especially should be protected from

the sun because skin damage can accumulate over the years. Hat styles tested included pith helmet, deer stalker, cowboy, bush, trek and straw hats.

However, the style most acceptable to farmers, designed by Marshfield Clinic as a result of the study, resembles those worn by the French Foreign legion. The hat's removable flaps shade areas vulnerable to skin cancer, Lee noted.

Skin cancer is reaching epidemic proportions, warned Lee, adding, one in six Americans is likely to get skin cancer, and most of the 700,000 new cases expected in 1994 will be the

result of too much exposure to the sun.

Groups considered at high risk for skin cancer include those with fair or freckled skin, blue eyes, blond or red hair, family history of skin cancer, those who are exposed to the sun regularly, and especially those who have had severe sunburn cases during childhood.

Most types of skin cancer are curable if detected and treated early, says Lee. But prevention is vital: avoid sun exposure during the hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; use a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or greater, and wear protective clothing.

# MEDICAL FOCUS



# '95 FARM BILL

## Option 1: No Extension of CRP Contracts

There have been several national surveys of CRP contract holders' anticipated use of CRP land after the contracts expire. These surveys suggest that contract holders intend to return 63 percent of their enrolled land to crop production and keep 23 percent in grass for hay production or grazing livestock.

Four percent of the acreage would remain in trees for commercial wood production, 2 percent would be kept in wildlife uses and 3 percent would be kept in grass or trees with no commercial use. Three percent of contract holders plan to sell their land, and the remaining 2 percent plan other uses or were undecided on future use.

Studies suggest that if all CRP acres are returned to their previous uses, crop prices would be 10 to 15 percent lower than they otherwise would be in years of tight supply. Net income from livestock would increase due to lower feed prices.

## Option 3: A Re-targeted (Leaner and Meaner) CRP

Despite the apparent success of the CRP, the program has many critics. Criticisms of the CRP include the cost of the program, the targeting of the program at soil erosion rather than at a wider range of environmental problems, and the nature of the program.

Criticisms of the program's cost focus on both the total program cost (\$1.8 billion annually) and on the fact that in some parts of the country -- particularly the arid regions of the Great Plains -- the CRP rental rates were 200 to 300 percent higher than local cash rental rates. Some critics suggest that CRP funds would be better spent on purchasing permanent conservation easements on critical lands.

Other critics allege that the CRP places too much emphasis on soil erosion problems and fails to address off-farm water quality problems. They argue that the twin goals of supply control and environmental protection are incompatible and that the program should focus on attaining increased off-farm environmental protection. Any effort to widen the environmental focus of the CRP would have to expand both the types of land and the types of commodities eligible for enrollment in the program.

The third criticism is that the money would be better spent influencing how farmers farm and not which lands they farm -- at least if the goal is the protection of the environment. These critics would prefer to use conservation dollars for cost-sharing of improved farm management systems.

In response to these criticisms, the CRP could be designed to be "leaner and meaner," with fewer acres enrolled and a more direct targeting of the program at off-farm environmental problems. This alternative could include land not currently eligible for the CRP and might allow parts of fields to be enrolled in the CRP as filter strips rather than requiring the enrollment of entire fields as is done under the existing program.

One result of redesigning the CRP is that more Michigan cropland would be eligible under a redesigned CRP, particularly if the enrollment criteria included factors such as potential pesticide loadings, nitrogen leaching or run-off rates, use of filter strips, protection of wildlife habitat, or proximity to population centers.

Studies have concluded that more acreage would be eligible in Michigan under a redesigned program that maximizes environmental benefits per dollar, rather than a program that maximizes the soil erosion reduction per dollar. Much of this acreage would be in non-program crops, thereby allowing a wider range of farming enterprises to be eligible under a redesigned CRP.

## Deciding the Fate of Conservation Reserve Program

9

If fewer lands were returned to crop production (such as the 63 percent indicated previously), the impact on commodity prices will be smaller, particularly if set-aside requirements are increased. Livestock and hay producers would probably see increased competition from the 23 percent of CRP land that could return to hay or grazing uses.

The CRP is estimated to have reduced soil erosion by 672 million tons, or nearly 30 percent of the total estimated erosion in the U.S. Michigan is estimated to have erosion reductions of 3.2 million tons per year due to the CRP.

In addition, there have been conservation and environmental benefits from improved wildlife habitat and reduced pesticide contamination of surface and groundwater associated with the CRP contracts. These benefits could be reduced dramatically if CRP land returns to crop production.

On the other hand, there have been some negative economic impacts for local communities as farmers purchased less seed, fertilizer, and machinery because land was idled through CRP contracts. There may be increased economic activity in these industries if cropland returns to production after the CRP contracts expire.

### Option 2:

#### Partial Extension of Existing CRP Contracts

The impacts discussed previously will be diminished with partial (or full) extension of existing CRP contracts. The impact on prices and farm income will depend, in part, on the set-aside requirements established for land returning to the commodity programs.

Any extension of contracts will require new funding. Under the existing budget rules, these funds would probably come from a reduction of commodity program benefits for all commodity program participants.

There is some consideration being given to the option of allowing low-intensity use of CRP land, such as grazing, in return for lower rental payments. Such an option could result in increased competition for livestock producers as CRP land is shifted to such uses, but the budget cost of the CRP would be reduced.

Another alternative would be to tailor an extended CRP to match the provisions of the Clean Water Act, so that the CRP could be used to support "best management practices" required under a reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. Such an approach could provide farmers with a source of funding for implementing pollution

run-off controls that may be required by the Clean Water Act.

The emphasis on a wider range of environmental benefits stems from an increasing public demand for improved environmental quality and from recently completed trade agreements that discourage agricultural subsidies based on production and supply control, but permit direct income subsidies to farmers based on the adoption of environmental practices.

### Conclusion

Though some observers believe the farm bill debate will be less favorable than in the past, programs protecting environmental quality will probably receive as favorable a treatment.

Many environmental groups are willing to support some form of CRP, and farm organizations may find that the alliances and coalitions started in 1985 between agricultural interests and environmental groups will be necessary for passage of the 1995 farm bill. However, budgetary constraints will loom large in these discussions.

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## 10 Kleinhardt Selected MFB Volunteer of the Month

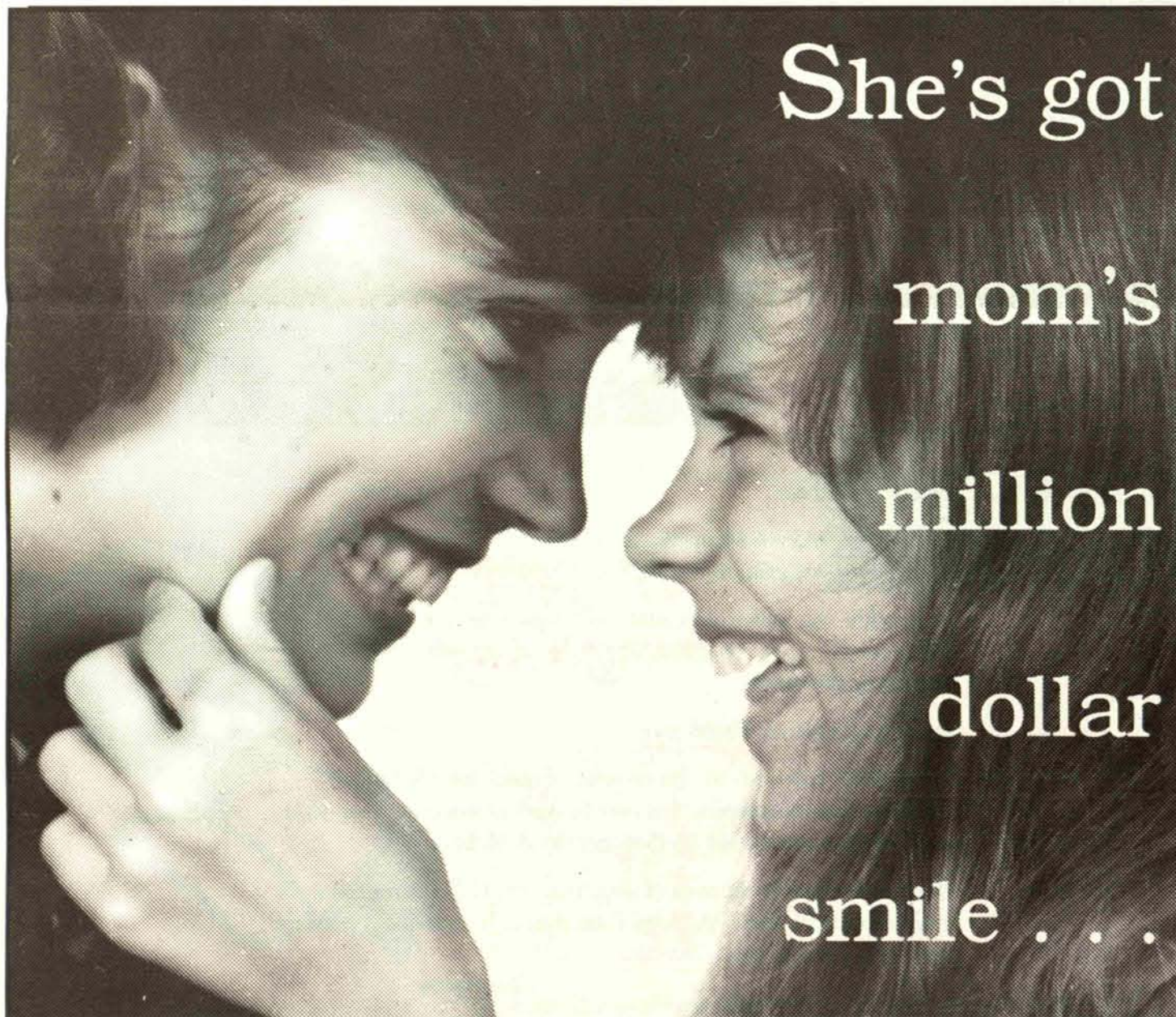
In honor of her fund raising efforts for students attending the Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminar, Erma Kleinhardt was selected as the MFB Volunteer of the Month. Her efforts raised over \$500 for students from Clare County to attend the week-long program in Grand Rapids recently.



Erma, along with her husband, Charles, operate a 120-cow dairy operation near Clare in partnership with sons, Dick and Tim. As chairperson of the county Promotion and Education Committee, Erma was also instrumental in a recent two-day farm tour for over 140 students from two different schools to the newly-completed Packard Farms.

## Summertime in Michigan Means County Fair Time!

| County    | City            | Date            | County                             | City          | Date            |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Alcona    | Lincoln         | Aug. 10-13      | Crawford                           | Grayling      | July 13-17      |
| Alger     | Chatham         | July 29-31      | Croswell                           | Croswell      | July 17-23      |
| Allegan   | Allegan         | Sept. 9-17      | Dickinson                          | Norway        | Sept. 1-5       |
| Alpena    | Alpena          | Aug. 21-27      | Eaton                              | Charlotte     | July 9-16       |
| Antrim    | Bellaire        | Aug. 25-27      | Emmet                              | Petoskey      | Aug. 20-28      |
| Arenac    | Standish        | July 17-23      | Fowlerville                        | Fowlerville   | July 18-24      |
| Armada    | Armada          | Aug. 16-21      | Genesee                            | Genesee       | Aug. 15-21      |
| Baraga    | Pelkie          | Aug. 12-14      | Gladwin                            | Gladwin       | July 25-30      |
| Barry     | Hastings        | July 16-23      | Gogebic                            | Ironwood      | Aug. 11-14      |
| Bay       | Bay City        | Aug. 11-14      | Gratiot for Youth                  |               |                 |
| Berlin    | Marne           | July 18-23      |                                    | Alma          | July 24-30      |
| Berrien   | Berrien Springs | Aug. 10-20      | Hillsdale                          | Hillsdale     | Sept. 25-Oct. 1 |
| Branch    | Coldwater       | Aug. 7-13       | Houghton                           | Hancock       | Aug. 25-28      |
| Calhoun   | Marshall        | Aug. 14-20      | Hudsonville                        | Hudsonville   | Aug. 22-27      |
| Cass      | Cassopolis      | July 17-23      | Huron                              | Bad Axe       | Aug. 7-13       |
| Cheboygan | Cheboygan       | July 30-Aug. 6  | Ingham                             | Mason         | July 29-Aug. 6  |
| Chippewa  | Kinross         | Aug. 31-Sept. 6 | Ionia                              | Ionia         | July 29-Aug. 7  |
| Chippewa  | Stalwart        | Sept. 8-10      | Iosco                              | Hale          | July 25-30      |
| Clare     | Harrison        | July 30-Aug. 6  | Iron                               | Iron River    | Aug. 18-21      |
| Clinton   | St. Johns       | Aug. 1-5        | Isabella                           | Mt. Pleasant  | Aug. 6-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Jackson                            | Jackson       | Aug. 7-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Kalamazoo                          | Kalamazoo     | Aug. 22-27      |
|           |                 |                 | Kalkaska                           | Kalkaska      | Aug. 7-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Kent                               | Lowell        | Aug. 8-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Lake                               | Baldwin       | Aug. 22-27      |
|           |                 |                 | Lapeer                             | Imlay City    | Aug. 8-14       |
|           |                 |                 | Lenawee                            | Adrian        | Aug. 14-20      |
|           |                 |                 | Luce-West Mackinac                 |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Newberry      | Aug. 11-14      |
|           |                 |                 | Manchester                         | Manchester    | July 12-16      |
|           |                 |                 | Manistee                           | Onkama        | Aug. 31-Sept. 5 |
|           |                 |                 | Marion                             | Marion        | June 20-25      |
|           |                 |                 | Marquette                          | Marquette     | Sept. 8-11      |
|           |                 |                 | Mecosta                            | Big Rapids    | July 8-16       |
|           |                 |                 | Menominee                          | Stephenson    | July 28-31      |
|           |                 |                 | Midland                            | Midland       | Aug. 14-20      |
|           |                 |                 | Missaukee                          | Falmouth      | Aug. 1-5        |
|           |                 |                 | Monroe                             | Monroe        | Aug. 1-6        |
|           |                 |                 | Montcalm                           | Greenville    | July 17-23      |
|           |                 |                 | Montmorency                        |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Atlanta       | Aug. 17-20      |
|           |                 |                 | Muskegon                           | Fruitport     | July 23-29      |
|           |                 |                 | Newaygo                            | Fremont       | Aug. 8-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Northern District Fair Association |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Cadillac      | Aug. 15-20      |
|           |                 |                 | Northwestern Michigan              |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Traverse City | Aug. 8-14       |
|           |                 |                 | Oakland                            | Davisburg     | Aug. 1-7        |
|           |                 |                 | Oceana                             | Hart          | Aug. 24-28      |
|           |                 |                 | Ogemaw                             | West Branch   | Aug. 15-20      |
|           |                 |                 | Ontonagon                          | Greenland     | July 28-32      |
|           |                 |                 | Osceola                            | Evart         | July 25-30      |
|           |                 |                 | Oscoda                             | Mio           | July 21-23      |
|           |                 |                 | Otsego                             | Gaylord       | Aug. 8-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Ottawa                             | Holland       | July 25-30      |
|           |                 |                 | Presque Isle                       |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Posen         | Sept. 8-11      |
|           |                 |                 | Roscommon                          |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Roscommon     | Aug. 25-28      |
|           |                 |                 | Saginaw                            | Saginaw       | Sept. 8-11      |
|           |                 |                 | Saline                             | Saline        | Sept. 6-10      |
|           |                 |                 | Sanilac                            | Sandusky      | July 30-Aug. 6  |
|           |                 |                 | Schoolcraft                        | Manistique    | Aug. 5-7        |
|           |                 |                 | Shiawassee                         | Corunna       | Aug. 7-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Sparta Area Fair                   |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Sparta        | July 21-24      |
|           |                 |                 | St. Clair                          | Goodells      | Aug. 1-6        |
|           |                 |                 | St. Joseph                         | Centreville   | Sept. 18-24     |
|           |                 |                 | Tuscola                            | Caro          | July 17-24      |
|           |                 |                 | Van Buren                          | Hartford      | July 11-16      |
|           |                 |                 | Vassar                             | Vassar        | July 5-10       |
|           |                 |                 | Washtenaw                          | Ann Arbor     | July 25-30      |
|           |                 |                 | Wayne                              | Belleville    | Aug. 9-13       |
|           |                 |                 | Western Mich. Fair Association     |               |                 |
|           |                 |                 |                                    | Ludington     | Aug. 21-27      |



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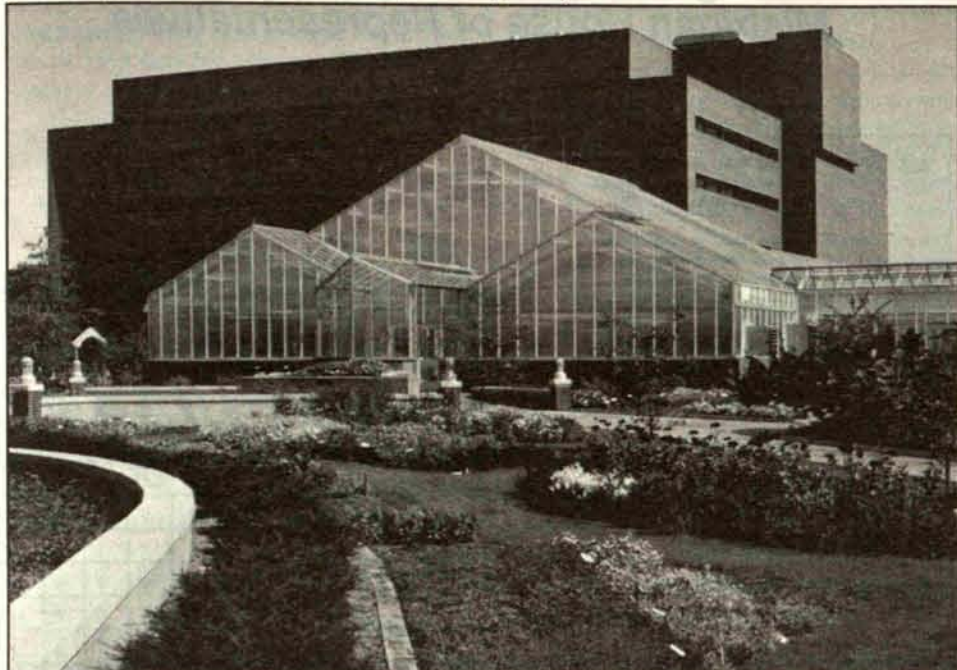
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# 11 A Design for the Future – Options in Landscape at MSU

The MSU Horticultural Gardens play a key role in the educational experience gained by students in the landscape design major.



by Karen Geiger

Landscape design is a new and growing field of study at Michigan State University (MSU), providing careers to those interested in architecture and plants. The university's Department of Horticulture offers a program to develop the skills and talents needed to put creative minds to work in the garden.

According to Dr. Wayne Loescher, professor and chairman for the Department of Horticulture, "The new landscape design and building construction management option in our department is where the future is." He also noted that this option holds numerous possibilities. "We have combined certain areas of educational focus to give our students the advantage for the challenge of landscaping design," he said.

With courses like irrigation, drainage and erosion control to graphics, communications and nursery management, the Department of Horticulture is preparing designers to produce gardens such as those at Disney World in Florida, or the new corporate building parks being developed around the country. Students learn the principles of growth and development of plants, along with courses in entomology and pathology, which focus on insect and disease management, and hands-on experience with site construction materials and methods.

Recent statistics show that over 50 percent of the students enrolled in the horticulture program are taking landscape design and building management. "With more people moving into the suburban areas and new businesses popping up, this area really has a future for me," said one student in the program.

The Michigan State University Horticultural Gardens are a part of the experience gained by students in landscape design. The courses provide students with the chance to develop talents, and learn marketing and communications skills to prepare them for their landscaping careers.

According to Loescher, the success of the department is due to the faculty and staff within the department. "Our department's greatest attribute is our faculty and staff," he says. "Their focus is on the students' success, and they provide time and dedication to cultivating students' talents and abilities into business managers and designers."

"I never have a problem seeing my advisor; he is always there and ready to help me," said a student in the department.

During the school year, students in the department have the opportunity for a number of award scholarships and working scholarships. The scholarships are made possible through industry and personal sponsors. The working scholarships give students a chance to work with a faculty member and learn the research and extension aspects of landscaping while earning a paycheck. Through this, students can investigate research careers in the landscape industry.

Students in the Landscape Design and Building Management option are required to complete an internship before graduation. This requirement is extremely important in preparing stu-

dents for their horticultural career. Landscaping is a competitive area, and MSU's goal is to prepare the students for the expectations of the industry. An internship allows students to build a network of people in the industry for future reference.

Through the internships, advisors, and working scholarships, students have the accessibility of the dedicated and friendly faculty. The Horticulture Club is also available for students to get together and do activities throughout the college and the university.

The club offers educational, professional and social activities for members, and sponsors many activities for its members including the annual Spring Garden Show. Students with a landscaping interest are able to participate in a

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national landscape competition, sponsored by the Associated Landscape Contractors of America. These opportunities and activities allow students to build a network of resources, and test their personal abilities and talents on a national level. "With our department continually ranking in the top across the nation, our students graduate from our department with 100 percent placement," notes Loescher.

When Michigan State University began its Department of horticulture, it attracted Liberty

Hyde Bailey, known as the "dean of American horticulture."

Today, MSU's Department of Horticulture is growing and thriving with a highly regarded faculty and staff, instructional laboratories and greenhouses, and demonstration gardens where students take the knowledge gained in the classroom and put it to work outside. With the reputation for excellence, the Landscape Design Building Construction and Management option is awaiting more creative minds to cultivate a garden of opportunities.

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# 12 1993 - 94 Voting Record of Michigan House of Representatives

**1. Automobile Insurance Reform (H.B. 4156)** - Vote on passage of a bill to reform Michigan's automobile insurance laws by enacting measures to curb lawsuits, control medical costs, and reduce auto insurance premiums. The House passed the bill March 9, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

**2. Dairy License (S.B. 75)** - Vote on passage of a bill to require certain security arrangements of milk plants to ensure the prompt payment to producers. The House passed the bill Feb. 24, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

**3. Pesticide Preemption (H.B. 4344)** - Vote on passage of a bill to prohibit, under certain circumstances, the regulation of

pesticides by local government. The House passed the bill March 23, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

**4. Medical Malpractice Tort Reform (S.B. 270)** - Vote on passage of a bill to reform Michigan's Medical Malpractice Law that will lower malpractice insurance rates and put limits on court awards. The House passed the bill April 28, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

**5. Repeal of State Inheritance Tax (H.B. 4597)** - Vote on passage of a bill to repeal the Michigan Inheritance Tax and adopt the federal pick up tax which exempts

Continued next page...see  
**State House Voting Issues**

## AgriPac Endorsements for Michigan House of Representatives

**KEY:** y or n Voted "yes" or "no" and against Farm Bureau position.  
Y or N Voted "YES" or "NO" and for Farm Bureau position.  
? Did not vote.  
\* Not elected to House at time of vote.

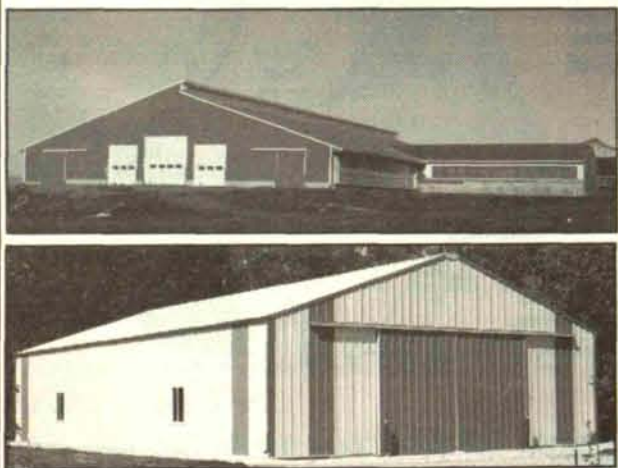
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| Michigan House District and Name        | 1 Auto Insurance Reform (H.B. 4156) | 2 Dairy License (S.B. 75) | 3 Pesticide Preemption (H.B. 4344) | 4 Medical Malpractice Reform (S.B. 270) | 5 State Inheritance Tax (H.B. 4597) | 6 Fruity Vegetable Residue (H.B. 4832) | 7 Personal Property Tax (H.B. 4833) | 8 Underground Tanks (S.B. 644) | 9 Farmland Protection (S.B. 74) | VOTES SUPPORTING MFB POLICY | VOTES OPPOSING MFB POLICY | ABSENT OR NOT VOTING | MFB SCORE (%) |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 103 Alley, Thomas (D-West Branch)       | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | ?                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 91 Baada, Paul (D-Muskegon)             | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 53 Birnbaum, Renee (R-Ann Arbor)        | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 101 Bobier, William (R-Hesperia)        | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 106 Bodem, Beverly (R-Alpena)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 79 Brackenridge, Robert (R-St. Joseph)  | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 1 Bryant, William (R-Grosse Pte. Farms) | ?                                   | Y                         | n                                  | ?                                       | Y                                   | ?                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 5                           | 1                         | 4                    | 50            |
| 38 Bullard, Willis Jr. (R-Milford)      | Y                                   | Y                         | n                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 45 Crisman, Penny (R-Rochester)         | Y                                   | Y                         | n                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 8                           | 1                         | 1                    | 80            |
| 86 Cropsey, Alan (R-DeWitt)             | Y                                   | n                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 8                           | 1                         | 1                    | 80            |
| 51 Curtis, Candace (D-Swartz Creek)     | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 90 Daiman, Jessie (R-Holland)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 72 DeLange, Walter (R-Grand Rapids)     | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | n                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 25 DeMars, Robert (D-Lincoln Park)      | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | ?                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 8                           | 1                         | 1                    | 80            |
| 39 Dobb, Barbara (R-Commerce Twp)       | Y                                   | Y                         | n                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | n                              | Y                               | 8                           | 2                         | 0                    | 80            |
| 71 Fitzgerald, Frank (R-Grand Ledge)    | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 107 Gagliardi, Pat (D-Drummond Island)  | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 44 Galloway, David (R-White Lake)       | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 87 Geiger, Terry (R-Lake Odessa)        | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 102 Gernaat, John (R-McBain)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 63 Gilmer, Donald (R-Augusta)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |

| Michigan House District and Name        | 1 Auto Insurance Reform (H.B. 4156) | 2 Dairy License (S.B. 75) | 3 Pesticide Preemption (H.B. 4344) | 4 Medical Malpractice Reform (S.B. 270) | 5 State Inheritance Tax (H.B. 4597) | 6 Fruity Vegetable Residue (H.B. 4832) | 7 Personal Property Tax (H.B. 4833) | 8 Underground Tanks (S.B. 644) | 9 Farmland Protection (S.B. 74) | VOTES SUPPORTING MFB POLICY | VOTES OPPOSING MFB POLICY | ABSENT OR NOT VOTING | MFB SCORE (%) |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 78 Gnodtke, Carl (R-Sawyer)             | Y                                   | ?                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 94 Goschka, Michael (R-Brant)           | Y                                   | n                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 67 Gustafson, Dan (R-Williamston)       | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 55 Hammarstrom, Beverly (R-Temperance)  | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 85 Harder, Clark (D-Owosso)             | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 84 Heilig, Julia (R-Udby)               | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 47 Hill, Sandra (R-Montrose)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | ?                                   | n                              | Y                               | 8                           | 1                         | 1                    | 80            |
| 88 Hillemonds, Paul (R-Holland)         | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 73 Horton, Jack (R-Belmont)             | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 40 Jamian, John (R-Bloomfield Hills)    | Y                                   | Y                         | n                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | n                               | 8                           | 2                         | 0                    | 80            |
| 89 Jellema, Jon (R-Grand Haven)         | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 96 Jersevic, Roland (R-Saginaw)         | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 9 Kilpatrick, Carolyn (D-Detroit)       | n                                   | Y                         | n                                  | n                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | ?                                   | Y                              | ?                               | 5                           | 3                         | 2                    | 50            |
| 33 Kukuk, Alvin (R-Macomb)              | Y                                   | n                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 65 LeTarte, Clyde (R-Horton)            | *                                   | *                         | *                                  | *                                       | *                                   | *                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 4                           | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 5 Lillis, David (D-Detroit)             | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 100 Llewellyn, John (R-Fremont)         | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | n                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 81 London, Terry (R-Marysville)         | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 105 Lows, Allen (R-Grayling)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 56 Maletich, Don (R-Monroe)             | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 99 McBryde, James (R-Mt. Pleasant)      | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 104 McManus, Michelle (R-Lake Leelanau) | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 98 McNutt, James (R-Midland)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 80 Midaugh, James (R-Paw Paw)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 46 Middleton, Thomas (R-Ortonville)     | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 60 Morrison, Jackie (R-Kalamazoo)       | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 66 Munsell, Susan (R-Howell)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | ?                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 58 Nye, Michael (R-Litchfield)          | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 59 Oxender, Glenn (R-Sturgis)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 11 Perricone, Charles (R-Kalamazoo)     | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 68 Ploeg, Linda (R-Holt)                | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 23 Porreca, Vincent (D-Trenton)         | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 54 Profit, Kirk (D-Ypsilanti)           | n                                   | Y                         | n                                  | n                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 7                           | 3                         | 0                    | 70            |
| 93 Randall, Gary (R-Alma)               | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 83 Rhead, Kim (R-Sandusky)              | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 50 Rider, Bruce (R-Grand Blanc)         | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 30 Rocca, Sue (R-Sterling Heights)      | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 64 Kathy Schmaltz (R-Jackson)           | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 74 Sikkema, Ken (R-Grandville)          | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | ?                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 32 Stout, Linda (R-Shelby Township)     | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 52 Straub, Martin (R-Chelsea)           | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 31 Tignanelli, James (R-Fraser)         | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 75 Vanderson, Robert (R-Grand Rapids)   | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |
| 8 Varga, Ilona (D-Detroit)              | Y                                   | Y                         | n                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | ?                                      | ?                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 7                           | 1                         | 2                    | 70            |
| 20 Vorva, Jerry (R-Plymouth)            | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | ?                              | Y                               | 9                           | 0                         | 1                    | 90            |
| 57 Walberg, Timothy (R-Tipton)          | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 10                          | 0                         | 0                    | 100           |
| 97 Wetters, Howard (D-Kawkawlin)        | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 21 Wyman, Deborah (R-Canton)            | Y                                   | n                         | Y                                  | Y                                       | Y                                   | ?                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | ?                               | 7                           | 1                         | 2                    | 70            |
| 82 Willard, Karen (D-Algonac)           | Y                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | n                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | Y                               | 9                           | 1                         | 0                    | 90            |
| 26 Yokich, Tracey (D-St. Clair Shores)  | n                                   | Y                         | Y                                  | n                                       | Y                                   | Y                                      | Y                                   | Y                              | n                               | 7                           | 3                         | 0                    | 70            |
| 29 Zaczek, Andy (R-Sterling Heights)    | NON-INCUMBENT                       |                           |                                    |                                         |                                     |                                        |                                     |                                |                                 |                             |                           |                      |               |

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## State Court of Appeals Endorsements

- |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>District 2 (three seats will be filled)</b>                                                                            | <b>District 3 (four seats will be filled)</b>                                                                                                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marilyn Kelly</li> <li>• Michael Modelski</li> <li>• Dennis Stretchuk</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richard Bandstra</li> <li>• Calvin Bosman</li> <li>• Paul Maloney</li> <li>• Timothy McMorow</li> </ul> |
| <b>District 4 (one seat will be filled)</b>                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norman Shinkle</li> </ul>                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |



## Discussion Topic for August -- "1995 Farm Bill"

13

Chairpersons of Community Action Groups and other county Farm Bureau leaders recently received a letter from MFB President Jack Laurie inviting them to attend one of three special 1995 farm bill meetings. Each meeting begins at 10 a.m. and adjourns at 3 p.m.

- The meetings are scheduled for:
- Aug. 15 at the Holiday Inn, Grayling;
  - Aug. 16 at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Grand Rapids; and
  - Aug. 17 at the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre in Flint.

### Awe Rats! - A Look at The Truly Absurd

A Kern County, Calif., farmer's equipment is being sued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) following an alleged violation of the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of California filed the suit titled, United States of America v. One Ford Tractor, Model 8630 and One Towner Offset Disc, Model A248, after USFWS officials confiscated the equipment owned by Tuang Ming Lin. Lin was charged with unlawfully killing endangered Tipton kangaroo rats while cultivating his fields.

Lin received permission from Kern County officials to cultivate his land to grow specialty vegetables, but was prevented from planting after USFWS found rats carcasses in his fields.

Criminal charges also filed against Lin and Wang-Lin Farms carry penalties of up to one year in jail and \$100,000 in fines. A coalition, including the Kern County Farm Bureau has organized protests and will aid in the defense of Lin.

Fish and Wildlife officials said the San Bernardino kangaroo rat could be placed on the federal endangered species list and protected as such. The San Bernardino would take its place on the list along side the Stephen's and Tipton kangaroo rats.

Developers fear listing of the San Bernardino rat could place San Bernardino County, Calif. construction projects in jeopardy, including construction of the San Bernardino International Airport and the Seven Oaks Dam.

To help you prepare for attending these meetings, a considerable amount of background information has appeared in the past several issues of the *Michigan Farm News*.

To further assist you in your farm bill discussions, this month's discussion topic presents 10-year economic projections developed by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute. The Institute was established in 1984 by a grant from Congress to provide economic analysis for policymakers and others interested in the agricultural economy.

The Institute predicts continued high economic growth in Asia for the next decade, modest growth in the U.S. economy and economic deterioration in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

In real terms, oil prices will remain relatively low. The U.S. dollar will go down versus the Japanese yen, but will gain in value against the currencies of most developing countries. Interest rates will increase from current low levels, but will remain well below the levels seen in the early 1980s.

In crop production, the Institute believes that feed-grain and wheat imports by Russia will decline. Feed-grain exports by China and the European Union will also decline. Mexico will

substantially increase imports of feed-grains. Argentina and Brazil will continue to expand exports of soybeans and soybean products, while soybean imports by the European Community and soybean meal imports by the countries of the former Soviet Union will be flat.

The livestock and dairy projections show declining world beef trade but increasing world pork trade. In particular, Japan and Mexico will continue to increase net pork imports.

The Institute believes feed use and industrial uses for U.S. crops will continue to expand. Assuming normal weather and ARP, prices will remain relatively stable while strengthening somewhat after the turn of the century. Net returns over variable costs are expected to generally decline, with cost increases outpacing yield increases.

For the U.S. livestock industry, the projections indicate that dairy farmers will increasingly adopt the use of BST. Milk prices will fall as the industry adopts to this new technology. Retail demand for beef will remain weak.

Finally, the Institute believes that cash receipts will continue to grow. Poultry, fruits and vegetables will show the largest gains. Production expenses will increase by an average rate of 1.6 percent per year. Net farm income is ex-

pected to decline through 1997 and then increase. Real farm income will likely decline through 1996 and then stabilize.

The 1995 farm bill will be an important policy development topic this fall. Become well informed so you can effectively contribute your ideas to the upcoming discussion.

### Australia Readies Assault of U.S. Farm Program

In anticipation of the 1995 farm bill debate, Australia is getting in position to campaign against U.S. agricultural protection programs. Australia's strategy in the past has been to focus on the cost to taxpayers and the affect on international markets of U.S. farm support programs. Their particular interest this year is likely to be the controversial export enhancement program, according to a *Knight-Ridder News* report.



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### Continued from previous page State House Voting Issues

\$600,000 of the value of an estate. The House passed the bill May 5, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

6. Land Application of Fruit and Vegetable Residue (H.B. 4852) - Vote on passage of a bill to allow a farmer to apply fruit and vegetable residue from food processing plants to the land. The House passed the bill June 23, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

7. Personal Property Tax Exemption of Certain Farm Machinery (H.B. 4833) - Vote on passage of a bill to clarify and continue agriculture's personal property tax exemption on agricultural handling equipment for fruit and vegetables. The House passed the bill July 14, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

8. Michigan Underground Storage Tank Financial Assurance Act MUSTFA (S.B. 644) - Vote on passage of a bill to amend the current MUSTFA program and require bid-letting on underground storage tank cleanups. The House passed the bill July 7, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

9. Michigan Groundwater & Freshwater Protection Act (S.B. 74) - Vote on passage of a bill to have the Michigan Department of Agriculture develop a voluntary groundwater stewardship program to prevent contamination of groundwater by pesticides. The House passed the bill Oct. 28, 1993. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

10. Farmland Definition (H.B. 5329) - Vote on passage of a bill to tax agricultural land that is classified as agricultural land or used primarily for agricultural purposes at the same 6 mill rate as homesteads. The House passed the bill May 12, 1994. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.



Kings Island





# 14 - Michigan Farm News Classifieds -

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| 4. Seeds               | 13. Business Opportunities | 22. Recreation        |
| 5. Livestock           | 14. Real Estate            | 23. Financing         |
| 6. Poultry             | 15. Real Estate Wanted     | 24. Investors Wanted. |
| 7. Dogs and Puppies    | 16. Estate Sales           | 25. Building Supplies |
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**08 Ponies/Horses**

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Place your ad for 6 months, get phone number or name in red. Place your ad for 1 year, get phone number or name in red and also save \$1.00 per ad. Call 1-800-968-3129 for details



**09**  
**Help Wanted**

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**11**  
**Agricultural Services**

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**12**  
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**14**  
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**2700 SQUARE FOOT** office, work shop and warehouse for rent. Ideal research station! Available with 70 acres. \$800 per month. Call 1-517-223-8214.

**336 ACRE** Grade A Dairy farm for sale. 270 tillable acres, wood lot and creek. Double four Herringbone parlor. Slurry store. 30 miles north of Grand Rapids in Newaygo County. 1-616-834-8383 or 1-616-834-5580.

**14**  
**Real Estate**

**HILLSDALE COUNTY:** 160 acres. Very secluded area. 91 acres tillable, remainder woods and shrubs. \$128,000. (F-811)

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**17**  
**Auctions**

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**FARM**  
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**REAL ESTATE**  
We also purchase Antiques, one piece or full estates. CALL NOW for spring and summer sales. 1-810-227-8040.

**19**  
**General**

**DEBT RESTRUCTURING:** 8 years practice representing Michigan family farmers. Specializing in reorganization! Experienced in many agricultural issues, including PA116 requests. **Attorney Daniel Kraft**, 1-517-485-8885.

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**NINE WHITE OAK** top logs for sale. 8' to 14', 18" to 24" diameter. Call 517-521-3521. Intersection of M-52 and I-96.

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**19**  
**General**

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**HEALTH INSURANCE** sponsored through Blue Cross Blue Shield! Many price and coverage options for both individuals and groups. Call your local Farm Bureau Insurance Agent or 1-800-292-2680 today.

**HIGH QUALITY** tillage wear parts at low group purchasing prices. SAVE. Call 800-292-2680 ext 2015.

**19**  
**General**

**Long Term Care Insurance** is now offered through Amex Life Assurance Company, the only company endorsed by the American Health Care Association. Contact a Farm Bureau Insurance Agent or call 1-800-292-2680 for more information.

**MEMBERS** have the opportunity to buy vehicles for as little as 1% over dealer cost through the Sav-on-Cars program! For a Sav-on-Cars order form contact your local county Farm Bureau office or call Sav-on direct at 313-347-2310.

**AFFORDABLE** Dental Insurance is here! For just a \$5 co-pay per visit you'll have routine exams, x-rays, cleanings and more covered at 100%! Call your local county Farm Bureau office or 1-800-292-2680 for more information.

**ARE YOU GETTING** a fair deal from your current propane supplier? Let Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. quote your LP gas needs. Call 1-800-579-3637 in Caro or 517-882-2822 in Lansing.

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**15**

**Farmers**

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**19**  
**General**

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**WOULD YOU LIKE** to simplify your on farm inventory of motor oils and lubricants. Let Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. show you an easy four step approach to lubricating your equipment. Contact us toll free at 1-800-451-6873.

**20**  
**Wanted to Buy**

**BUYERS OF STANDING** timber and veneer logs. **Devereaux Sawmill, Inc.** Pewamo, MI. Call 1-517-593-2552.

**Central Michigan Metals** Buyers of all grades of scrap metal. Call Kevin Ferguson, 1-517-386-2409 or 1-800-835-1170. 1215 East Maple Road, Clare, MI 48617

**WANTED:** Old motorcycles, snowmobile and off road vehicles. 1965 and older. Call JD, 1-517-676-0583.

**21**  
**Special Events**

**GREAT LAKES CHAPTER** American Ostrich Association invites you to attend their Seminar, October 8-9, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo, MI. Exhibitors Seminar Raffle Auction, Ostrich meat for dinner. For rates call, Barbara Smith, 1-517-732-2514, Derrick Borup, 1-616-642-9134.

**FOR DISPLAY AD INFORMATION CALL 1-800-292-2680 EXT. 3201**

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| 40 x 50 x 10     | \$7,185  |
| 50 x 60 x 12     | \$9,555  |
| 60 x 90 x 14     | \$16,151 |
| 150 x 200 x 16M1 | \$79,658 |

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SALE \$11,898  
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# 16 1994 Rural Education Days a Success

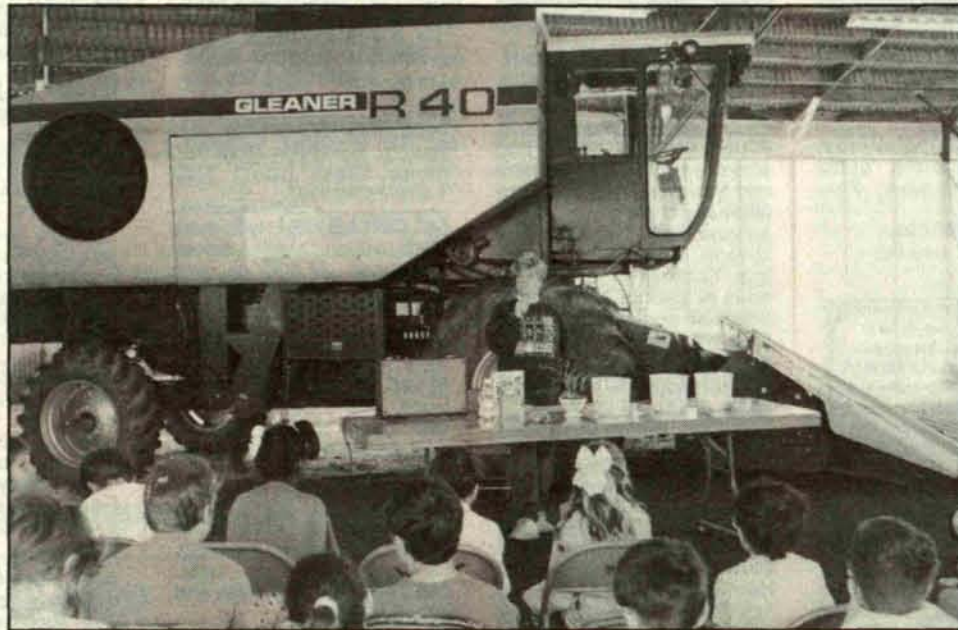
Approximately 1,175 students, teachers and chaperones participated in the fourth annual Washtenaw County "Rural Education Days (Project RED)" held at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds recently. The activity was sponsored by the Washtenaw County MSU Extension 4-H Program and the Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee.

The purpose of Project RED was to educate third grade students about local agriculture and natural resources. Students represented 17 schools from the Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Whitmore Lake, Lincoln and Manchester areas, according to Washtenaw County Extension Director Nancy Thelen.

Learning stations included a walk through Michigan commodities with Abe Lincoln, ewe and wool, water quality, growing corn, soil conservation, farm animals and dairy from "moo to you."

The finale of each session was "A Taste of Michigan," featuring samples of ice cream, dried cherries and blueberries, pork sausage, popcorn, honey, apples, potato chips

Below a volunteer talks to third grade students about agriculture and natural resources at the Rural Education Days sponsored by the Washtenaw County MSU Extension 4-H Program and the Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee.



and baked beans. Each participant also received a goodie bag filled with information from various organizations and a free seedling provided by the Washtenaw County Soil Conservation District.

In addition, participating teachers received an information/activity package on agriculture and natural resources for use in their classrooms.

The program relied on the the assistance of 200 dedicated volunteers and various clubs which helped with the program, and many local agricultural and natural resources organizations and, businesses, including: the Manchester High School Leadership Class, the Saline FFA, Washtenaw County Environmental Health, Washtenaw County 4-H, Extension, Farm Bureau groups and members, Soil Conservation, and the Ann Arbor Rabbit Breeders Association.

Contributors for Rural Education Days included the Washtenaw County Dairy and Livestock Council, the Pittsfield-Union Grange, Washtenaw County Soil Conservation District, Michigan Milk Producers and the Ann Arbor and Saline locals, Du-Russel's Potato Farm, Farm Bureau Insurance, Farm Bureau Women, Marjorie Mills, S-K Sales Inc., Diuble Feeds, Washtenaw County Farm Council, Michigan Beef Industry, Michigan Pork Producers Association, Michigan Corn Marketing Committee, Michigan Cattlewomen's Association, Michigan State Grange, Michigan Soybean Promotion, Dale Lesser, Michigan Farm Radio Network, American Sheep Industry, Michigan Blueberry Growers Association, Michigan Potato Growers, Michigan Apple Committee, Huehl Acres Pioneer Seeds, Dairy Council of Michigan, DuPont Agricultural Products, Feldkamp Christmas Trees, Michigan Bean Commission, George and Jan Schierle, Washtenaw County Farm Bureau and Washtenaw County MSU Extension.

## Beef Producers Sponsor Cycle Event to Support Cardiovascular Disease Research

Michigan's beef producers teamed up with the American Heart Association (AHA) to sponsor a HeartRide cycling fund-raiser.

The HeartRide took place on June 26 in Howell. Cyclists of all ages rode 25, 50 or 100 miles to raise money for cardiovascular disease research and community programs by asking family, friends and co-workers to sponsor their rides. After the event, cyclists were invited to enjoy refreshments and beef sub sandwiches at the finish line area.

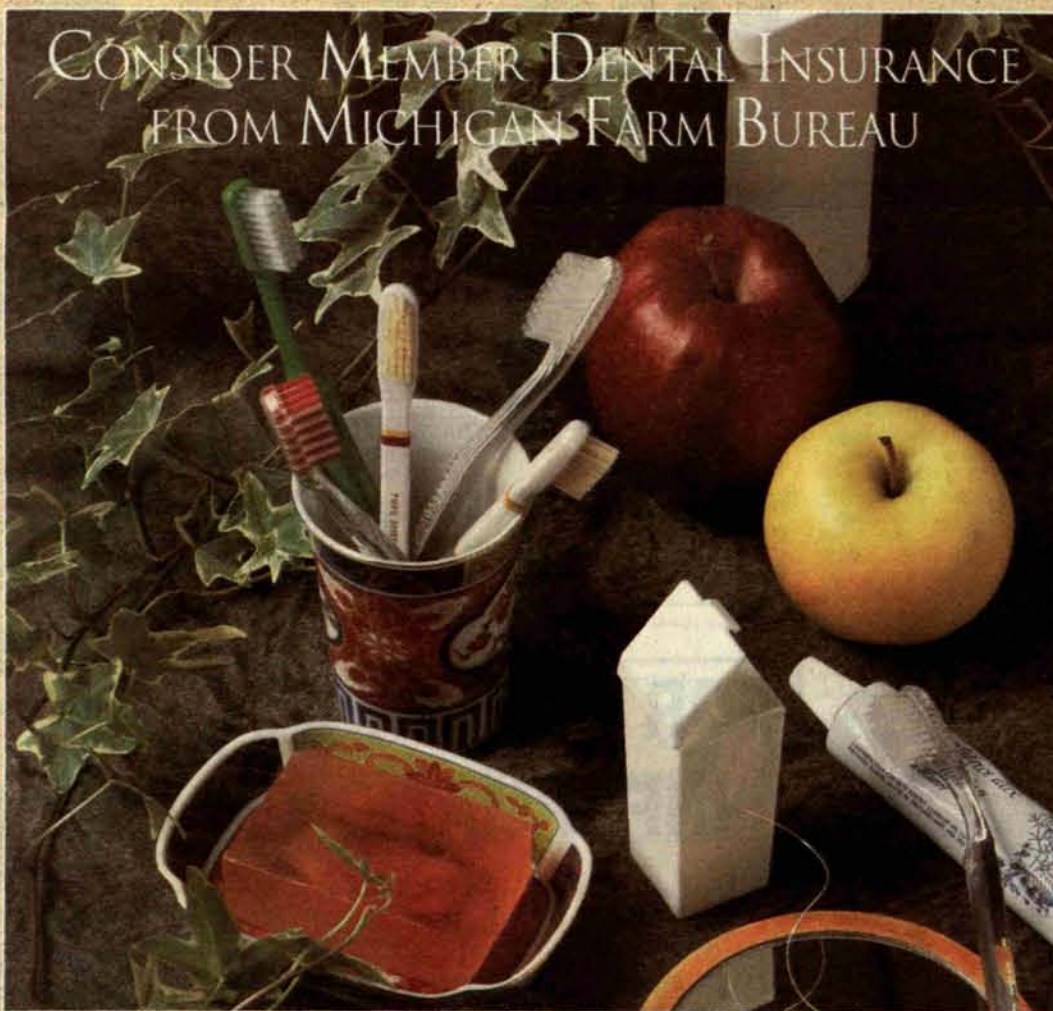
Cardiovascular disease can only be fought if it is prevented or a cure is found through research. "A combination of regular physical activity and good nutrition is essential to achieve a healthy lifestyle," said Kathleen Hawkins, executive director of the Michigan Beef Industry Committee. "Because cardiovascular diseases affect so many people in the prime of their lives, information on prevention through regular exercise and a heart-healthy diet was provided at the HeartRide event."

Beef checkoff dollars, a \$1-per-animal investment made by producers each time cattle are sold, is used to inform consumers about beef and its role in the diet through research education and promotion programs.

For more information about a heart-healthy diet, contact the American Heart Association or the Michigan Beef Industry Commission at (517) 347-0911.



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