

Adams County Farmers' Corner

County Agent's Corner

An early vegetable garden can be started now, using such plants as peas, lettuce, beets, carrots and radishes. They won't be killed by late frosts or even snow.

Fertilize the soil with three to

four pounds of 12-12-12 or a similar analysis fertilizer per 100 square feet before plowing or spading. Rake the surface until it is smooth and mark rows with a tight string. Rows for small seeds such as lettuce, beets, and carrots can be made with the handle end of the rake.

The large seeds must be planted deeper and rows can be made with a hoe. The planting depth should be about twice the seeds diameter.

Cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower plants can be set out in April. After transplanting, firm the soil well and water with a starter fertilizer high in phosphorus.

Bank Seeding

Bank seeding helps small grass and legume plants compete with oats and weeds in spring seedings.

Grass and legume seeds are placed above the band of fertilizer in this method. When the seed germinates, the fertilizer helps it develop an extensive root system needed to withstand drought and shade.

Band seeding saves time. One-half less grass seed and one-third less legume seed gives better stands than do broadcast methods. The saving in seed can offset the cost of converting a grain drill for band seeding.

Band seeding has been a popular method of seeding for about 25 years; many drills still need to be converted.

The drag chain should be removed from the drill that has been converted. These chains scatter the seeds away from the band of fertilizer.

Indiana farm land values are expected to rise three to five percent in the next year according to Purdue University Agricultural Economist.

Fertilizers may be applied now, if vigorous lawn growth is desired. Early fertilization with products high in nitrogen promotes more fill in of bluegrass with less crabgrass problems later.

Leaking Toilet

The continuous leakage of water into a toilet can usually be stopped by replacing the rubber ball valve in the bottom of the water tank. Shut off the water supply to the tank and flush the tank to empty it. Then unscrew the rubber ball from the rod to which it is attached, and replace with a new one of the same size. Then turn on the water and fill and empty the tank several times to make sure the new ball is working properly.

Purple Pennings

Many meetings are scheduled for the first of April. On April Fools' day the county officers have been invited to attend the district meeting at Kendallville. April 6, the program committee will meet at 1 p.m. in the county extension office. April 7, the Home Demonstration Council will meet at 1:30 p.m. in the I&M auditorium. April 8, the 4-H officers training meeting will be held at the Decatur high school.

Vice Presidents — Be certain that the form which was sent to you about program planning has been returned to the county extension office as this form is due April 1.

Fish and Rice Go Together!

Fish is economical and especially so when both fresh and frozen are available. Fish is tender and moist and takes but a short time to cook. When fish is overcooked it becomes tough and dry. The easily-cooked test is the fork test — as soon as the fish flakes easily with a fork it is cooked.

Buying tips — The amount to buy — sticks, fillets, steak — allow $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per person.

Dressed fish — allow $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per person.

Whole fish — 1 pound per person.

Fillets are sides of fish cut lengthwise away from the bone. They are ready to cook as purchased.

Sticks are pieces of fish cut from blocks of frozen fillets into portions of uniform dimensions, usually about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, 3 inches long and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch deep and weighing one ounce.

Portions are pieces of fish cut from blocks of frozen fillets into portions of uniform weight from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces.

Rice — There are many types and qualities of rice. Here in the United States we don't have the problem of selection. Of the 7,000 known varieties only three major types are produced — short grain, medium grain and long grain.

Now for the Go-togethers:

Baked Rice, Vegetable, and Fish Dinner

2 cups cooked rice

1 cup cooked carrots (or whole kernel corn)

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped onion

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup pepper

1 cup canned fish (or lay

seasoned fresh fish steaks on top)

1 cup cooked green peas (or

lima beans)

1/4 cup salt

1/4 cups milk

Place alternate layers of rice and vegetables in greased baking dish, sprinkling each layer with salt and pepper. Add milk and lay canned fish or fish steaks on top. Bake at 350 degrees F. 30-40 minutes or until well done. Makes 6 servings.

Scallops or Fish and Rice Au Gratin

1 pound scallops, fresh or frozen (or substitute 1 can salmon or tuna)

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped onion

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped green pepper

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour

1 cup milk

1 cup grated cheese

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped celery

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or other fat, melted

1/2 teaspoon salt — dash of pepper

2 cups cooked rice

Thaw frozen scallops. Remove any shell particles and coarsely chop. Cook onion, celery, and green pepper in butter until tender. Blend in flour and seasonings. Add milk gradually and cook until thick, stirring constantly. Add fish. Place one-half the rice in a well-greased $\frac{1}{2}$ qt. casserole, cover with $\frac{1}{2}$ qt. fish mixture and $\frac{1}{2}$ qt. cheese. Repeat. Bake in a moderate oven 350 F. 25-30 minutes or until brown. Serves 6.

Fish and Rice Casserole

2 cans chunk tuna

1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup

1 can (3 oz.) chopped mushrooms, un drained

1 teaspoon garlic, celery or onion salt

2 cups cottage cheese

Heat oven to 325 F. In 2-quart casserole combine first 5 ingredients plus 1 cup cottage cheese. Spread remaining cup cheese over top; sprinkle with paprika. Bake 45 minutes. Makes 8 servings. (If there are leftovers, place in smaller casserole; cover with buttered crumbs; beat at 375 for 20 minutes or until bubbling hot.)

Fish Patties

1 1/2 cups flaked cooked fish

1 tableesp. finely chopped onion

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup salt

1 egg

1 1/2 cups cooked rice

pepper

Combine the ingredients. Shape mixture into patties, roll in flour and brown in fat.

Warming Trend Is Forecast In State

By United Press International

April invades Indiana tonight on a bright note of hope for a warming trend in the weather.

Blustery winds and snow squalls which featured the last few days of March were on the wane and forecasts called for partly cloudy to fair skies the next two days along with an up-lift in the mercury.

Temperatures failed to fall Monday night as low as they had been expected to, and overnight minimums were in the range from 22 at Fort Wayne to 31 at Evansville.

Hights Monday ranged from a chilly 29 at South Bend to 40 at Evansville. Today's highs will range from the 30s to the low 40s, tonight's lows from the 20s to near 30, and Wednesday's highs from the low to upper 40s.

The outlook for Thursday was fair and warmer.

Light snow showers fell at South Bend this morning, and flurries were expected over the northern two-thirds of the state throughout the day. After that, no further precipitation is indicated at least through Thursday.

March will close out its one-month stand with temperatures having averaged very near normal.

Two Guernseys Complete Reports

Two registered Guernsey cows in the herd of Roger Moser & Son, Berne, Indiana have recently completed top official HIR actual production records, according to The American Guernsey Cattle Club. All cows were milked two times a day. The testing was supervised by Purdue university.

ties and transportation. He said he hoped the government-operated Alaska railroad, its tracks looking like tangled kite string, could be opened to the vital ice-free port of Whittier in two weeks.

Step Up Drive

The Red Cross marshalled 25 volunteers as medical helpers in a stepped-up drive to administer anti-typoid vaccine and forestall the ever-present danger of epidemic from fouled water.

At Johnson City, Tex., President Lyndon Johnson received word of the minimum \$500 million needs of the stricken 49th state.

Everything necessary must be done," Johnson declared.

Alaska's senators appealed for aid. Immediately, the Housing and Home Finance Agency in Anchorage ordered a moratorium on connections of FHA and VA home loans. The Internal Revenue Service made hasty arrangements to permit stricken residents to get income tax writeoffs this year on losses.

Insurance firms said there was little earthquake and tidal wave insurance in the state.

Fishing Industry Suffers

The fishing industry, mainstay of the Alaskan economy, took a "hell of a beating," officials said. Ninety-foot boats hurled hundreds of yards inland and the almost numberless docks and wharves ripped to pieces attested to that. The big salmon and crab canneries at Kodiak were shut down.

Johnson ordered federal officials to "proceed as rapidly as possible to prepare relief programs for Alaska."

Jobs of thousands were wiped out in the quake.

There were 4,500 to 5,000 jobs lost in Anchorage alone.

The Red Cross said as many as 1,000 families required assistance. The homeless in Anchorage alone numbered 2,000.

Trade in a good town — Decatur.

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