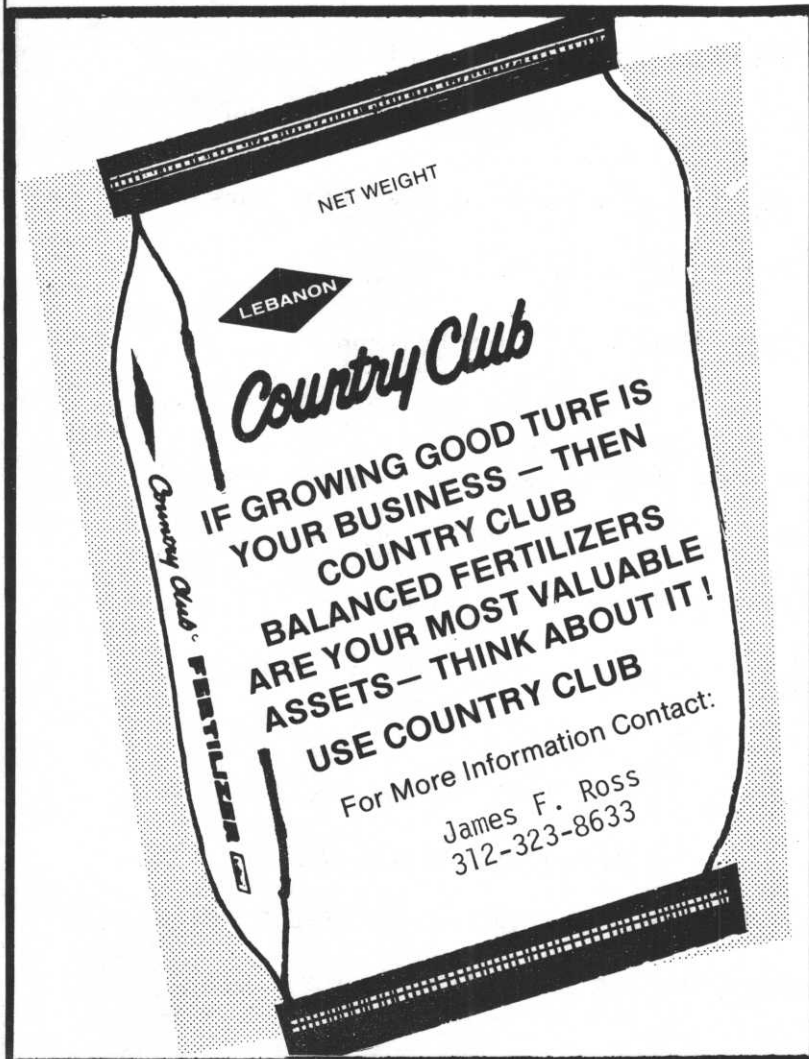


## STEP UP TO LADDER SAFETY

There's more than a grain of truth to the superstition that it's bad luck to walk under a ladder. Ladders pose a number of safety hazards, not only to those who use them but also to others who work in areas where they are used and stored. Employers should be sure that all ladders used on their premises are either Industrial Grade (Type I) or Commercial Grade (Type II). You should check ladders regularly for signs of wear and defects. Ladders that are in dangerous condition should be discarded or tagged "Danger-Do Not Use" and removed to a repair room.

Just as important as maintaining ladders is using them with caution. Be sure all employees who use ladders are briefed on these important safety pointers:

- \*Always place ladders on stable, even footing. Check the balance before climbing.
- \*Never use metal ladders when working with electrical wiring, equipment or fixtures unless all power has been shut off at the circuit breaker or fuse box and locked out.
- \*If you are using power tools on a metal ladder, the tools must be properly grounded.



\*Never use the top of a stepladder as a step.

\*Never use ladders as scaffolds or runways.

\*Be sure locking devices are locked before climbing.

\*When using a rung, cleat or extension ladder, be sure it has non-skid feet; if it doesn't use a foot ladder board to secure it.

\*Place the ladder at the proper pitch. The horizontal distance from the base of the supporting wall to the foot of the ladder should be one-fourth the working length of the ladder.

\*The top of a rung or cleat ladder should extend three feet above the point of support (eave, gutter or roof line) and be tied off.

One last tip to reduce ladder accidents. Be sure all your employees know that it's bad luck to walk under a ladder!

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