

KINGSFORT TIMES

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MAKING HAY — Susan Cooke recently was named "Miss Sullivan County" (Sullivan County, N.Y., that is). The farmer's daughter doesn't usually dress this way to carry out chores, but Susan just wanted to show she has what it takes. (UPI Photo)

Brucellosis Fight Now Concentrates On Hogs

BLACKSBURG, Va. — The livestock industry, which has gone a long way toward eradicating bovine brucellosis from the nation's cattle herds, is taking similar action against swine brucellosis. Success in the drive against the disease in swine will mean the practical elimination of the disease from livestock.

Dr. Gordon A. MacInnis, a Virginia Tech associate professor of veterinary science and an Extension veterinarian, said: "Indications are that about 1.4 per cent of the nation's swine are infected with brucellosis. Brucellosis losses to the Old Dominion swine industry are not as big as those caused by other diseases, but, brucellosis is of great importance because of its public health significance."

Emphasized MacInnis: "In recent years Virginia has ranked first or second among the states having the largest number of human brucellosis cases. This is primarily an occupational disease in slaughtering plants. A vast majority of these cases were the result of exposure to infected swine."

"The principal cause of the disease in swine is a *Brucella suis* bacterium. It also affects man, horses, cattle, dogs and fowl."

Brucella abortus, the cause of contagious abortion in cattle, and *Brucella melitensis* in goats are also transmissible to man. All the organisms cause undulant fever in man," the veterinarian said.

"A successful brucellosis eradication program will mean significant savings of tax dollars and eliminate millions of dollar losses to the livestock industry. It will greatly reduce human suffering," MacInnis added.

In 1951, nationally, 3,139 cases of human brucellosis were reported with more than 60 per cent of them traced to infected cattle. In 1971, only 171 human cases were found and 60 per cent involved swine.

Former Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz committed his department to a stepped up drive to achieve the elimination of brucellosis in livestock by the end of 1975. The goal was sought by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and endorsed by the United States Animal Health Association.

The burgeoning campaign to eradicate swine brucellosis will achieve results in much the same procedure as did that used to stamp out bovine brucellosis. The eradication effort in cattle makes extensive use of two surveillance programs. Market cattle identification finds infected animals as they go through the markets from where they are traced to their original herd. Infected dairy cattle and their herds are traced by the milk ring test.

Since the test began, more than 35 per cent of the counties in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have qualified on certain swine brucellosis-free areas. Virginia is among 20 states and the Virgin Islands where all counties are brucellosis-free as far as cattle are concerned.

IN THE CAMPAIGN to eliminate swine brucellosis, each state is developing plans for a market swine identification program. Under it hogs and sows will be blood-sampled at the market. Where infected animals are found, the herd of origin will be located and its owner informed that brucellosis reactors were identified in its marketed hogs.

State and federal veterinarians will then work with practicing veterinarians and the farm owner to rid the herd of brucellosis. Dr. MacInnis told Virginians of a plan to qualify swine herds and areas as validated brucellosis-free. Originated in 1961, it called for voluntary participation by swine owners. By later 1971, 198 counties and 2,580 herds had qualified as brucellosis-free.

It is now possible to qualify a swine herd as validated on just one negative blood test of all animals over six months of age. If the herd reacts to the first test, it must pass two consecutive negative tests 30 to 90 days apart.

Herds are validated for one year. But they can be revalidated annually by passing one negative test, or by testing a minimum of 20 per cent of its animals through the market swine identification program.

THE STEPPED-UP program for the eradication of swine brucellosis is under the authority of state and federal veterinarians.

Since the most common means by which the disease enters a clean herd is through the addition of infected swine, growers are urged to buy replacement stock only from brucellosis-free sources. Regardless of their origin, replacements should be quarantined for 30 to 60 days during which they should be blood-tested for brucellosis and leptospirosis. The same treatment should be given swine brought home from shows and exhibitions.

"There is no acceptable treatment for the disease in swine. And infected swine seldom show any symptoms. Nor is there a vaccine to prevent it. The first sign that the disease might be present is the appearance of abortion-free," MacInnis said.

Producers are urged to continue to qualify their swine herds and areas as validated brucellosis-free.

4-H Chatter

By JON M. BAKER
Assistant Extension Agent

MASSACHUSETTS 4-H members are visiting Sullivan County this week in a cooperative interstate exchange program with Sullivan County.

The Hampshire County delegation, with their extension leader Alden Hilder and adult leaders Mr. and Mrs. Daniel King, are touring the county's recreational facilities and industries during their week-long visit with farm families of Sullivan County and its 4-H members and families.

COLONIAL HEIGHTS Junior High 4-H'ers, under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Seymour and Helen Junior High 4-H members and their leader, Mrs. John C. Deskus, represented Sullivan County at the recent District Demonstration Day in Greenville.

The "Mighty Men of Colonial Heights" and the "Children of the Toy Shop" were in competition with 4-H'ers from all counties of District V and did a fine job in the contest.

Members of the Kingsport group were: Sandra Smith, Michele Seymour, Sandra Thwait and Carolyn Brundlett. Becky Jones, Chap Slaughter, Marla Dethick, Tim Barnes, Mike Jones, Roy King and Sherry Ashworth were members of the Holston group.

JUNIOR HIGH 4-H'ers are reminded that record books for District Demonstration Day must be completed and turned in by Aug. 1. The new record book is required in all records and must be filled out by the 4-H member in his own handwriting.

EVERY TUESDAY **HOMEMADE MEXICAN FOODS** **PREPARED BY** **CHEF HOWARD KENDRICK**

TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU **HOWARD'S**

COIT H. FOR FAST-FREE DELIVERY OF PRESCRIPTIONS, SICKROOM NEEDS, HOSPITAL BEDS **FREEL'S DRUG STORE**

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USDA Steps Up War Against TB

ATLANTA — As part of the intensive effort to wipe out tuberculosis, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has increased the amount of money paid owners if their cattle are destroyed because of this disease.

Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) said that the maximum federal indemnity limit has been increased from \$25 for grade cattle and \$50 for purebreds to a maximum of \$50 for either.

APHIS officials said the action was taken to facilitate the elimination of infected animals and thus speed the eradication of the disease. The salvage value of tuberculosis cattle had been greatly reduced by the Feb. 14, 1972, federal meat inspection regulation which requires that carcasses of all tuberculous cattle be cooked or condemned.

Prior to the Feb. 14 regulation, cattle owners also received the salvage (meat) value from the animal in addition to indemnities. The Feb. 14 change in regulations, however, eliminated or greatly reduced the amount of salvage.

The new federal regulations limit state-federal indemnity payments, plus any salvage that may be realized, to no more than the appraised value of an animal. They also eliminate the requirement that animals pay at least 100 percent of the market value as the federal government. However, states may pay a part of the indemnity.

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FARM REPORT

Federal Aid For Wildlife

By United Press International

Farmers interested in improving the wildlife habitat on their land can get federal help to take care of up to 90 per cent of the costs.

"These payments can be made for seed, plants and fertilizer for wildlife plantings," said James Byford of the University of Tennessee Extension Service.

Payments also may be made for materials used in fencing, building ponds and fish ponds from grazing.

The landowner is not obligated in any way as to the use of the land. He can hunt or not, allow hunting or not, even charge a hunting fee or not as he chooses, Byford said.

FARMERS ARE beginning to prepare for planting alfalfa this fall, and a UT agronomist says that early seedbed preparation is one of the important steps in getting a good stand of alfalfa.

"By starting seedbed preparation early, three weeks to a month ahead of seeding, the soil can be plowed, disked and cultivated," said Joe D. Burns.

Burns recommends plowing and light disking as the initial step, then disking and cultivating after a rain.

After that, the farmer should wait for another rain before seeding.

ADVANCING FOOD prices in some areas are contributing to the rising cost of living in America. But with poultry and eggs, the situation is different.

The North Carolina State University reports that poultry and eggs are selling today at just about the same price as in the 1930s.

N. C. State said much of the credit for this situation must go to research efforts of the industry which has helped to

reduce the time required to grow broilers from about 16 weeks in the 1930s to eight weeks.

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Get Busy Fitting Show Animals

By CLAUDE PRINCE
Extension Agent

4-H Club members who plan to show a dairy animal in the various shows this summer should remember the show season is fast approaching. In fact, the Sullivan County Fair begins Aug. 7. Now is the time to start fitting and grooming your animal.

Points to keep in mind are: —Proper feeding is a must. A thin animal will require additional grain to restore natural body flesh. The thick, overdone animal will need little or no grain.

—High quality grass hay or a mixture of grass with a small amount of legume should be fed in small amounts several

—Keep the animal in the barn during the day.

—Check the animal's feet — trim as needed.

—Break the animal to lead well. Never let the animal pull while being led.

—Provide plenty of clean, cool water.

THE EXTRA amount of rain earlier this summer has been favorable for pasturing. But it has also been favorable for weeds.

Weed control is a must for maximum pasture production. Weeds compete with your pasture plants for moisture as well as plant food. They also take up space which could be producing good pasture plants.

Mowing or clipping improves

est. Now large tall-growing weeds now prevent them from producing feed.

You usually need to mow pastures two or three times a year, since some annual weeds sprout new stems below the soil.

You can also consider using a herbicide for weed control. The sunnier or low volatile ester formulation of 2,4-D is also been favorable for weeds.

Remove mowing dairy cows from sprayed pastures for at least seven days after spraying. It is not necessary to remove other types of livestock.

RENOVATE every strawberry bed that has a reasonable chance of producing another profitable crop, because we are short of production needed in our area.

After harvesting, strawberry plants must make new crowns, roots and leaves big enough by September to be able to set a large number of fruit buds during the fall.

The main things to be done are to remove weeds, thin plants if necessary, once on the

damage or even kill the infected shrub.

Spray thoroughly with Malathion, Sevin or Cygon. The bagworm is easily controlled while young, but older larvae are more difficult to control.

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4 States Named VEE 'Risk' Area

ATLANTA (UPI) — Four southeastern states have been placed in a "high risk" category for the fatal horse disease, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said last week.

Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi were included in the warning area along with Texas, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

The USDA said recent news reports from Mexico indicated "hundreds" of horses have died from the disease and "many people" have been affected in four states of that country.

E. E. Saulson, deputy administrator of the USDA's animal and plant health inspection service, said the disease is still 100 miles away from the U.S. border but "it appears to be moving northward in a pattern similar to last year when the disease invaded Texas."

Saulson said horse owners should have their animals vaccinated against the disease, which is spread through mosquitoes and through the transportation of horses.

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times a day. The hay should be of bright color and pleasant odor.	the quality of pasture by removing the large, mature plants that livestock refuse to	showing damage on juniper and arbovitae. If not controlled, they can severely	muckles and add nitrogen, which is usually needed at this time.	Your Vote and Influence Appreciated Ed. Pat. Adv. by Hand, of Lebanon, Clark Co., Tenn.	ALBERT L. FORESTORILL 738 EASTMAN ROAD Pitt. 247-7311	WILLIAM SHUFFLE-1 CORNER OF WILCOX DR. AND EAST SEVEN Pitt. 246-9431	Where Quality Counts 252 Broad St.
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