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THE GET READY MONTH

On The Farm and in The Home



When January 1st came round, Polly Pig in detail planned. The best of us to be found. For every acre of his land. Truth to be told, he figured well. How much to plant and feed and sell.

Ma Pig, as well, laid out the year. Polly and Peter did so, too. Thus they e-lim-in-at-ed fear. Of skipping things that were to do. All knew that work that's well begun. By careful planning is half done.

This marks the beginning of a new month, a new year, and a new decade. Farming depends largely on what the individual makes of it, so now is a good time to turn over a new leaf and start improving your agricultural program, say State College specialists. And here are suggestions which they offer for the month of January.

First, Dr. R. F. Poole, plant pathologist, urges that farmers prepare their tobacco seed beds on new sites, locating them where good soil drainage, good ventilation, and sunshine are available during the entire day. Such precautions will create conditions less favorable to blue mold than shaded, damp areas.

Then W. H. Rankin, agronomist says judicious use of fertilizers, proper handling of the soil, and the use of good seed are factors which every grower should bear in mind when planning his 1940 farming operations. Keeping the cost of production as low as possible may mean the difference between success and failure.

John Arey, extension dairyman, says let's begin the New Year right by resolving that the care and feed which we give our dairy cattle during 1940 will not be responsible for any loss that might occur in conducting our dairy business. Uncomfortable cows, fed on rations deficient both in quality and in quantity, cannot produce efficiently.

And speaking of beginning the year right, Enos Blair, extension agronomist, adds that January is the best time to plan crop rotations and general farm management systems, and to take an inventory so as to keep accurate records on farming operations.

For the orchardist, H. R. Niswonger offers these suggestions: If the ground is not frozen, fruit trees may be planted during January; spraying and pruning fruit trees, shrubs, and grape vines may be done on favorable days; and field mice may be destroyed through the use of a poisoned bait.

Roy Dearstyne, head of the State College poultry department points out that every precaution should be taken to start only quality chicks. Cheap chicks, he says, are usually the most expensive in the long run. Don't overcrowd the chicks. Allow each two birds one square foot of floor space in the brooder house. Watch temperatures carefully, since more chicks are killed by overheating than chilling.

Finally, H. W. Taylor, extension swine specialist, says the entire breeding herd of hogs should have access to green feed during the winter months. If grazing crops are not available, feed a green leafy legume hay in a rack. Alfalfa, soybean, or lespedeza hay is good. If you sell hogs commercially, avoid soft pork.

COTTON COUNCIL REVIEWS RESULTS OF 1939 PROGRAM

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 9.—Looking forward to a program of greatly increased activity on all major fronts in the battle for increased cotton consumption during 1940, officials of the National Cotton Council today reviewed a lengthy list of concrete accomplishments of its 1939 campaign.

Attributing a major portion of the credit for greatly increased favorable publicity for cotton products to the 2,800 newspapers of the Cotton Belt, the Council said that during 1939 Belt editors had devoted almost \$1,000,000 worth of space to cotton and its products. Other favorable publicity came as a result of cotton programs staged by nearly 2,000 civic clubs throughout the Belt, test campaigns involving the use of "Pick Cotton" postage meter plates and the distribution of 500 outdoor posters featuring the 1940 program theme.

Special projects to stimulate the use of cotton products included the co-sponsorship and promotion of the most successful National Cotton Week in the history of the event, the staging of the Cotton Belt's first annual Cotton Christmas, a campaign in which more than 750 newspapers promoted the household re-use of cotton bags, completion of arrangements with a large Southern coffee firm to distribute more than 3,000,000 cotton towels as premiums during 1940, Belt-wide promotion of a new cottonseed hull bran sweeping compound perfected by the Cotton Research Foundation, and successful negotiations with a large flour mill to use cottonseed shortening exclusively in its nationally distributed biscuit mixture.

Combating discriminatory taxes on cottonseed food products, the Council reported the successful defense of these products against 29 state legislative attempts to levy new or increased taxes and license fees.

In the field of scientific research to discover new uses for cotton, the Council adopted the Cotton Research Foundation as its research agency, pledging its financial support to the organization in carrying out projects already under way and new projects to be evolved jointly by the two organizations. During 1939 the Council also initiated the first exhaustive survey of cotton roads. Continuing its efforts to ex-

pand foreign trade, the Council was successful in securing more favorable war risk insurance terms and assisted materially in the organization of the new Cotton Export Corporation. Results of studies on net weight selling of cotton are now being submitted to the industry, with a final report to be made at the Council's annual convention in February.

NO LAUGHING MATTER

Wash White got a job in a saw-mill. The boss put him in charge of a buzz saw, showed him how the saw worked, warned him of its dangers, and then went away.

Wash was fascinated by the shining whirling saw. But was it, truly, as sharp and terrible as the boss had said? To test it he touched it gently with his finger. Bzz! and the finger was no more.

As Wash was ruefully tying up his hand in his bandana the boss came back.

"Hullo there, Washington. What's the matter?"

"Buzz saw done cut off my finger, sah."

"How the dickens did that happen?"

"Ah dunno, sah," said Wash.

"Ah just touched de darn contraction like an'—Fo' de lan' sake, der goes anudder one!"

The increasing use of home-grown feeds and the wider use of production records as a guide to breeding are tending to lower the cost of milk production in the United States.

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FARM SUPPLIES

We want you to come in and let us show you our line of Farm Supplies, Machinery and Tools. The New Year brings plans for another crop and we want to help you make it more profitable by supplying you with more modern labor saving machinery and tools and parts for the ones you have.

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