

AGRICULTURAL NEWS

PLANS RENEWED FOR TRI-COUNTY PLOW CONTESTS

October 9 Set As Date For Contest, Corn Cutting Demonstration

The tri-county plowing contest which was to have been held Oct. 31, on the farm of Harold Stassell, in Jackson township, Allen County, has been postponed until Thursday, Nov. 9, according to word from county agent Chester K. Kimball, at Fort Wayne. The postponement was made because of an exceedingly heavy rain the past week end making it impossible to plow. However, the contest will be held Nov. 9 and if too muddy to plow in a stalk field, the plowing will be done in a sod field.

Entries which are limited to four each from Adams, Wells, and Allen counties, had been completed and preparations had been finally made for the details of the contest when Jupiter Pluvius, the god of rain, upset the plans. Three tractor drawn and one multiple hitch horse drawn outfit are being entered from each of the three counties competing although the contest is free and open to the general public and several thousand farmers of northeastern Indiana are expected to attend.

The contest will get underway at 10:30 o'clock in the morning and will be completed at 2 o'clock so that winners may be known early in the afternoon.

Cutting Demonstration

Following lunch, R. H. Wileman and Russell Shipman of the Agricultural engineering staff of Purdue University, will be in charge of a low corn cutting demonstration and at 1 o'clock, G. A. Ficht from the corn borer experimental station at Auburn will tell what may be done to prevent borer losses. Paul Ullman of the State Department of Conservation will

speak of regulatory measures in connection with European corn borer control. Wileman and Shipman also will give a demonstration on complete coverage of crop residues to control the borer.

Judges for the plowing contest will be R. D. Barden, of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, and Frank Irons, Toledo, O., representing the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Plowing contests were popular in Allen county 20 years or more ago and attracted much interest then and the one this year is expected to draw several thousand farmers.

RUBBER GLOVES SAVE POTATOES

Damage Prevented By Growers Through Use Of Novel Idea

Cut, bruised, and defective tubers cause heavy losses to potato growers each year, according to a study recently completed by 3 University Farm specialists and research workers.

Federal grade reports on more than 4 million sacks of potatoes from the 1937 Minnesota crop were analyzed, and it was found that the effects of rough and careless treatment in digging, grading, and sacking accounted for more than 50 per cent of the defects found in carlots of potatoes that failed to grade U. S. No. 1.

Although it is too late this year to do anything about bruises that occurred during the digging process, there is still a chance to avoid further damage during grading and also to improve the quality and appearance of the pack.

Padding sharp edges and corners, the elimination of "drops" from one apron to another on the potato grader, and the use of a new rubber spool to replace the old style wire or slat apron will materially reduce injuries. The addition of a brushing attachment to a grader removes dirt and increases the sales appeal of potatoes.

D. S. Dvoracek and W. C. Waite of the economics division, University farm, and V. C. Norton are authors of a new Folder 79, entitled "Defects of Potatoes Caused by Handling." This will be supplied free to anyone interested in securing further information about proper handling of potatoes. See your county agent or write to the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul.

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