

People



Breast cancer screening slated

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and High Plains Baptist Hospital will again conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Plains Memorial Hospital, 310 West Halsell on Aug. 15 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Breast cancer affects one in 9 women. The key to boosting your chances of winning the battle against cancer are early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Each participant at our screening will receive a breast exam and one-to-one instruction in breast self-examination by a registered nurse

specially trained in breast cancer detection, and a mammogram by a mammography technician.

The American Cancer Society urges all women to have their first mammogram by age 40. Those who have a close relative with breast cancer or other risk factors may be asked by their doctor to have a mammogram at an earlier age.

The total cost of the screening is \$70. Ask about funding that is available for free breast screenings.

Please call the Women's Center at Harrington Cancer Center at 1-800-377-HOPE (4673) or (806) 359-4673 today for more information or to schedule an appointment.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN DEWBERRY
... She's the former Julie Hottel.

Dewberrys make home in Houston

Julie Hottel, formerly of Dimmitt, and John Dewberry of Houston, were married in Houston on June 11.

The ceremony and reception were held at the University Club in Houston.

The bride is a 1971 graduate of Dimmitt High School. She is the daughter of Charles and Estella Hottel who lived in Dimmitt until 1984. Charles was the County Agent for Castro County and Estella was a home economics teacher for the Dimmitt School system for more than 20 years. She is the catering director at the University Club.

The groom is senior vice-president with Gibbs & Soell Public Relations. The Dewberrys have made their home in Kingwood, a suburb of Houston.

Ibarra participating in WT intern program

Noemi Ibarra of Dimmitt, a senior criminal justice major at West Texas A&M University, has been working this summer in an internship program at WT.

Ibarra is serving her internship with US Customs Service in Amarillo.

Ibarra is one of 21 students working in the internship program. The students, majoring primarily in criminal justice, are working in local, county, state and national offices.

"This internship provides students with the opportunity for real life experience," said Susan Coleman, coordinator of the intern program and WT instructor of political science. "These students will do everything from inspecting airplanes for US Customs to performing case work with probation offices."

According to Coleman, the students will receive six semester hours for their work.

"Through the internships the students will be able to meet professionals in their field," Coleman said. "An opportunity like this frequently serves as a basis for employment."

The program began at WT in 1974. It began as a result of the Law Enforcement Assistant Act passed by Congress in response to the riots of the 1960s.

Class of '39 plans reunion

The Dimmitt class of 1939 will celebrate their 55th reunion during Harvest Days Aug. 12 and 13.

On Aug. 12, the class will meet at K-Bob's Steak House in Dimmitt at 7:30 for dinner (Dutch treat). Aug. 13, they will meet at 10 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Building to visit, watch the parade and have lunch.

Organizers ask that class members make every effort to attend the reunion.

For more information contact J.R. and Mary Jo Brown at 647-3250, Dorothy (Graham) Sheffy at 647-2576, or Garnett Holland at 647-5544.

Shower honors Michelle Toudouze

Michelle Toudouze, bride-elect of Chad Smithson, was honored with a bridal shower July 16 in the home of Connie Morris.

Guests were greeted by the bride-elect, and her mother, Mrs. Kathryn Toudouze of San Antonio, Mrs. Mareta Smithson, mother of the prospective groom, and Mrs. Morris.

Out of town guests were Kathleen Toudouze of San Antonio, sister of the bride-elect, and Mrs. Vicki Smithson and her daughters, Amy and Carla, of Klondike, cou-

sins of the prospective groom. Special guest was Mozelle Odom, grandmother of the prospective groom.

Guests were served miniature sweet rolls, sausage balls, fruit punch and coffee. The serving table was covered by a lace tablecloth over a burgundy cloth. The center piece was a large burgundy candle in a hurricane lamp surrounded by burgundy flowers on a mirrored base.

Refreshments were served by two of the prospective groom's cousins, Amy Beck and Amy Smithson.

Twenty-nine hostesses presented the couple with a vacuum cleaner.

Bride-elect is honored with shower

A wedding shower honoring Jill Nelson, bride-elect of Keith Rushing, was held July 9 in the home of Mrs. Maxine Tidwell.

Receiving guests were the honoree, her mother, Sandra Nelson, and Mrs. Tidwell.

Special guests present were the bride's sister, Jan Nelson of Amarillo, and the grandmothers of the bride, Mrs. Gail Nelson of Dimmitt and Bertha Thompson of Lubbock.

Out of town guests attending were Lyndell Sinclair of Dallas, aunt of the bride; Karen Griffin of Granbury, the bride's cousin; Syble Hames and Agnes Byrd of Lubbock; Kristi Reynosa and Tina Albracht of Amarillo; and Dorothy Shannon of Hereford.

Jan Nelson served the guests refreshments of mini muffins, ham rolls, nuts, fruit punch and coffee. Twenty-six hostesses assisted.

Nazareth WITH VIRGIE GERBER. 945-2669

The Nazareth Senior Citizens enjoyed dinner at the Center on Sunday. The meal was catered by the Legion Auxiliary. We were happy to have members Artie Huseman and Lynn Ehly, who now live in Amarillo, return here for our dinner. Other welcome guests were Vic Brockman and Nora Barnett of Midland and Shirley Schacher of Dimmitt.

The Art and Loretta Kleman family reunion was held Sunday at the Nazareth Community Hall with 90 members from Tulia, Dimmitt, Canyon, Amarillo, Pampa, New Mexico, Kansas, Iowa and Nazareth attending. The afternoon started with a pot luck dinner, craft auction, door prizes, games, a visit to the cemetery, horse shoe pitching and a lot of B.S.! We all decided a lot of family members suffer from C.R.S. — Pray for us!

Many relatives and friends attended the Saturday wedding of John Kleman and Jennifer Norcross at Holy Family Church with Father Neal Dee officiating. Reception and dance followed at the Nazareth Community Hall.

Father Harold Heiman of Subiaco, Ark., spent several days here last week visiting family members and attended an Albracht reunion in Hereford.

Employees of Terra Fertilizer in Dimmitt and their families enjoyed several days at Greenbelt Lake near Clarendon this weekend. They enjoyed boating, skiing, tubing, fishing and lots of good food.

Greg and Tinie Hoelting and LaDawn and Taylor Schulte have returned from Colorado Springs where they attended the 30th anniversary party for Leroy and Colette Hoelting. Others attending were Mitzie and Cyrilla Brockman, Susie Conrad, Rosemary Ramaekers and her daughter, Marvin and

Carol Hoelting and family, Denis and Judy Hoelting and family of Colorado and many of Colette's cousins and aunts. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed Colette's big surprise for Leroy which was the appearance of one of his college buddies. They had not seen each other in 25 years. Everyone also enjoyed Leroy giving them a downtown tour of beautiful Colorado Springs with an abundance of flowers everywhere.

Leonard Gerber is a patient in High Plains Baptist Hospital where he had surgery for a hip replacement. He is doing well and should be home soon to recuperate.

Matthew Kern is home to recuperate after having surgery at Northwest Texas Hospital to remove a bone tumor on his head.

Tricia Rose was honored on her 40th birthday with a fun night out in Amarillo with her husband, Jerry, Gerber family members and Jim and Bobbie Schmucker.

Prayers are asked for Rosemary Schmucker of Hereford who is a stroke patient in the Critical Care Unit at St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo.

Denny and Pill Heiman, Jo Ann Bowan and Evelyn Hill enjoyed the weekend in Ruidoso at the horse races and the Inn of the Mountain Gods. Evelyn visited with family in Nazareth and Dimmitt before returning to Lubbock.

Congratulations to Lester and Karen Backus on the birth of a boy, Blake Yule, on July 15 at Northwest Texas Hospital. He has one older brother, Brandon. Grandparents are Hubert and Joan Backus and Bonnie Yule. Great-grandparents are Helen Backus and Louise Braddock of Nazareth, Geneva Yule of Phoenix, Ariz., and Lois Stillman of Amarillo.

The Texas Dept. of Health will be holding a Wellness screening on July 26, at the Senior Citizens Center in Nazareth from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Services offered will include blood pressures, cholesterol screen, blood sugar test, health risk profiles. A nutritionist will be present to answer any dietary questions.

There will be a \$4 charge for these services, and they will be open to the public. Please call, 647-2404, for an appointment.

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Town Hall Meetings
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Castro County
Hospital District
regarding
Rural Health Clinics
featuring
guest speaker MELISSA KEMP, formerly
with the Center for Rural Health Initiatives

Two Meetings:
DIMMITT: Saturday, July 23
10:00 a.m. at City Hall
HART: Saturday, July 23
2:00 p.m. at Hart Bank



SPRUNGING UP THE PLACE—Members of the Flagg 4-H Club spent Thursday morning helping spruce up around the Dimmitt Senior Citizens Apartments. They helped take weeds out of flower beds and did other odd jobs. Pictured are (from left) Tawnee Matthews, Mary Bradley, Carrie Bradley and Carol Summers. Photo by John Brooks

TCPB provides \$120,000 for statewide work projects

More than \$120,000 worth of projects have been funded this year by the Texas Corn Producers Board.

TCPB announced the funded projects in the summer edition of *The Kernel*, the official TCPB newsletter which is being mailed to corn producers statewide. TCPB is funded by a half-cent-per-bushel checkoff administered by TCPB and overseen by the Texas Dept. of Agriculture.

"Through our statewide corn checkoff program, TCPB is able to work directly with researchers from the Texas A&M University System as well as private consultants to find the best methods of controlling and preventing corn disease and insect problems," said TCPB Chairman Gerald Donaldson of Boling.

The funded programs include: —\$10,000 to fund studies of a new corn virus which struck Panhandle-area sweet corn last year. The virus has also bothered wheat and the project is also being funded by the Texas Wheat Producers Board. Research is being done by the Extension Service in Amarillo.

—\$15,000 to fund screening of commercial corn varieties to examine their vulnerability to aflatoxin fungus. Research is being done by Texas A&M.

—\$13,600 to study the emergence and movement of spider mites on the High Plains between wheat, corn and CRP land and to develop a better understanding of predators which feed on mites. The research is by Dr. F.E. Gilstrap, Texas A&M entomologist in College Station, and Dr. Bob Glodt, private consultant in Plainview.

—\$13,500 for studies to compare dryland corn and sorghum production profitability in the Panhandle area.

—\$9,000 for food corn quality evaluation studies by Dr. Lloyd Rooney of Texas A&M in College Station.

—\$8,200 to fund High Plains research into development of mite resistant hybrids, as well as additional studies to determine the best control methods using EPA-approved pesticides and predators.

—\$7,500 for pest management research demonstration aides in Castro, Lamb, Bailey, Parmer, Swisher and Lamb counties. The program is by county and area Extension agents.

—\$5,000 for continued research to improve the visual identification of aflatoxin.

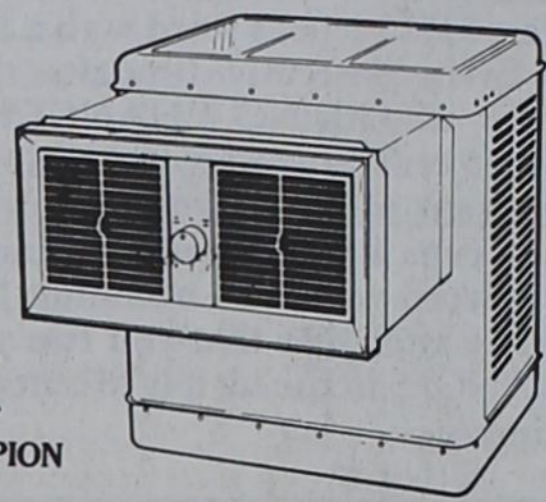
—\$4,000 for a phosphorous fertilizer usage study in different tillage programs.

—\$3,500 to complete a study aimed at arming farmers with information on the best times to use plant banding for mite control.

—\$3,975 to evaluate the

effectiveness of using reduced rates of granular insecticide for Mexican Corn Earworm control in central Texas.

—\$3,000 to help establish a computerized water use predicting network for High Plains corn producers.



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Insects of interest

By ANDY WILLIAMS
AREA ENTOMOLOGIST

General conditions

Scattered rainfall was received across Castro and Lamb counties the past week. This rainfall can only help the overall situation. Corn is well into tassel and some has matured to the brown silk stage. Cotton is beginning to bloom across the area with very little insect problems. Sorghum is developing well with overall light insect problems.

Cotton

Irrigated cotton is beginning to bloom across Castro and Lamb counties with very little insect pressure at this time. Fleahopper numbers still remain low. Once the cotton reaches matchhead-size squares it can withstand more fleahopper pressure. Fleahoppers are most damaging to pinhead-size squares. The late planted fields still need to be monitored for fleahoppers, especially if the field is just beginning to square.

The nutritional demands of the developing crop change dramatically during the period of 5-6 weeks between square and peak bloom. During early squaring, nutrient requirements are low and soil fertility is generally adequate. Excessive nitrogen during this period can stimulate luxurious growth that is attractive to cotton bollworms and may lead to rank growth. Application of phosphorus and potassium during this period should be based on soil or tissue testing.

During the early weeks of bloom, nitrogen fertility may become limiting. To adequately assess crop nitrogen status, some form of plant monitoring is required. Plant mapping that tracks the crop's nodes above white flower (NAWF), coupled with petiole nitrate-nitrogen testing, can match nitrogen applications to crop demand. Additional nitrogen applications should be based on some objective, realistic measure of yield expectations. For example, research conducted in the High Plains has led to guidelines for applying additional nitrogen per increment of additional mid-season rainfall (5 lbs.N to 1 inch of water). Automatically applying nitrogen (N), without considering whether it is needed, can delay maturity and increase problems with insect pests, boll rot and harvest preparation.

Some producer recommendations provided by Dr. Kater Hake, Extension cotton agronomist, at this time include: 1) Keep irrigation moving rapidly, seven-day cycle in sprinklers and if possible also alternate furrow irrigation. A frequent

irrigation cycle will minimize water deficit stress-induced boll shed; 2) Avoid cultivating pivot irrigated fields during bloom. Roots are very shallow and do not adequately re-grow during the bloom period; 3) Check the depth of moisture to anticipate when the field may enter stress. Use this to guide any additional expenditures for Pix and nitrogen.

Corn

Most of the area corn is in the silking stage across Castro and Lamb counties. Spider mite numbers are on the increase, especially edges along highways, county roads, next to harvested wheat or near pasture land. Several fields in the Pest Management Program are near economic threshold, but deciding to treat is based on the upcoming second generation corn borers.

Most of the spider mites are Banks grass mites, which I distinguished last week. To decide whether or not Banks grass mite should be controlled, the per acre control cost (miticide plus application costs) and the expected value of the crop (yield x value) should be estimated. A two-step sampling process is necessary.

The field can be quickly checked to determine the percent of the plant infested by mites. This is accomplished by dividing the number of mite-infested green leaves (a leaf is infested if a mite colony of any size is on the leaf) by the number of green leaves per plant. If the plant equals or exceeds the percentage of infested leaves needed to cause yield loss, then determine the percentage of the leaf area on the plant that is damaged by mite feeding. Mite damage is any light-colored (chlorotic) areas on the plant that result from mite feeding.

Remember to look at all leaves on the plant to estimate how much of the total leaf area is damaged by mite feeding. Do not base your damage estimate on infested leaves only or the damage rating will be over-estimated. Dead leaf equals 100% damage for that leaf. Now, calculate the average percentage of the leaf area damaged. If both the percentage of the leaves infested and the percentage of the leaf area damaged equal or exceed the values for your crop, its time to spray.

Mated European corn borer females will soon be returning to tasseled corn to lay eggs. Most of

the egg masses will be laid on the underside of the leaves nearest to and including the ear leaf. Eggs are white and a black dot (the head of the young larvae) can be seen just before hatching. Eggs will hatch in three to five days. After hatching, about 75% of the small larvae move to the leaf axis and the remaining 25% to the ear sheath and collar tissue. If an average of 10 to 20 hatched and unhatched egg masses can be found per 100 plants, an insecticide application is justified.

Second generation Southwestern corn borer trap counts are climbing; therefore, we need to check for SWCB egg masses and small larvae. If we can hold off spraying spider mites until we notice some corn borer larvae or eggs we can get more bang for the buck from one spray application.

Second generation eggs are laid after tasseling has occurred. About three-fourths of these eggs are laid on the upper surfaces of the middle seven leaves. Eggs are laid singly or in masses of two to three or more. Eggs overlap fish scales or shingles. Freshly-laid eggs are creamy white. One day later, three red bands appear across each egg. Insecticides should be applied when 20% to 25% of the plants are infested with eggs or newly-hatched larvae.

Corn earworm trap counts are again on the increase. Remember, control of corn earworms is difficult since egg laying is extended through the silking period and continues after the completion of pollination.

Sorghum

A few greenbugs can now be found in some of the earlier-planted sorghum. Greenbugs are aphids that suck plant juices and inject toxins into small grain plants. These aphids are pale green about 1/16 inch long, with characteristic dark green stripes on the back. Overall infestations remain light at this time around Castro and Lamb counties.

On June 30, EPA granted a Section 18 specific exemption to allow the use of Asana XL to control sorghum midge in selected areas of Texas. In our area, this product can be used after Aug. 1 only in hybrid seed production fields to control economic infestations of midge. It cannot be used in commercial fields.

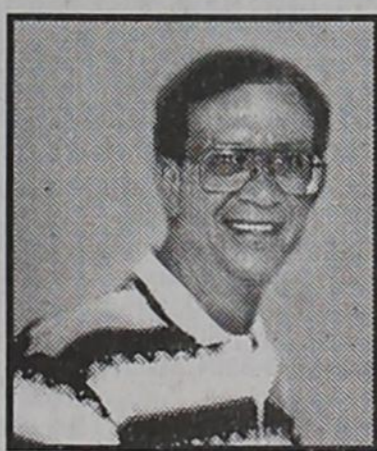
Jamboree set

The Plainview Musical Jamboree will be held this Saturday from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Ollie Linder Center, South on Hwy. 87 in Plainview.

Admission to the show is free, but donations are encouraged, with proceeds going to the area Girl Scout service unit.

A door prize of \$25 will be given at the conclusion of the show.

Entertainment will be provided by Michelle Todd of Plainview, Crystal Collection of Lubbock, Panhandle Country Sounds of Dumas, Tommy Stewart of Dimmitt, The Perrymans of Lubbock, and Shanna VanWinkle Sides of Lubbock.



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The Castro County News
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Plainview Daily Herald
Ralls Reporter-News

Thursday, July 21, 1994

The Slatonite
The Tulia Herald

Old Tractors

A nostalgic look back...

By BOB BATZ

c. 1994 Cox News Service

BROOKVILLE, Ohio — Jim Davenport hoists himself into the driver's seat of a painted-red Farmall tractor that was built in the 1940s and is still going strong.

"First tractors are like first loves,"

Good memories: Tractor buffs giving residents a look at farming of the past . . .

AgReview

See OLD, Page 4



Gordon Zeigler/AgReview

Roll out the tractors

Part of the fun at summer celebrations in the Texas Panhandle/South Plains region in recent years has centered around interest in restored old tractors like this one ridden by Fred Howard of Plainview.

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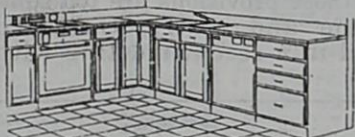
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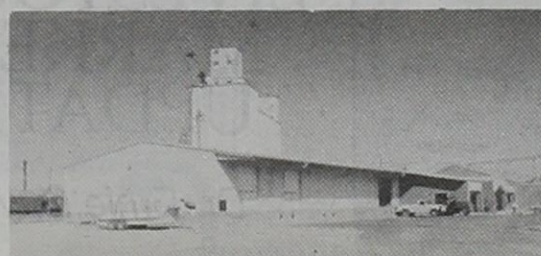
1994 16' fish and ski boat, 70 h.p. Electric trolling motor, complete fish and ski pkg.

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Boat, motor and trailer, \$8,495. Anchor Marine, 4217 Canyon Dr. Amarillo, 353-9511.

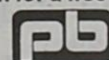
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AgReview



South Plains

Ag News

July 28

OKLAHOMA STATE TWO-CYLINDER SHOW — One of the major tractor shows in the Southwest, to be held in Fairview, Okla.

Aug. 4-8

PLAINS ANNUAL CELEBRATION & RODEO — Days of celebrating and fun, with old tractors to be displayed.

Sept. 17-18

GOLDEN SPREAD ANTIQUE EQUIPMENT SHOW — Donald Sell Farm in Perryton will be the site of the original old tractor show of the Texas Panhandle.

Sept. 20-22

SECOND ANNUAL SEMINOLE TRACTOR SHOW — Event will be held in connection with the Farm and Oil Celebration.

Sept. 23

LEVELLAND HARVEST FESTIVAL — Big celebration including displays of old tractors.

Locales try building own 'Cash cow of Ozarks'

By LANE BEAUCHAMP
Kansas City Star

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Sprouting from the sandy soils of South Carolina and the tobacco fields of Tennessee, two fast-growing vacation hotspots boldly position themselves to challenge Branson, the cash cow of the Ozarks.

With promises of dozens of new music theaters, leaders in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Pigeon Forge, Tenn., hope to duplicate the phenomenal success of southwest Missouri's tourism attraction.

And much of the money to pay for these grand efforts comes straight from the Ozark hills.

The names Hammons and Herschend, familiar to southwest Missourians for their hotels and theme parks, will sign the checks on millions of dollars worth of copycat projects.

"There's going to be competition regardless," said Pete Herschend, who co-

owns Branson's Silver Dollar City theme park and whose family's finances fuel much of the boom in Pigeon Forge. "The question is, do you want to be in control of the competition or let somebody else do it? ... You don't want all your eggs in one basket."

The Herschend family owns three of the largest tourist attractions in Pigeon Forge and plans to build even more. Last year they spent more than \$10 million on their Tennessee projects.

Some 300 miles away in Myrtle Beach, Missouri millionaire John Q. Hammons, who lives in Springfield, is laying out the bucks in the nation's most ambitious attempt to copy Branson's blueprint for prosperity.

"I'm producing a top-quality entertainment package," said Hammons, who promises 12 South Carolina theaters, the first set to open next spring. "Myrtle Beach already has the ocean and golf courses and great roads. This will com-

plete the picture."

The competition comes at a critical time for Branson. The building-safety controversy there still hangs unresolved. Traffic congestion is as bad as ever and it will be years before the proposed Ozark Mountain Highroad is completed to relieve the problem.

And the number of visitors, which for years had shown healthy increases from season to season, had a slight drop this spring over spring 1993.

"It will come down to, 'How well are we planted in the mind of the customer?'" Herschend said. "It's the customer who decides, and they'll do it with their wallet."

Myrtle Beach makes up only a portion of the fast-growing tourist area known as the Grand Strand, a 60-mile stretch of development that sits roughly halfway between New York and Miami.

First settled by the Spanish, the region later became home to plantations

producing rice, cotton and lumber. Myrtle Beach, named for the wax myrtle shrubs that thrived in the region, is more than twice as large as any of 11 Grand Strand cities. It began to prosper as a weekend getaway 50 years ago.

It was a little place called the Carolina Opry that kick-started the music business in Myrtle Beach. The folks around Myrtle Beach call the Opry's founder, Calvin Gilmore, the father of the area's theater scene.

Gilmore, who once delivered mail at Hallmark Cards in Kansas City, dreamed of building a theater before Branson ever boomed. In the early 1980s, he had set his sights on a place at Lake of the Ozarks, where he was selling real estate.

But on a hunch, Gilmore checked on Myrtle Beach, a town he remembered fondly from his college summers. A building was available there, and Gilmore took the

See Tomato, Page 5

Mexico accused of tomato dumping

By MIKE WILLIAMS

c. 1994 Cox News Service

MIAMI — The 6-month-old North American Free Trade Agreement has turned South Florida tomato growers' balance sheets bloody as a flood of cheap Mexican tomatoes this winter devastated Florida's second-largest crop, they claim.

"NAFTA kicked in Jan. 1, and our tomato market went completely apart in no time," said John Thomas, 73, whose family has raised vegetables in Palm Beach County for 35 years. "Prices were down to money-losing levels by Jan. 15. They took our winter crop completely away from us."

Angry farmers, who supply most of the nation's domestically grown

winter vegetables, have appealed to Florida Agriculture Commissioner Bob Crawford, who in turn has complained to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

Espy has promised to investigate charges that Mexican farmers dumped tomatoes on the U.S. market. He said he would set up a meeting between Florida growers and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Kantor is overseeing NAFTA, which Florida farmers strongly opposed last year until administration officials promised it would include provisions to protect them against cheap Mexican imports.

But those provisions are too cumbersome and costly, Crawford argued in a recent meeting with

Espy. Filing a formal action could cost farmers \$300,000 and take years to reach a resolution, he said.

Mexico has denied that Mexicans dumped tomatoes on the U.S. market, and a U.S. Department of Agriculture official who tracks tomatoes said he doubts that Mexican imports were a big cause of last winter's low tomato prices.

Differences in weather, the availability of trucks for shipping and other factors probably had a greater impact, said Gary Lucier, a vegetable specialist with the federal agency.

Florida officials, however, claim Mexican imports surged 25 percent

See Tomato, Page 5

Cattle cash receipts in '93 hit an all time record

1993 Texas livestock cash receipts rebounded to an all time record.

As goes the beef cattle business, so goes the contribution the Texas livestock sector makes to the overall Texas economy. Cash receipts from the Texas cattle and calf sector increased \$702 million over those received in 1992, boosting Texas cash receipts received from livestock, wool and mohair to an all time record of \$6.526 billion in 1993. Also recording higher cash receipts in 1993 was the Texas hog industry. Unfortunately for the Texas sheep and goat producers, that is as far as the good news went.



LIVESTOCK MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Ernie Davis

Cash receipts from sheep and lambs, wool and mohair were all down.

Nevertheless, 1993 Texas livestock cash receipts exceeded the 1991 record of \$6.3 billion by just over 200 million. It is estimated that the Texas livestock sector had a total economic boost to the state's economy of near-

ly \$20.4 billion. Given current 1994 livestock markets, especially those for cattle and sheep, the 1993 livestock cash receipt record is not in jeopardy.

Texas Cash Receipts From Cattle and Calves
Cash receipts for cattle and calves received by Texas farmers and

ranchers during 1993 totaled \$6.353 billion, a 13 percent increase over 1992. It is also \$190 million more than the 1991 record of cash receipts received for Texas' cattle and calves. Both prices paid for Texas' cattle and calves and marketings were higher in 1993.

The number of head marketed as well as the total pounds marketed in Texas both increased by 10 percent over 1992. 1993 cattle and calf prices gained in strength over 1992 prices. Cattle prices increased 3 percent, fro

\$73.70 cwt. in 1992 to \$75.60 cwt. in 1993. Texas calf prices experienced a significant price increase of 11 percent. Texas calf prices averaged \$95.20 cwt. in 1993, up from an aver-

age of \$85.80 cwt. received in 1992.

(Dr. Ernie Davis, Livestock Marketing Specialist with Texas A&M is a cattle market expert.)

Facts: U.S. corn production

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In Europe and North America, corn yields average 3 tons per acre.

In tropical areas, the average yield is about 1 ton per acre.

One-half of the 150 million acres of corn in the developing world is subject to periodic drought.

Nearly 20 million acres of corn are in acidic soils. More than 40 percent of the earth's soil is classified as acidic.

About 125 million acres are now planted in wheat developed by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center near Mexico City.

Consumer foods gaining importance among exports

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer foods are becoming more important among U.S. agricultural exports and probably will exceed bulk commodities in export value before the year 2000, the Agriculture Department says.

"Over the last six years, consumer foods accounted for all of the more than \$7 billion in growth in total U.S. agricultural exports," says a report in the July issue of AgExporter magazine by the Foreign Agricultural Service.

"By all indications, U.S. gains so far may be only a taste of what is yet to come," the report said. "Trade projec-

tions suggest that before the year 2000 consumer foods are likely to exceed bulk commodities in export value, becoming the leading category of U.S. agricultural exports for the first time."

Twelve general product categories accounted for nearly 90 percent of the total value of U.S. consumer food exports in 1993. The 12 categories are: red meats, poultry meat, dairy products, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, processed fruits and vegetables, fruit and vegetable juices, wine and beer, tree nuts, breakfast cereals, snack foods and pet foods.

Virus hits watermelons

WESLACO (AP) — Watermelon growers in the Rio Grande Valley are being urged to plow under the remnants of their spring crop to prevent an autumn break-

out of a virus that virtually wiped out last year's crop.

A virus known as the squash leaf curl virus, transmitted by the whitefly, cost growers

almost all of their watermelon crop last fall and about 30 percent of their crop in the spring.

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Corn is king

U.S. crop acres harvested 1993: the top 10

Crop	Acres (in thousands)
Corn	69,837
Wheat	62,647
Hay	60,398
Soybeans	56,447
Cotton	12,787
Sorghum	9,837
Barley	6,791
Oats	3,793
Rice	2,833
Sunflower	2,504

Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service

NEA Graphic

More acres of U.S. farmland are given over to growing corn than to any other crop. Wheat and hay, the Nos. 2 and 3 crops, aren't far behind.

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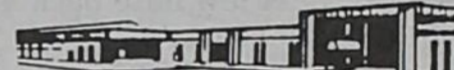
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OLD, From Pg 1

Davenport says, wrapping calloused hands around the steering wheel. "Some fellas can't get either one of 'em out of their heads no matter how hard they try."

Six days a week, rain or shine, Davenport, who lives in Trotwood, and his pal Frank Cole, of Lewisburg, sell used tractors from a cement block building at U.S. 40 and Arlington Road near Brookville.

Some buyers snap up the old farm machines because the price is right. Others, because the memories are.

"There's definitely a nostalgia factor in the used-tractor business," says Cole, who grew up on a 640-acre farm in Kentucky and drove his first tractor — a steel-wheeled Ferguson — when he was 5 years old.

"A guy's passing our place with his son or daughter, see, and he spots a Ford or a Deere a-sittin' on the lot. 'Oh, look,' he says to the kid, 'there's a tractor just like the one your granddaddy used to have' and before you know it,

he's out of the car, kicking tires and pulling levers."

The exodus of families from the city to the country also has fueled a demand for used tractors, says Cole, 62.

"First, they build a house on five acres or so, then they start looking around for a small tractor so they can mow their yards and plow their gardens."

And many people can't afford new tractors, adds Davenport, 70.

"Right now, prices are high as a cat's back. Bought new, full-size models can sell for \$100,000 or more, while small — 27- to 60-horsepower — tractors cost \$15,000 to \$20,000. Most of our used tractors are in the \$2,000 to \$3,500 price range," he said.

Sales of small-size tractors this year are up 30 percent over last year, says Ed Cranmer, manager of Lebanon Farm Implements Inc., near Lebanon.

"Most of the people looking for compact machines are homeowners who own a few acres and have a need for a tractor," he adds.

At any given time, there are at least a half-dozen used tractors basking in the sun at C&D Tractor Sales.

Many have dings and dents.

A few date back 40 or 50 years.

There are a fair amount of old tractors tucked away and for-

gotten in barns and chicken houses in the Miami Valley, Cole says. "But finding them is no easy task. Whenever a farmer tells me, 'I got an old tractor out back,' my heart starts a-pounding."

Cole and Davenport buy their tractors at auctions and from individuals. The men tune them up, apply paint if needed, then trot them out to the graveled lot in front of the shop to tickle the fancies of passing motorists.

"At least 75 percent of the people who stop here are lookers ... and rememberers," says Davenport, his words wrapped in smoke from the cigarette that seems to perpetually dangle from his lips.

"We get a mix, actually. People who want a tractor to work for them; those who just want a conversation piece. There's something about a tractor that catches your eye, you know, especially if you're an old farmer."

Davenport and Cole gladly dispense free advice to prospective buyers.

"We tell them to take it for a drive and check all the gears, to make sure they aren't grinding. They should also check to see if the tractor is smoking, a sure-fire indication it's using oil. It's nice if the tires are in good shape, too," Davenport says.

Cole believes prices of

used tractors will continue to rise.

"In 1970, you could pick up a used Ford tractor for \$600 to \$800. If you're lucky enough to find a used Ford today, it'll cost you \$2,000 or more," he says.

When somebody asks Cole to name his favorite tractor, he pats the seat of the one he's tinkering with.

"This is it. The Ford Golden Jubilee. It was built only one year — 1953 — to commemorate the company's 50th year in the tractor business, and it was built to last," he says.

Davenport, who operated a gravel-hauling business for many years, and Cole, who's

retired from Stanhope Products in Brookville, sell tractors with the enthusiasm of a couple of schoolboys tending a summertime lemonade stand.

"We're having fun, but the truth is, we never intended this to be a money-maker," Cole explains with a chuckle.

"We bought this building because we fig-

ured it would be a good place for a couple of old retirees to hang out with their cronies, but as we rolled out the first tractor, people started stopping."

Davenport nods. "How does that saying go? Build it and they will come? We'll, we did ... and they are." (Bob Batz writes for the Dayton Daily News.)



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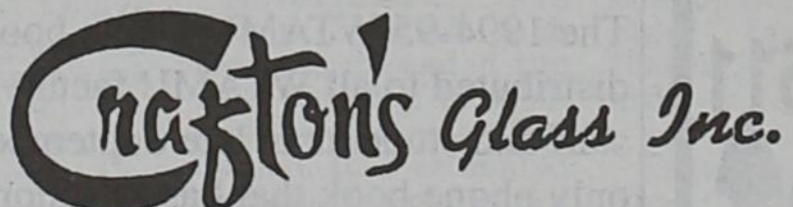
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Tractors become unlikely heroes to younger generation

By BOB BATZ

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Move over Barry Larkin, Patrick Ewing and Joe Montana. John Deere is here.

There was a time when trading cards mostly paid tribute to athletes who carried big batting averages, dunked basketballs and scored touchdowns.

But there's a new kind of card on the horizon that salutes tractors for their plowing and planting.

The glossy, four-color cards are produced by The Ertl Co. Inc., which has been manufacturing realistic farm toys at its plant in Dyersville, Iowa, since 1945.

"Tractors have

become unlikely heroes to an entire generation of youngsters," said a spokesman for Ertl. "They buy tractor models, tractor T-shirts, even tractor videos. So it's time for the ultimate honor - tractor trading cards."

The cards bear photos of 150 tractors, including those made by Deere, Case and Ford

New Holland. Some of the tractors pictured are classics. Others are modern-day machines.

Each card has two pictures - one of a real tractor; the other of an Ertl 1/64-scale die-cast replica - plus detailed information about both.

The cards, which will be sold at hobby shops, farm implement dealer-

ships and several major department stores, including Wal Mart, will come in 12-packs (Suggested retail price \$1.19) and 27-packs (\$2.29).

Eva Boone, one of the owners of Boone's Nursery near New Lebanon, Ohio, said the cards should be available to retailers in the

fall.

"They could be pretty popular, too, because we carry a full line of John Deere novelties, including coffee mugs, money clips, ball caps, T-shirts, belt buckles and toys, and they sell well, especially at Christmas time," she said.

TOMATO, Pg 2

plunge.

Gilmore's Carolina Opry opened in May 1986. Three years later, he opened a second theater. In 1992, he moved the Opry to its current home, a \$6 million mansionlike theater with crystal chandeliers and velvet curtains. He transformed the Opry's original building into a third theater endeavor.

"It just took off," the Missouri native said. "We're in the best place we could possibly be."

Steve Gatlin, one of the country-music singing Gatlin Brothers, agrees. After two attempts to build a theater in Branson, the brothers turned to Myrtle Beach.

"Branson has OK weather and a real strong name for country music," Gatlin said. "But I believe it has reached a real saturation point. And this place is on the verge of an explosion."

The Gatlin Brothers Theatre, which is set to open in mid-August, will be the first big-name showplace in the

\$150 million Waccamaw Harbour project, a 200-acre development featuring 14 theaters and restaurants, hotels and stores.

The idea is to create a nearly self-contained vacation destination - the same idea behind Hammons' project, Broadway at the Beach.

Hammons, who gained his wealth owning and managing hotels nationwide, teamed with Burroughs & Chapin Co., the largest landowner in Horry County, which is home to Myrtle Beach.

"There will be all kinds of entertainment there," Hammons promised, sidestepping

questions about the deals he's working on now to fill four of the theaters.

Hammons did announce this month that the project's showplace, the 2,700-seat Carolina Palace, will star unknown illusionist Arch Von Weston and an act featuring

rare tigers. Hammons has paid Von Weston to train and keep his act a secret.

"It'll be quite an event," Hammons said.

Hammons, whose operations are based in Springfield, said he briefly considered building a Branson theater. Instead, he chose Myrtle Beach.

TOMATO, Pg 2

last winter while shipments of Florida tomatoes to other states dropped 12 percent despite an increase in acreage.

And worried farmers say another winter like 1994 could drive them out of business.

"I think the future of the Florida tomato industry is at risk," said Gary Smiegel, business manager for Mecca Farms, another large Palm Beach County vegetable grower. "All we ever asked for is a level playing field, but the Mexicans have been dumping tomatoes below their cost of production."

Lose 12 pounds in 7 days. 10 hour wafer diet. Send \$1.00 and a large self addressed envelope for a sample and information package. Send to: Nature's Secret, Box 232, Dimmitt, Texas 79027.

South Florida farmers generally need to receive \$6 to \$7 per 25-pound box of tomatoes in order to meet costs and make a profit, several farmers said.

Mexican imports began hitting the market in January and peaked in February and March, the prime season for Florida winter tomatoes. Some farmers reported seeing shipments of Mexican tomatoes showing up at wholesale outlets on consignment, meaning the Mexican growers would take any price offered.

Wholesale tomato prices slipped to \$5 to

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\$6 a box, then fell as low as \$3 to \$4 a box during the winter season, Thomas said.

"Anytime prices went up just a bit, there would be a new surge of Mexican tomatoes," he said.

Thomas, whose family farms 9,000 acres of tomatoes and other vegetables and employs 1,000 workers, said he would plant again this winter, but not thereafter if federal officials don't end the alleged Mexican dumping.

"We would have to look at going to Mexico with our production,"

he said. "Our 1,000 people would have to be relocated. They buy cars and refrigerators like everybody else, and the economy would feel the loss."

The problems have affected only those who grow winter tomatoes, mostly around Tampa, Palm Beach and South Dade County. North Florida tomato farmers, who harvest in summer, have not been hurt. Most of Mexico is too hot in summer to produce tomatoes.

(Mike Williams writes for The Atlanta Journal

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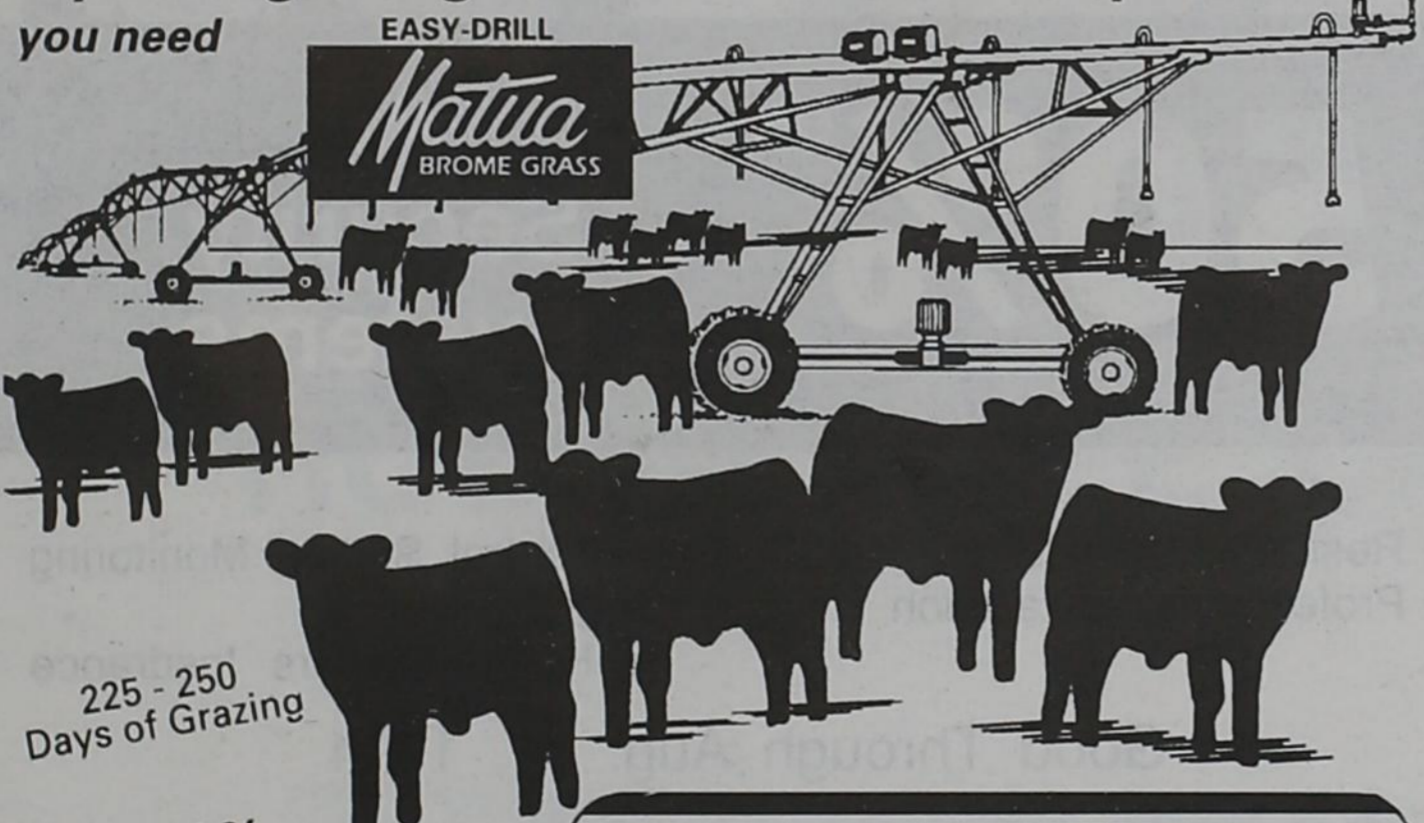
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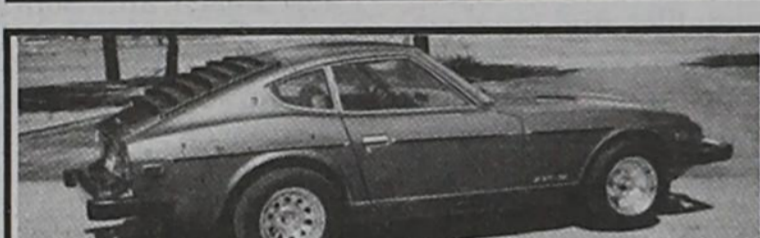
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Red meat production still rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — Red-meat production is continuing to exceed expectations but per capita beef consumption remains flat, the Agriculture Department says.

Beef production this summer is expected to rise 2 percent to 3 percent from a year earlier and this spring's level, said a recent report by USDA's Economic Research Service on the livestock, dairy and poultry situation and outlook.

Although supplies are up, it said, per capita beef consumption this

spring was still three pounds below the level reached in 1986 when fed-cattle prices averaged in the \$50s to low \$60s per 100 pounds.

"Consumer acceptance of larger quantities of beef, given already large supplies of competing meats, will be further tested this summer," the report said. "Lower prices are also likely to make U.S. beef increasingly attractive to the export market."

Fed-cattle prices already have adjusted to the larger supplies, it said, with weekly prices

going from highs near \$77 per hundredweight in early April to the lower \$60s in mid-June.

Boxed-beef prices have also dropped sharply, but retail prices through May changed very little, it said.

"The farm-to-retail spread was record wide in May, and given even lower live cattle and boxed-beef prices in June, should result in declining retail prices over the next few months," the report said.

"Beef supplies are expected to remain near

present levels through midsummer, and with increased industry promotional activities, lower wholesale prices are likely to be passed through to consumers."

Fed-cattle prices are likely to remain below \$70 through midsummer, but may rise to the low \$70s by late summer as supplies decline seasonally, the report said.

"Lower feedlot placements this spring through early summer are expected to result in a seasonal summer-to-fall production decline of about 5 percent," it said.

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Oilseed production up

WASHINGTON (AP) — World oilseed production is projected at 225.5 million tons in 1993-94, down nearly 1 million tons from last year's record level, according to the Agriculture Department.

The estimate of U.S. production for the marketing year remained at about 57.8 million tons, 16 percent below last year, said the Foreign Agriculture Service report, "Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade."

Foreign production was projected at a record 167.9 million tons, up 6 percent from 1992-93.

"World oilseed crush is up 1.4 million tons this month, with most of the increase attributed to soybeans," the report said.

Other changes included a reduction in Eastern European soybean use and reduced soybean imports of about 300,000 tons. Also, dry weather in Europe and Asia, lower olive oil production in Italy and reduced palm oil production in Malaysia decreased forecast world yields of vegetable oil production by 154,000 tons in June.

World soybean production was projected at

115.6 million tons, up 2 million tons from the projection made during the previous month. China's 1993 soybean crop topped a record 1.3 million tons and Brazil's 1994 crop estimate was raised 100,000 tons to reflect better-than-anticipated yields nationwide.

The world soybean export forecast was lowered to 27.8 million tons. "A weak demand for U.S. soybeans resulted in a 272,000-ton decrease in the U.S. export forecast," the report said.

"The current forecast for global soybean imports reflects further reductions in (European Union) imports. Weak crushing margins and competitively priced soybean meal from South America have dampened EU soybean demand."

Other countries for which import estimates were reduced this month were Israel, South Africa and China.

The global soybean crush forecast was up slightly from last year's estimate. The report cited increased crush in the United States, Brazil and China as a contributing factor in this month's 1.3 percent

rise in the world crush estimate.

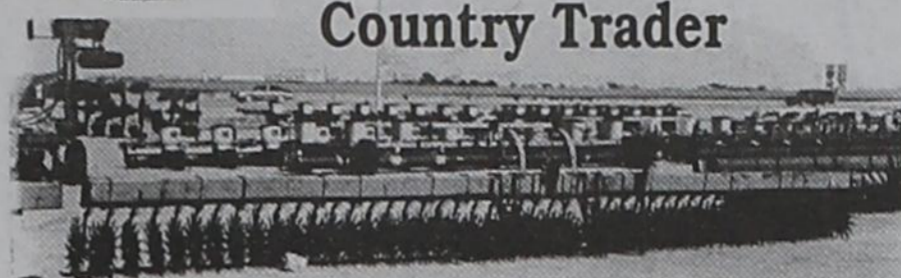
Worldwide consumption of soybean meal for 1993-94 rose to 77.9 tons because of higher crush in the United States and China.

World soybean meal imports dropped to 28.1 million tons. "Lowered soybean meal imports for Poland, down 150,000 tons to 450,000 tons, reflect reduced domestic livestock numbers," stemming from an 18 percent decline in hog numbers due to a 1992 drought, the report said.

U.S. soybean price prospects fell to a season-average of \$241.5 per metric ton.

"Soybean oil prices, in their 11th consecutive month of above-normal levels, registered a below-normal increase to only 0.8 percent above its 10-year average for (May)," the report said.

"U.S. soybean plantings could fall a bit short of the 61.1 million acres indicated by March intentions, because the soybean-corn price ratio was below normal and generally favorable weather allowed U.S. 1994 crop producers to plant earlier than normal," it added.



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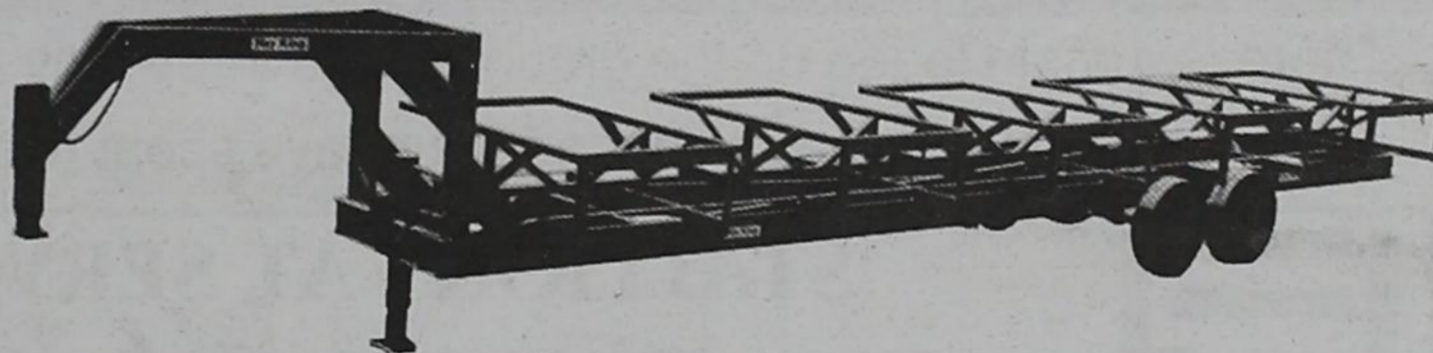
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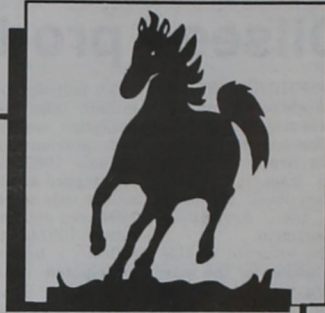
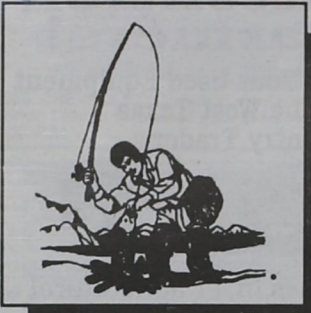
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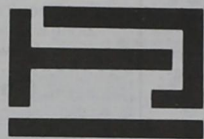
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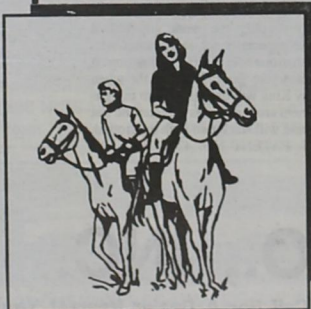


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