



UPPER COLORADO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Directors of the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District are (left to right) Leon Sterling, Snyder; Walter Stirl, Loraine, (vice-chairman); W. L. Wilson, Jr., Big Spring (chairman); Carl Williams, Hermleigh, (secretary-treasurer); and Burl Belew, Fluvanna. The district is composed of approximately 1,166,720 acres of land and includes all of Borden and Scurry Counties.

Soil Conservation Dist. Active

Farmers and ranchers in the Upper Colorado Soil and water Conservation District were very active in the planning and ap-

past year.
The Upper Colorado Soil and with the district, developing conservation plans and applying conservation practices on more than 600,000 acres of the 1,166,720 acres of land in the district.

ectors direct operations of the district and are concerned with all aspects of the environment district. in addition to the planning and application of conservation practices on the farms, ranches and other land in Scurry and Borden Counties.

The board of directors include W.L. Wilson, Jr., Big Spring, chairman; Walter Stirl, Loraine, vice chairman; Carl Williams, Hermleigh, Secretary-treasurer; Burl Belew, Fluvanna; and Leon Sterling, Snyder.

Soil Conservation personnel assisting the district, headquartered in the Snyder Field Office, are Erwin Pavlik, district plication of soil and water con-servation practices during the soil conservation technician; Charles Anderson, range conservationist; Leon Sterling, soil Water Conservation District was organized by a vote of the land-owners in 1941. Since that time typist (WAE). James Crownover, soil conservationist also over, soil conservationist also of the year.

Lena Faye Clark, clerk-typist also provides part-time assistance to the District.

Other technical specialists headquartered at BigSpring The 5-member board of dir- and Lubbock provide part time assistance to the local Field Office personnel assisting the

Regular board of directors meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. These meetings are held in the Soil Conservation Service Field Office, located in the Agricultural Building at 3423 Avenue T in Snyder.

Carl Williams of the Camp Spring area was re-elected as director for zone III for aperiod of 5 years, his term expiring dards.

The District presented partial tuition scholarships Martja Floyd and Faye Cook, Snyder Independent School Dis-trict Elementary School teachers, These teachers participated in an Environmental Conservation Workshop at Abilene Christian University this past summer.

Conservation Programs were presented to schools and Civic Clubs during the year. A weekly radio program is presented each Saturday morning over Radio Station KSNY-Snyder.

con't on page 8

Warns Of

warns the cotton industry that it is threatened with the promulgation of cotton dust standand Health Administration which could drastically affect the gin-The proposed standards, covering cotton gins, cottonseed, oil mills and textile plants, were ion reunion. published in the FEDERAL REGISTER December 28.

Mahon met with OSHA and cottonseed oil and textile industries joined Mahon in the plea for a delay, but agency officials refused to postpone publication of the cotton dust standard proposals, which would limit the amount of dust which would be acceptable in cotton gins, oil mills, and textile plants.

Hearings regarding the proposed standards will be held by OSHA beginning on April 4, 1977 and Mahon has called upon the cotton industry to make sure that all pertinent information is submitted at the hearing. He pointed out that, while the health of employees in the cotton industry is of vital concern, excessive regulation by OSHA could tend to destroy the cotton ginning, processing and textile industries, requiring the expenditure of vast additional

sums by the cotton industry in

order to comply with the stan-



MR. and MRS. BILL STEPHENS CELEBRATE ANNIVERSITY

Congressman George Mahon Golden Anniversary arns the cotton industry that

ards by the Occupational Safety and relatives gathered in the Borden County School cafeteria to honor Uncle Bill and Aunt ning and processing of cotton. May on their Golden Wedding carnations and candles in cry-Anniversary. Fun was had by stal holders adorned each of all as it turned into an old fash-

the guest were served a variety industry officials on December of hors'd'oeuve's, dips finger 22 in an effort to convince gov- foods, smoked turkey, ham verasary waltz playe ernment officials that the sub- coffee, punch and the traditional Everett on the piano. mission of the proposed stand- servings of, the New Years Day,

New Years Day 200 friends ped with a Golden 50th wreath. Under the colonnade nested a pair of white turtle doves, Centerpieces of yellow mums, white the serving tables, along with wedding bell mints.

Appointments of gold, silver and crystal were used when when Uncle Bill whirled Aunt May, attired in a lovely red polyester crepe gown, to the anniverasary waltz played by Dub

The nieces and nephews ards should be delayed. Rep-corn bread and black-eyed peas. of the couple who served as resentatives of cotton ginning, host and hostesses for the af-The couples table, covered fair would like to express a with a white cloth trimmed in special thanks to the school lace, held the two tier yellow officials for the use of the facand white anniversary cake. illities. Our thanks and love-The cake had a large square goes also to the many friends base; the top round tier rest- and neighbors who helped us in ed on a colonnade and was top- the plans and preparations.

Closed For Winter

Lubbock--There's no traditional spring and fall housecleaning at the Ranching Heritage Center at The Museum of Texas Tech University. It happens in the winter instead.

The Ranching Heritage Center is closed for the winter, months," Reese said, "and this but refurbishing activity will go on at a fast pace.

Dr. James V. Reese, interim director of The Museum, said that textiles will be taken to the museum and cleaned. Furniture

will be repaired and waxed Saddles and other paraphernalia will be treated for preservation, and building maintenance will be accomplished during the shoutdown period.

"Traffic at the outdoor center diminishes during the cold is the best time to do athorough cleaning and to check all main-tenance."

He said the exact date for reopening the center has not been

tal Mann

Borden County School News



Defeats Klondike

The High School girls defeated Klondike December 21, 41-37. Sue Hancock and Karen Williams each scored 14 points and Kristy Smith added 13. Jeanne Bradford scored 28 for the Cougars. Lesa Hensley pulled down 10 rebounds for Borden. Martha An-

bounds for Borden. Martha Anderson had 6 rebounds and Tricia Jackson and Lisa McLeroy each pulled down two.

On December 30, the girls defeated O'Donnell 54-28. Sue led the scoring with 31 points followed by Kristy with 12, Karen 10, and Pennye Tompson 1. Lisa McLeroy and Tricia each had 6 rebounds and Martha pulled down 5.

Harvest Festival

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL WILL BE ON THE 14th of Jan

Everyone is urged to get their green (or other) stamps sent in for the drawing to be held on the big night. /s/ Carolyn Stone

Eases Past O'Donnell

Borden High School won its second straight overtime game in a row against O'Donnell last Thursday night. At the end of regulation time, the score was 54-54. But in the 3 minute overtime period, Borden put in 6 points to O'Donnell's 4 points.

Scoring for Borden County were: Larry Simer 20, Tim Smith 10, Blane Dyess 10, Gene Cooley 10, GCraig Peterson 8, and Joe Zant 2.

Borden County's record stands 8-6 on the year and 2-0 for district. Scoring by quarters is as follows:

O'Donnell 10 12 14 18 4 58 Borden CQ_e 12 14 10 18 6 60

Beats Borden

O'Donnell's Pee Wee Team beat the Borden Junior High Pee Wee Team Monday night 17-7. Scoring for Borden Pee Wee's were Kevin Telchik 2, and Jeff Martin 5 points.

Nips Klondike

Borden County High School be at Klondike in overtime 42-41 before the Christmas break. Borden scored 5 points in the overtime to Klondike's 4 to win the game. Scoring for Borden was Larry Simer 14, Craig Peterson 7, Blane Dyess 6, Joe Z ant 6, Tim Smith 3, Gene Cooley 3, Eurdist Rinehart 2, and Matt-Farmer 1.

Scoring by quarters:
Klondike 7 14 10 6 4 41
Borden Co. 9 5 13 10 5 42
Borden High School's record
is 2-0 for district.

Wins Over Jr. High

O'Donnell Junior High Beat Borden Junior High Monday night 31-21. Scoring for the Junior High was Junior Benavidez 5, Keil Williams 4, and Bart Mc-Means with 12.

Jr. High Girls Beat O'Donnell

The Junior High girls defeated the O'Donnell 8th grade girls Monday by the score of 55-17. Scoring for Borden were: Talley Griffin 25 points, Jana Edwards 12, Shelly White 11, Joie Brummett 4, Tammy Telchik 2, and Gena McLeroy 1 point.

The B team girls defeated the O'Donnell 7th grade team 24-12. Scoring for the Coyotes were Lisa Smith with 10 points, Maria Benavidez 8, and Lyndy Doyle 6 points.

B Team

The High School B team girls lost to Klondike 51-32. Vickie Jones scored 19 points for Borden, Pennye Thompson added 11 and Janna Love scored 2 points. Rhesa Wolf led the rebounders with 8.

The girls defeated O'Donnell B 37-36 in overtime play. Pennye scored 17 points, Janna II, Vickie 8, and Dana Westbrook 1 point. Gail Grose had 8 rebounds, Glynda Burkett 7, and Janna 6 rebounds.

Menu

January 10-14, 1977

MONDAY
Tacos
Pork and Beans
Lettuce and Tomatoes
Cookies
Milk

TUESDAY
Fried Chicken
Green Beans
Buttered Rice
Fruit
Hot Rolls and Butter
Milk

WEDNESDAY Corn Dogs Cheese Wedge Tossed Salad Fruit Cobbler Milk

THURSDAY Vegetable Beef Stew Pimento Cheese Fruit Cookie Cornbread and Butter Milk

FRIDAY
Hamburgers
French Fries
Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles
Cake with Peanut Butter Icing
Milk

Harvest Festival Has Been Planned For January 14th

JANUARY SUN TUE MON FRI DECEMBER 1976 1977 JANUARY 5 8 JR. HI DISTRICT TOURNAMENT AT LOOP 5:00 P.M. H.S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS 4:00 P.M.

JR. HI BASKETBALLH.S. BASKETBALL
BOYS & GIRLS

BOYS & GIRLS 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 6:00 P.M. JR. HI BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS UNION - THERE HARVEST FESTIVA H. S. BASKETBAL BOYS & GIRLS UNION - THERE 17 4-H MEETING 18 16 19 21 R. HI BASKETBA 20 6:30 P.M. H. S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS LOOP - HERE 5:30 P.M. JR. HI BASKETBAN BOYS & GIRLS 5:00 P.M. H.S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS SANDS - THERE 1:00 P.M. FARM MECHANICS CONTEST - TAHOK 30.0C 24 G:00 P.M. JR. HI BASKETBALL SANDS - THERE 2330 25 26 27 28 29 31 5:30 P.M.

TO THE STATE OF TH

H. S. BASKETBALL BOYS & GIRLS KLONDIKE - THERE

1076 - 1977 **BORDEN HIGH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE** OPPONENT TEAMS Time DAWSON* A & B Girls, A Boys A Girls, A Boys A Girls, A & B Boys 6:30 5:00 Jan. 11 SANDS* A Girls, A Boys A Girls, A & B Boys A Girls, A & B Boys 5:00 KLONDIKE* 5:00 Jan. 28 WELLMAN* DAWSON* A Girls, A & B Boys 5:00 A Girls, A Boys 6:30 Feb. 11 SANDS* A & B Boys * District 9 B Games ** District Game for Girls Only 1976 - 1977 BORDEN JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE **OPPONENT** TEAMS Time Jan. 6 & 8 DISTRICT TOURNAMENT at LOOP* A Girls, A Boys Jan. 10 UNION* Jan. 17 KLONDIKE* T A Girls, A Boys H A Girls, A & B Boys 5:30 Jan. 20-22 GRADY TOURNAMENT A Girls, A Boys Jan. 24 SANDS* T A Girls, A Boys H A & B Girls, A Boys Jan. 31 GRADY* Feb. 3 & 5 KLONDIKE PEE WEE TOURNAMENT B Girls, B Boys Feb. 7 WELLMAN* H A Girls, A Boys District Games Date of Klondike Pee Wee Tournament is tentative



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The act will extend until Dec. 31, 1977, the general tax credit of \$35 for each person or two per cent of the first \$9,000 of taxable income, whichever is greater. The standard deduction will continue to be 16 per cent of adjusted gross income with maximum deductions of \$2,400 for single persons and \$2,800 for joint returns. The minimum deductions of \$2,400 for joint returns. returns. The minimum deduction will remain at \$1,700 for single persons and \$2,100 for joint return with individual exemption of \$750 for each dependent.

Earned income credit will remain the same through 1977 returns a refundable tay credit

with a refundable tax credit of 10 per cent on the first \$4,000 of eamed income or maximum credit of \$400. The credit will be phased out from \$400 to zero as eamed income increases from \$4,000 to \$8,-

Retirement income credit will be available to more people and will be more generous than before, Ott says. The rate of 15 per cent will still be the same, but it will allow an experience of the same on earned as well as unearned income. The maximum amount of income on which credit is computed will be increased to \$2,500 for single 65-year-old persons and \$3,750 for married couples both 65 and older. Individuals making \$14, 500 or more do not qualify

for retirement income credit.

The present tax law will leave the basic provision of the capital gain law the same as before, Ott says, but will modify the time limits. Capital items now must be held more than six months to be considered a long-term gain or loss. Time limit will be changed to nine months in 1977 and a to nine months in 1977 and a full year in 1978 and thereafter. However, agricultural commodity futures contracts

THE BORDEN STAR **Editor** Barbara Anderson

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holding period to qualify for capital gain benefits.

Looking at other changes, Ott says prepaid interest will be a "no no." All cash method taxpayers must deduct interest expense for the tax period that the borrowed funds are used.

Business use of the residence has to be exclusively used for a farm office and used on a

Investment credit at the 10 Investment credit at the 10 per cent rate has been extended Dec. 31, 1980. The new law treats investment credits on a "first in, first out basis." For any unused credit from a carry forward or carry back year, the oldest is used first. The limitation of \$50,000 applied to cost basis of used property has been increased to \$100,000 through Dece. 31, 1980. 1980.

As for net operating loss carry over, Ott says the new law provides two additional carryover years for net operating losses, from five to seven

years.

A taxpayer 65 or older selling a home with an adjusted sale price of \$35,000 (up from \$20,000) or less will have a tax free sale. If adjusted sale price is more than \$35,000, the gain will be from the \$35,000 or the actual cost basis, whichever is greater.

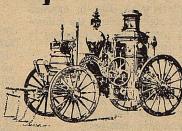
Partnership dollar limitations on additional first year depreciation is now set at \$2,000 per partner, not the \$4,000 per partner allowed under the old law, if partners were filing a joint return.

Accrual accounting is required for farm corporations and partnerships that have corporate partners, except those with gross receipts less than a mil-lion dollars a year and those operating as a Subchapter S

corporation.
Changes in Subchapter S corporation shareholders rules increased the number of permissible shareholders from 10 to 15 in order to qualify for and maintain Subchapter S status after the corporation is five years old.

Massey -Ferguson

Fire Prevention **Tips**



We are trying to change the misconception that many people have that a "Fireproof" building is a firesafe building. "Fireproof" does not mean firesafe. They are entirely different terms.

"Fireproof" (more properly called "fire resistive") means that the building structure will withstand a fire for a certain period of time. It does not take into consideration the contents which usuany combustible fuel. A highly combustible fuel. A boiler is which usually consist of present. It is the same with a fire-resistive building when its contents are burning. A fire-resistive building can be made firesafe more easily than a non-fire-resistive structure, but there are many things to be done on the drawing board in the early stages of design to make any building fire-safe. fire-safe. The word firesafe expresses our goal.

The great killer in a fire is not the fire itself but the lethal gasses of combustion which build up in an undivided and closed building mushrooming throughout the entire structure and killing quickly, often without warning. It does not take a large fire to do this. A burning overpstuffed chair or a television set can and has killed occupants in a dwelling, apartment or hotel room.

Youth, A Lonely

THE BORDEN STAR, WED., JAN. 5, 1977 ... 3

College Station--Ann Frank once said "...youth is lonelier than old age."

The time between ages 12 and is filled with a lot physical changes. Added to this is the tremendous amount of change the young person is undergoing intellectually, socially and emotionally. Because of the state of flux, loneliness usually accompanies change, Dorthy Taylor, a family life education

specialist, says.
"Until boys or girls reach
pre-adolescence, children usually find friendship and emotional comfort within the family. When a child matures into early teens, however, the need develops for close friendships outside the family. The young person needs someone to share mut-ual concerns and affection," she

said. During adolescence, boys and girls will have rather intense friendships, sometimes fleeting, sometimes lasting. Girls seem to have deeper relationships with other girls, but these often are not long lasting. Boys, on the other hand, seem to have more surface relationships which tend to last longer. Often, a friend who has similar background and interests is chosen. This friend will probably share many values and have a similar economic situation, she explained.

"Sometimes the young per-son's need for close friends either upsets the relationshiphe has had with parents in the past, or it upsets the whole

"Secret meetings take place, and there's usually no room for a younger brother or sister in the adolescent's life. Giggling running back and forth to another's home and endless telephone conversations are part of

maintaining adolescent friend-ships."

Parents have to consider the need for friends on the part of young people and not allow themselves to feel rejected by their own adolescents. Parents and families have to adjust to a growing child in the sense that they realize it is a natural part of the child's behavior, likes and dislikes, and changes related to maturity. The family's relationships with the child are also changing. Parents must face the fact that all relationships must change if a child is going to become a mature, independent adult, she explain-

"This friendship-seeking child still needs a family, but in a different way. Families provide love, warmth and understanding needed by teens. The pre-adolescent still needs rules and limits, but ones that are probably going to be different than they were several years ago. If the 12- or 13-year-old ties up the phone for a solid hour every night, don't blame the child. Parents set rules for telephones and enforce them. What the child needs is a set amount of time that can be spent on the telephone.

"Sensitive families will realize that when a child reaches the adolescent stage of development, some changes have to be made--some adjustments are definitely in order. Basic un-derstanding on the part of the family must be maintained in a loving, accepting home setting. Youth may be a lonely stage in a child's growth toward maturity, but an understanding family can make coping more pleasant," this specialist said.



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Using Jimmy Earl's appointpears the most direct route to serative Democrat. prove to be a mite more conpointed-that the liberal posture conscientious objector). was assumed only to get the black/liberal/labor vote. There was never any need to worry about the Southern vote. This election proved that Southern Democrats (in the majority) will vote for one of their own- no matter who.

Manwhile, on the way to
Washington, let's read the road
signs. Walter Mondale: Last
week's news was headlined;
Wash and children of Waco and
"Mondale to be Cabinet boss'. Steve Gordon of Snyder, visit-It is common knowledge here in ed during the Christmas holi-Texas what John Nance Garner days in the Paul Gordon home. thought about the office of V.P. But that's all to be changed. Walter is to be given an office and family, Mr. and Mrs. Winnext to the Oval one. Jimmy fred Tucker and children with Earl is indicating a coalition the lady's parents the Jim Sorpresidency. That's some sneaky rells, visited for the holidays. way to get to be sub-president.

conflict, he was. And now, his Weathers. support for unconditional amnesty for draft-dodgers and de-Jimmy Earl's.

Then-W. Michael Blumenthal as Secretary of the Treasury. He loves to spend that federal Huddleston and children of Las the advantages of government holidays in the Wright Huddleseconomic planning. We'll miss ton home at Snyder. Bill Simon.

for his Great Society alignment. Rodgers and family have been Most sources consider him to recent visitors in the Claude be in the pocket of the welfare Sorrells home.

Now if that doesn't tip you off and husband. that he is a lib, you haven't had a kid in an economics class to repeal 14 (Hb)-the Right to Work Law. And he is to be Secretary of Labor, what else?

Then Minnesota provides us with another indicator: Robert in the mouth and up on your Bergland, Secretary of Agriculture. He is said to hold the opposite view from former Sec- but first of all with yourself, retary Earl Butz in that Bergland is all for farm supports. Oh me-just when agriculture was about to free itself from a controlled market. Also, Mr. Bergland is a great big supporter of the food stamp program. We can look for higher prices shortages and production controls with the Minnesotan at the plow.

Brock Adams' sign reads Caution. He will insist upon federal subsidies for all forms of transportation. He likes federal mass transit programs-

and he is Secretary of Transportation.

Patricia Roberts Harris, black, will head Housing and Urban Development. She is a liberal lawyer as well as a womens libber.

One sign may indicate a clear stretch. Jimmy Earl has appointed his good friend Griffin Bell to be his Attorney General. It alw ys helps to have a crony in the Court House. But a ments as a road map, it ap friend who is a friend of-told ments as a road map, it ap- me that ole Griff is a real con-

Washington is to go to Plains,
Georgia and turn left. For awhile there was a feeling that

Advisors Presentiation

The road remains bumpy with
Harold Brown, Defense; Charles
Schultze, Council of Economic The road remains bumpy with just maybe the Plainsman would Advisers, Brezezinski, national security adviser; Andrew servative than his campaign rhe-toric indicated. Word came and all for self-rule in South from a crony that we conservatives wouldn't be too disap- Sorenson, CIA (and he was a

> The last sign I read before pulling into Washington, D.C. is: Danger Ahead.

This'n That

Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Sterling

Next sign-Cyrus Vance: A The Dewey Riley's and the real dove during the Vietnam Chas. Snyders visited with Ruth

Mr. and Mrs. "Chix" serters is even stronger than Hale have been visiting with relavives at Odessa.

> Dr. and Mrs. Ellis Wright And he raves about Crusas, New Mexico, spent the

The HEW billboard reads Mr. and Mrs. Buck Sorrells Joseph Califano. He is known and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy

On up the road is a sign read-ng: Freddie Ray Marshall, ham have been recent visitors U.T. Professor of Economics. of her sister Mrs. Thomas Hale

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Abernathy lately. Professor Marshall has of New Castle were visiting with has promised to launch a drive 'riends at Lake Thomas, Sunday.

amommo 6

You can't very well be down toes at the same time.

Have patience with the world,

Cancer Memorials

The Borden County Cancer Society would like to express their appreciation to the following people for participating in the cancer memorial fund: Mr. & Mrs. Max Zant

Mr. & Mrs. David Briggs Mr. & Mrs. Bert Dennis & Lisa

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Kelly Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Miller Mr. & Mrs. Bob Beal

Mr. & Mrs. Skeet Porter Mr. & Mrs. W.R. Boyd

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Smith Bess Smith Gail Friends

Ruth Weathers Doris Rudd & Family

ATTENTION:

An Emergency Medical Technician course will be held in Gail soon. This will be a comprehensive study of action to be taken in any type of medical emergency or accident.

If you are interested in attending this course, or if you would like more information, please contact Jim Burkett at

Decorating **Seminars**

seminars have been announced for local hobbyists.

Each of the one-day artistic workshops to be scheduled in this area will be conducted by a professional teacher. Decorating materials will be provided by Hanovia Liquid Gold, the nation's largest supplier of overglazes. These are special colors which are applied over glaz-

ed ceramic ware and fired. Hanovia Seminar I is "An In-

Three ceramic decorating ating," with nine ceramic pieces to be completed by each participant. Seminar II is entitled "New Experiences in Lusters," with six projects, and Seminar III is "Brushwork in Silver and Lusters," with four projects. Ceramic hobbyists may register for any one or all of the classes in creativity through local studios and stores which distribute Hanovia products, or through Hanovia Sem-Hanovia Seminar I is "An Ininar Headquarters, 333 Grape troduction to Overglaze Decor-Street, Whitehall, PA, 18052.

COLONIAL CRAFTS UP-DATED

PAUL REVERE AND OTHER COLONIAL ARTISANS CREATED UNIQUE ITEMS FROM METALS WHICH ARE TREASURED UNIQUE ITEMS FROM METALS WHICH ARE TREASURED TO THIS DAY-AND COPIED! IN THIS BICENTENNIAL ERA MANY HOBBYISTS ARE RECREATING THE SOFT GLOW OF PEWTER, THE MIRROR-LIKE FINISH OF SILVER AND THE RICHNESS OF GOLD BY BRUSHING MODERN LIQUID METAL OVERGLAZES ONTO CERAMIC WARE. AN EARLY AMERICAN PLATE, EAGLE, BELL, PITCHER AND DRINKING MUG CAN BE DECORATED INEXPENSIVELY WITH STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS ON TECHNIQUE STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS ON TECHNIQUE
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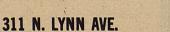
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The Scientists Tell Me...

Spread of Fire Ants Demands New Controls

By Robert L. Haney TAES Science Writer

The imported fire ant continues to spread in Texas. In the last year it has been found in 11 new counties for a total of 93 counties.

The control for the imported fire ant has been a bait which contains the poison Mirex. Its secret of success has been its slow effect. Worker ants that go out in search of food find the Mirex in the corn cob grit and oil bait. Workers, before they died, had time to remove the oil (which contains the Mirex poison), return to the mound and feed the poison to the queen and other ants in the colony.

Other insecticides are fast acting compounds that kill the food gathering worker ant before it can return to the mound and feed the other ants. The result is that most of the ants in the mound escape the effect of the compound.

Mirex is a chlorinated hydrocarbon, like DDT, and is a very persistent chemical. In fact, Mirex is the most persistent of the chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides. Because of its persistence, it slowly builds up in the environment with use.

It is stored in the fat tissue of animals. When an animal like a frog eats an ant with Mirex, the frog has a little Mirex stored in its fat; when the frog eats another ant with Mirex, a little more Mirex is stored in the frog fat. Slowly, the Mirex builds up in the frog until a toxic amount is reached.

Mirex is a slow killing compound. While it is not toxic unless present in large amounts in man, the slow buildup in the tissues of animals in the food chain leading to man present a potential hazard. It is this slow accumulation, along with the more direct effects on wildlife, that has led to the restriction in the use of Mirex and the present elimination of the use of Mirex in the area-wide program supported by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

A search for alternatives has resulted in consideration of thousands of chemicals. None have been found that are effective in the bait as a replacement for Mirex, because they are either not active against the fire ant or they are too toxic and kill the ants before they get back to the mound. Killing the worker doesn't solve the

problem as the queen continues to produce replace-

Entomologists with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES) have begun a search for an alternative to Mirex. One group of compounds being considered are the "juvenile hor-mones." They are not usu-ally toxic to adults but prevent the development of the young into adults.

Bradleigh Vinson, TAES entomologist, explains that the juvenile hormones kill young fire ant larvae and prevent reproduction (egg laying by the queen). These compounds look promising because they have no effect on the adult ant; therefore, the adult could eat the poison and carry it back to the mound and feed the queen and larvae. Theoretically, the compound would prevent replacement of the ants, and the colony would

This worked in the laboratory, but in the field the results were disappointing. Some mounds were killed, but others were not.

Why? Experiment Station researchers set out to answer these questions instead of abandoning a potentially promising control agent.

Research has shown that adult ants that eat the juvenile hormone destroy most of it in their stomach before feeding it to the larvae or queen, so that too little is left to do the job. Even less is fed to the larvae or queen if the colony is well

The next question is, can this problem be overcome? Vinson is convinced that it can be.

Research shows that ants, like many other insects, communicate by chemical smell. These compounds,

called pheromones (a type of chemical language), influence the behavior of the ants. The TAES researchers have identified one of these compounds, called a brood pheromone. When this compound is added to a small granule or pellet, the workers are fooled into treating the object as one of its larvae, and they carry it into the mound.

When the pheromone and the hormone are added to a carrier, the carrier (grit) is carried into the mound by the workers and is placed with the larvae, in the mound. The hormone contaminates the larvae, the target, resulting in their death. The result is a new concept in a bait approach to control of the imported fire

While juvenile hormones still hold promise, much more work will be necessary before it is determined that they are safe and effective and before they are available at a reasonable cost.

Researchers have also found that some insecticides can be made less toxic on contact and can also be carried into the mound with the brood pheromone and certain foods. Vinson suggests the more toxic insecticides may offer promise if new, less toxic formulations and bait approaches can be developed. He says that an alternative to Mirex can be developed but that there is much to be done before an effective replacement is available.

TAES entomologists are also working to find an insecticide that can be used by the home owner for the fire ant problem in his yard. The encapsulated and biodegradable insecticides show promise for this limited use.

Editor's Note-Any questions regarding this column should be addressed to Science Writer, Dept. of Agricultural Communications, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843.

Year-End Farm Prices Offer Gloomy Prospects

AUSTIN-Year-end farm prices in Texas do not offer much hope for a prosperous

Agriculture Commissioner John C. White made this gloomy summary following the monthly report by the Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service on agricultural prices. Averages for November 1976 marked the seventh consecutive month of decreases in prices for livestock and products.

All slaughter livestock except sheep declined in prices from those in October with hogs down 70 cents at \$31 a hundredweight (cwt.), beef cattle 60 cents lower to \$29,50 per cwt., lambs dropping 50 cents to \$46.10.

Sheep prices were up 40 cents from October to \$13.30.

Baled hay prices have remained steady with the demand high due to the effects of severe weather on pastures.

Grains have continued a downward trend. Current prices for major grains are averaged at \$3.31 per cwt. for sorghum and \$2.27 for a bushel of corn.

Even with small average reductions in feed prices, none of the market averages for livestock or other commodities (except oats) were above production costs.

"At the same time that farm prices are slumping, the farmer's share of a dollar spent in retail food stores was down to 37.6 cents in October, the lowest level in five years," White said.



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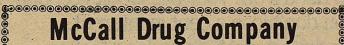
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Texas Ranks Third In Ag Export Sales

AUSTIN-Texas moved from fourth to third rank nationally in agricultural export sales of \$1.5 billion during fiscal 1976, Agriculture Commissioner John C. White has reported.

Last year Texas shared fourth place with Kansas

billion. "The substantial increase this year is significant when you consider the embargoes on grain shipments that hampered trade."

Illinois was the leader in fiscal 1976 with \$2.4 billion, and Iowa ranked second with

U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1976 were at a record \$22 billion, 3 percent over fiscal 1975. Export tonnage at 108 million tons was 22 percent above that of a year earlier, offsetting the effect of lower prices for some items.

accounted for the largest contribution to the state's export sales with \$497.3

Cotton sales at \$255.5 million were up \$34 million, but cottonseed oil dropped \$5.3 million to \$42.6 million.

Meat and red meat products were \$7.8 million above fiscal 1975 with increases also in hides and skins. Poultry products exports also increased, totaling \$10.7 million, a record for this commodity and more than twice that of

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Kikers Kolumn Mesquite Control

Aerial spraying of herbicide is the most common method used to control mesquite. Thus, many people think of mesquite control only during May and June when mesquite should be sprayed. However, other methods of mesquite control can be practiced at other times of the year. Some methods are best suited for use during late fall and winter when the mesquite plant is dormant. Chaining, rootplowing, grubbing and bas al treatment with herbicide are methods of mesquite control that may be utilized during fall and winter months.

Chaining is a brush control practice that is best suited for use in late fall and winter when soil moisture is high. Chaining of live mesquite provides only temporary control because of resprouting. However, the use of chaining to retreat areas that have been treateed with a herbicide provides effective and economical control of mesquite.

The most effective control of mesquite can be obtained by chaining an area three years after the area has been sprayed with herbicide. Chaining during the dormant and brittle mesquite plants break up easily causing maximum damage to the mesquite. Also, soil moisture should be high to allow uprooting of the mesquite. Also, soil moisture should be high to allow uprooting of the mesquite trees. This uprooting removes the bud zone from the soil, thus the trees cannot resprout. Chaining of sprayed areas uproots most of the large trees thus increasing the duration of control over that obtained from herbicide control used alone. The dead or partially dead mesquite trees are easier to uproot than unsprayed live mesquite because the roots not clinging to the soil. The three year. year period following spraying allows the roots to die and decay. Because the sprayed trees are easier to uproot, chaining a sprayed area requires less power than chaining an unsprayed area; therefore it is cheaper. Additional benefits of chaining are easier working of livestock and more effective herbicide coverage on a uniform stand of mesquite when herbicide retreatment is necessary.

Most of the Rolling Plains received an abundance of rainfall since July. Soil moisture levels are high enough throughout most of the Rolling Plains that chaining should be veryeffective this winter. Good chaining conditions this winter provide an opportunity to extend the control of previously sprayed mesquite.

Root plowing is another mechanical method of brush control that can be done in late fall and winter months. Root plowing is a very effective method of controlling mesquite.

Because root plowing is expensive, it is best used on sites with high production potential. Root plows with fins usually provide best control but they also destroy the existing turf. If the existing turf is good enough to be saved, athin bladed root plow without fins will minimize damage to the turf. Also,

root plowing during the winter months causes less damage to the existing forage plants. Often it is necessary and desirable to seed for age species following root plowing.

Grubbing of mesquite can be carried out during the winter months. Grubbing is an economical practice when used on thin stands. The use of a small crawler tractor to grub thin stands of regrowth mesquite is a good maintenance practice. More of the small mesquites may be missed when grubbing during the winter because of difficulty in seeing the leafless plants.

Another method of controlling mesquite with a fall and winter treatment is individual plant treatment with herbicide. Diesel or a diesel and 2, 4,5-T mixture can be poured around the base of mesquite trunks. Also, these herbicides may be applied with a sprayer. When using sprayer the trunkshould be sprayed thoroughly from a height of 12 inches to ground line. Enough solution should be sprayed on each trunk so it runs down the trunk and soaks down around the root crown. This method works best when the soil is dry. A three-gallon sprayer or a power sprayer may be used. This is an expensive and laborious method of controlling mesquite. However, this method is good for use on small acreages adjacent to cropland, fence rows, and areas where other methods are not feasible.

Mesquite control is an important range improvement pract-Because of methods of control that may be utilized in fall and winter, attempts to control mesquite mlay be practiced almost anytime during the

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Bankers Deal With Ag. Loans

A special session on making agricultural loans will be one of the highlights of the 25th Farm and Ranch Credit School for Commercial Bankers, Fed. 7-9 at the Rudder Center, Texas A&M &University.

"Different agricultural enterprises require specific analysis and consideration, so six major loan areas will be examined at the school," notes Tom Prater, economist with the T.A.E.S. who is the school's general chairman.

"The six loan sessions will look at field crops, cow-calf operations, feedlots, dairies, rice and grain storage and warehousing, Bankers from throughout Texas, who are experienced in making these types of loans, will conduct each of the sessions."

Another special feature of the school will provide a brief look at recent developments in the agricultural industry, according to Prater. Gene Finley, vice president, Capital National Bank, Austin, will preside over this session, Topics to be discussed include energy and agriculture, the new meat grading system, animal reproduction, grain sorghum research activities, new insights into beef tenderness, improved weather services and the new estate tax

"The school will be kicked off with a session which will examine ways farmers and ranchers may get control over capital. Discussions will include expected changes in dealer methods of financing farm equipment and farmers and outside equity capi-

"Rounding out the school will be sessions dealing with crop, livestock and money market outlook information, correspondent banking relationships and the banker and his customer," says

The annual school is planned for bankers by the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Section of the

Fertilizer

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is sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Texas Bankers Association.

In conjunction with the school an Agricultural Credit Analysis Workshop will begin the after-noon of Feb. 9 and continue through the morning of Feb. 11 The workshop will deal with preparing financial statements, analyzing and reconciling farm records, and preparing cash flow projections. Case problems will also be studied and solved, points out Prater.

Running concurrently with this ion, Texas 77843.

Texas Bankers Association. It credit workship will be special two-day Commodity Hedging Session. This session will investigate the mechanics of hedging, hedging decision guides and what a banker should know about living with a hedged loan.

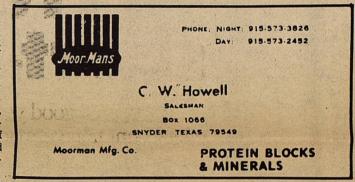
Prater invites Texans who are concerned with agricultural financing to attend both school and either of the two workshops.

For registration information, contact Prater at Room 107C Agriculture Building, Texas A&M University, College Stat-



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The Speaker Reports

by Bill Clayton

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months, ending at the completion of fiscal year 1980. During that period total funds of \$25.5 billion will be sent home from Washington.

The program began in 1972 and through the end of 1976 about \$30 billion in tax revenues have been provided state and local governments--although that money comes from Washington with some strings.

According to the wording of the bill some of the strings contained in the original program have been removed and others have been strengthened in the areas of antidiscimination, auditing and citizen participation requirements.

The section which required that local governments use revenue sharing funds only for certain priority expenditures has been deleted. Also removed is the provision which prohibited state and local governments from using revenue sharing funds to match other federal pro-

Washington still has its thumb on the money. For one thing, sharing from 1978-80 will be tied to federal income tax receipts. There will be more money if revenues are high, but less if times are not as prosperous. The provision will have little impact as far as increasing the amount because Congress placed a ceiling of \$6.85 billion per fiscal year.

Some new requirements have been placed on the funds. One provision calls for an increase in citizen participation by requiring at least one public hearing on proposed use of the funds and at least one hearing on the relation of the proposed use to the entire local budget.

Procedures for enforcing the antidiscrimination provision of the 1972 act are included and apply to any program or activity using revenue sharing funds. Congress established a timetable for compliance once a complaint is made. Violaters who do not comply will have funds suspended. Individuals can also file private civil suits for violation of nondiscrimination and citizen participation and auditing as well.

Texas can certainly use the funds. The state will collect

AUSTIN--Revenue sharing \$83.8 million and local govhas been granted a new life ernment \$167.5 million for and state and local govern- the first nine months of 1977. ments will see their first We should remember that these monies are coming to The extension comes in us via Washington. I cannot the form of a new law-- help but believe that instead State and Local Fiscal As- of our taxpayers sending the sistance Amendments of money first to Washington 1976-and means that the and then the federal governprogram did not expire at ment returning it with strings the stroke of midnight on attached, we could have eliminated the middle man's The extension is for 45 part and his cost with some tax law comprehensive

Citizen education

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.)—A new effort by The University of Texas may help dispel some of the ignorance U.S. citizens have about Latin America.

With a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, UT's Institute of Latin American Studies will foster studies of Latin American culture in two-year and small four-year colleges through curriculum development and training personnel.

The collaboration between UT Austin and the state's many community colleges is expected to capitalize on continuing education as a vehicle for improving citizen education in world affairs.

S.C.S. con't from page 1

During the year, the district approved ten new conservative plans on 5,832 acres and 20 conservation plans were revised on 24,033 acres. Assistance was provided on 132 costshare requests from the Borden and Scurry County ASCS offices. During the year Great Plains Conservation Program applications were approved on three units and new Great Plains Conservation Program contracts were approved seven units. During the year the Field Office personnel provided 937 services to 259 individual landusers. Of these 182 applied one or more con-servation practices on the land.

The District purpose is to provide technical assistance on conservation problems through Snyder Field Office of the Soil Conservation Service.

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District is one of the sponsors of the Big Country Resource Conservation and Development area. Directors have worked actively in the activities of the RC&D area. Director Walter Stirl is the district's representative to the Big Country RC&D Area. It is the hope of the directors that this area will soon be set up an RC&D Project.

During the past year the per-

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provided district cooperators in the planning and application of conservation practices on their farms and ranches.

Contributions from Snyder Daily News, KSNY Radio, Borden

sonnel of the Snyder Field Office, Soil Conservation Service, performed many functions in School District, Borden and addition to the assistance Scurry County officials and others have made it possible for the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District to complete a very successful year, officials of the district

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