

Agriculturally Speaking

Grass Tetany Poses Threat To Cattlemen

By L. B. HARDAGE
With the upcoming spring grazing season, beef cattle producers should be aware of the threat of grass tetany in areas where forages are short in magnesium mg. Generally lactating cows, shortly after calving and/or grazing young tender grasses have the highest risk of tetany.

If in the past, you had a problem with grass tetany, a nutritional program should be designed to provide 22 to 25 grams of mg. per day to lessen the risk of tetany.

Several options are available for supplementing mg.

1. Mix 1 pound magnesium

oxide (mgo) with 15 pounds of grain (corn) and feed at a rate of 1 to 2 pounds per head per day. It is important that feeding space be adequate for all cows to eat at one time.

2. Soft palatable mineral blocks containing 14 to 15 percent m have been used to provide supplemental mg. to grazing cattle.

3. Provide a free choice mineral mix containing mgo — dicalcium phosphate—and trace mineral salt in the ratio 1-1-1. This mix could be fed the entire year as a good management practice.

4. Some cattle farmers use loose white salt free choice and any good livestock mineral free choice year round and do not have a grass tetany problem. This is one of the things that should be used anyway.

Most farmers are using liquid nitrogen on pastures. This might tend to cause your ph to drop faster than it would with dry nitrogens. A soil sample should be taken for lime, probably every third year if the above practice is followed.

Stocker cattle need to be consigned at once, if this has not been done.



Mrs. Roxie Carter holds two Araucanas Breed hens called the Easter Egg Fowl. The one on the left lays green eggs and the one on the right lays pink eggs. Really Mrs. Carter has no need for traditional egg coloring for such is an inside job or maybe a hen special.

Colorful Eggs Arrive In Time For Easter

By G. W. KOONCE
Extension Agent, 4-H

After observing the true meaning of Easter inclusive of the power of Christ's resurrection, what then — will it be joy and feasting with colorful eggs for the kiddies. Perhaps this will be the occasion with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carter and family of Bethlehem. The Carters have several rare breed hens called Araucanas that are beautiful to look at plus they go around laying blue, green, gold, deep pink and light pink eggs. Mr. Carter reportedly ordered his chicks a year ago from a catalog received in the mail. Below is information on the Araucanas Breed as quoted from the Hatchery Catalog.

"These birds called the Easter Egg Fowl, vary a great deal as they hatch out in a wide assortment of colors and types, black, buff, cinnamon, brown, red and white along with various combinations of these colors. Some may have top knots, some may have whiskers and others have bunches of feathers growing from each side of the head near the ear region. All the hens are good layers with eggs medium to large in size. The color varies in shades from pale to deep, blue, green, pink, plus a few olive drab and an occasional

antique-gold. The Araucanas is a hardy, vigorous fowl, resistant to disease and easy to raise. They seem to do well in all types of climate. More intelligent than other poultry breeds, they are very easily tamed to become pets. Besides being colorful and unusual, the eggs have almost 10% more nutrition than ordinary eggs, according to a laboratory report. They are also said to be lower in cholesterol. The meat is delicious and has a taste similar to quail."

Two years of participation in the 4-H Pullet Chain has increased the Carter family's interest in poultry production.

Ridgeway 4-Hers Meet On Thursday

By RANDY HOLTSMANN
Reporter

The Ridgeway Community 4-Hers met on Thursday night at the clubhouse. Danny Bender, president, presided over the business session which followed the Pledge of Allegiance, the 4-H Pledge and devotion.

Mr. G. W. Koonce presented Danny a certificate of State Recognition in the National 4-H Safety Program. The club won this for their work in the safety program in 1976. Best wishes were extended to the club from Mary C. Nesbitt, 4-H Specialist with the state office, National 4-H Service Committee and General Motors Corporation.

Richard Matthews of Henderson gave a program on mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and the cough-saving technique. He brought with him his best friend, Ann, a doll designed after a 15-year-old girl that had drowned. With this doll he showed how to perform these techniques and explained them. We hope to have him back again.

We were glad to have 4-Hers from Zion and Wise-Paschall clubs as our guests.

Refreshments were served by the Ridgeway club members.

Hardened paint brushes can often be made as good as new by simmering them in boiling vinegar for a few minutes and then washing them in soapy water.



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Making Own Shampoo Can Save Homeowner

By BERTHA B. FORTE
Home Extension Agent
Suds away spring cleaning by making your own shampoo for upholstered furniture. It can save you money.

A quart of cleaning shampoo at the store may cost \$2 or more. But you can make the same substance at home for

about a dime. First, dissolve a third of a cup of soap flakes in a quart of boiling water and let it cool. It will form a jelly after it's cooled.

Then put about a cup of this jelly in a bowl and whip with a rotary egg beater until it forms a stiff, dry froth—and no water remains.

Clean a small area at a time by rubbing the suds against the upholstered fabric. It's a good idea to do this first on a part of the furniture not seen by everyone. That way you'll make sure you don't have any bleeding of colors.

If the colors don't run—you can go ahead and shampoo the whole piece of furniture—rubbing the suds in a little area at a time.

So remember—just a third of a cup of soap flakes dissolved in a quart of boiling water. Cool it—whip it—and you'll have upholstery shampoo for less than the cost of a commercially prepared formula.

Birds Are Pests For Some Farmers

By L. C. COOPER
Extension Agent

Sprout pulling of corn by birds is serious and has become a persistent problem for some corn producers in Warren County according to L. C. Cooper, Agricultural Extension Agent.

Cooper says a very promising product has recently received a North Carolina label for use in repelling birds from newly planted corn fields. The product is Methiocarb, marketed under the trade name of MESUROL by Chemagro. Several years of research and testing by the Fish and Wildlife Service have revealed Mesurol to be highly effective in protecting corn sprouts from bird damage. In one study damage in untreated fields was 28 times that in treated fields.

Mesurol is added to the filled seed hopper at planting at rates of one pound per 100 pounds of seed corn or nine ounces per bushel. The approximate cost of Mesurol is \$11.00 per pound. Assuming 100 pounds of corn will plant seven acres, the cost of this product should be between \$1.50 and \$1.75 per acre.

Frees Rider

A mountaineer, seeing his first motorcycle on the road, raised his rifle and shot away.

"Did you get that varmit?" his wife asked.

"Hit it, but didn't kill it," he said. "I can still hear it growlin'—but I shore made it turn that pore man loose!"

Memorial Banquet Set

The Vance County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will sponsor a "Martin Luther King Memorial Banquet" on April 3.

The guest speaker for the

Kilian Completes Course With Honors

Army National Guard Lt. Col. Leonard A. Kilian, Jr., son of Mrs. Maude H. Kilian of Norlina, recently completed with honors the command and general staff officer course at the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

The graduates complete the first half of the course by correspondence or through U. S. Army Reserve School attendance. They then attend a period of resident instruction at the CGSC.

The course is designed to prepare selected officers for high positions at division and command levels.

Col. Kilian and his wife, Laura, live in Wake Forest.

banquet is Mr. William "Sonny" Walker, director of the Community Services Administration of Region IV. Walker formerly served as director of the Arkansas Office of Economic Opportunity.

Other guests will include Dr. John Larkins, special assistant to Governor Hunt; Harold Webb, director of State Personnel, and John Edwards, director of the State Economic Opportunity Office.

The banquet will begin at 3 p. m. at the Greystone Restaurant in Henderson. Tickets are priced at \$5.00 per person and may be secured from members of the N.A.A.C.P. Executive Board, various local businesses and at the door on the day of the occasion.

Norlina Lady Returns

Miss Sue Donnell spent the winter in Alabama with the Peterson family. She was accompanied home by them recently.

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