

# AGRICULTURE



WASHINGTON, D. C. — the Soybean Association. Pictured above (left to right) are Congressman Tim Valentine meets on Capitol Hill with North Carolina members of the Soybean Association. Pictured above (left to right) are Ted Bailey, American Soybean Association Treasurer, of New Bern; Jim Wilder, North Carolina Soybean Association Executive Vice-President; Congressman Valentine; Don Lee Jr., State President of Arapahoe; and Andrew W. Winslow of Hertford.

## Predicting future for farming families

There is every reason to believe that the family farm will continue to be the dominant force in American agriculture.

According to figures released by the American Farm Bureau Federation, about 90 percent of all farms and ranches in this country are family owned and operated — as they were 50 years ago. Further, about 80 percent of all corporate farms are also family owned and operated, having been incorporated for tax and other legal purposes.

Statistics which show that the food and fiber needs of our nation are being produced by a declining number of farms, most of which are increasing in average size, are used by those who argue that "family farmers are being forced from the land."

Such fears are unfounded. Farm size is growing larger. Each farmer is indeed able to produce more today due to modern technology, mechanization and the

high per unit productivity of our nation's farmers and ranchers.

Ironically, most questions about the make-up of today's agriculture come from church and other social action groups and from those with political axes to grind.

"Social change" often is the object of these outside planners or consumer groups, involving various schemes for "land reform" and cheap food policies. They rally under such banners as "food for people, not for profit."

Without the incentive of the profit motive, there will be food scarcity rather than the plenty we now enjoy. For an example, we need look no further than the continued farm production shortfalls in the Soviet Union.

Family farming has changed over the years, just as is true of any other enterprise. But, the future for family farming remains great if it can be saved from the politically and socially motivated "family farm savers."

## Daylilies-Care and ingesting thereof

- Last quarter of the moon on the 24th.
- Check houseplants for yellowing — causes can improper lighting, over-fertilizing, drafty location, gas fumes, insects, all of the above.
- Keep a calendar on successive plantings. That way, you'll know

when to put in more glads, radishes, etc.

- Interested in camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons? ALWAYS check with



local nurseries first for varieties. If you can't get your choice there send 40 cents for an interesting catalog from Camelia Forest Nurseries, POB 291, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

- Remember that any bare-rooted stock must be soaked in water 24

hours before planting.

- Surely, surely, you've pruned your hybrid tea roses back by now. So stop! Don't touch that climber. Climbing roses flower on year-old canes. Wait until they've finished blooming.

### DAYLILIES — CARE AND INGESTING THEREOF

We all know the fantastic contrivance Hemerocallis makes to the landscape. Plants in every shade but blue and white will bloom from mid-spring to fall, according to varieties, in heights of 15 inches to four feet.

While minimal care is needed, daylilies thrive when planted in full sun in beds provided with ample humus, fertilized in spring and mulched in summer.

Mow or trim old foliage off now. Divide crowded plants every four or five years. Use two spading forks back to back and pry tubers apart. Replant divisions with one or more "fans" of leaves showing.

Ah, but the kitchen, my fellow gourmets, the kitchen — that's where lilies light up your life! These natives of the orient are fully appreciated by, well, natives of the orient, who have the ability to find a use for everything.

Here are some of the ways they may be prepared.

In early spring outer leaves are cut after reaching a height of three to five inches. Stir fried, the taste is rather like steamed onions. Organic Gardening editors caution that too many leaves will provide a hallucinatory effect — a real cheap high, what? Consequently Chinese doctors used them for pain relievers.

Lily buds and flowers are delicious used in soups and vegetable dishes. Tightly closed buds add crunch to a salad, become pickles, get stir-fried with pork, onion and soy sauce, or share, being steamed with snow peas. Put some in your next omelet.

Half or fully-opened day lily blossoms can be dipped in tempura batter and fried in a wok. Chinese dry the young buds and flowers, calling them "golden needles." These are soaked about 15 minutes before using.

Tough ends of stems are removed, the remainder shredded, a tender and fragrant contribution to din-din.

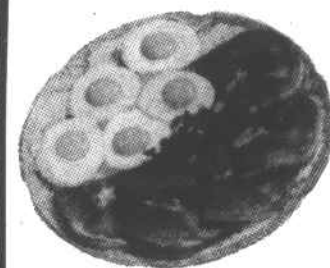
In late fall or winter munch a bunch of tubers, after you've scrubbed and peeled them.

Nutty tasting tubers can be eaten raw, boiled, creamed, mashed like potatoes, made into patties for browning in oil.

Obviously I'm trying to garner all the information I can for you. Actually, I've looked in several oriental cookbooks and there are not a lot of formal recipes for lilies. Oriental cooks seem to prefer aquatic plants over-all.



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