

Flour Made From Spuds May Reduce Costs

WASHINGTON—A new type of potato flouring which will utilize even the potato skins was announced by the department of agriculture.

Light cream in color, with all the value of whole potatoes, this

flour costs only two-thirds as much to make as the present white potato flour, because it does away with peeling and cooking.

The potatoes are ground up, skins and all, and dried in steam tube driers. The department of agriculture hopes this new process will help cut down the current potato surplus.

Cattle Lice On Wintering Stock Cause Slow Gain

Customary increased lice activity on livestock during the winter months causes lowered animal vitality, poor gains, and slow calf growth, state two O.S.C. entomologists—Don C. "Ote and Robert W. Every—who point out that many farmers and ranchers avoid these losses by spraying or dipping their stock.

Now is the best time to control lice, the entomologists declare. Lice numbers are at a seasonal low this time of year. Also, winter hair coats on animals have not yet reached their full development, allowing better penetration with smaller amounts of spray and dip materials.

Both Mote and Every state that dipping is effective and satisfactory where large herds are handled, making vat building practical. In smaller herds, however, they say that spraying is most frequently used.

In both spraying and dipping complete coverage of the animal's body is fundamental to rid it of lice. One treatment will generally give control.

Spraying will require about two gallons of solution for each animal. Power sprayers must produce a pressure of about 400 pounds per square inch for best results, the entomologists declare. A number 5 disc or a single spray gun is best with that type of equipment. Where multiple nozzle heads are used, they recommend number 3 or 4 discs.

DDT and rotenone are the two insecticides being recommended for cattle lice control. The entomologists recommend that farmers and ranchers consult their local county extension agent for spray and dipping formulas.

Although it is effective, dusting is only recommended on herds where a few head are to be treated. About six to eight ounces of dust will be required for each animal.

Cattlemen who expect to control both lice and grubs with a single application are advised that DDT will not control grubs. Rotenone is effective for both lice and grubs, however.

Conversion of Grain To Motor Fuel Envisaged

SEATTLE—(AP)—Does your auto engine sputter? Maybe you are low on wheat.

At a University of Washington-sponsored agricultural clinic here a scientist described research aimed at converting grain into motor fuel, industrial and beverage alcohol, syrups, dextrose sugar and wheat gluten products.

Carl E. Rist, head of the starch and dextrose division of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., said alcohol and water mixtures provide a superior fuel when injected into engines which use a low-grade gasoline.

He said on the basis of prices quoted a month ago, beverage alcohol can be made profitably from wheat priced at \$2.10 a

He's Tops in Food Animal World



Cleo E. Yoder, of Muscatine, Iowa, parades "Old Gold," 1200-pound Aberdeen-Angus steer that won the grand championship at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago. Addition of molasses to "Old Gold's" daily diet is credited with helping to make him "the greatest combination of all the qualities a meat animal should have."

Western Production of Fertilizer Inadequate to Meet Area's Demands

SEATTLE—(AP)—Farmers: Did you know that—the west has more material for the production of fertilizer than anywhere else in the world?

Yet western production of fertilizer is "grossly inadequate" to meet even western demands for it?

And that "the critical present shortage of power is the key factor preventing the establishment on a required scale of major fertilizer plants in the west and particularly in the Pacific Northwest."

These observations were made by Ivan Bloch, industrial consultant at Portland, Ore., and formerly chief of the Bonneville Power Administration's industrial division.

He warned that "this situation may be of great consequence in its effect on the western economic structure."

Bloch added the optimistic note however, that the potential power supply in the Pacific Northwest insures that the area can eventually turn out enough fertilizer to meet its needs.

"All basic materials—phosphate rock, potash, sulphur compounds, the raw material for nitrogen production, including electric power—required for the production of fertilizer materials exist in the west in quantities far greater than anywhere else in the nation and in the world," he said.

Rapid Increase Noted
Bloch said use of fertilizer in the west has increased in a manner as "phenomenal" as the population growth. The usage was 30 times greater in 1946 than

bushel, industrial alcohol from wheat at about \$1 a bushel and starch and syrups from wheat at \$1.50 a bushel.

Insurance Program Protects Farmers From Strike Loss

FRESNO, Calif., Dec. 13—(AP)—The program to insure California farmers against losses from strikes and other labor disturbances was announced last week.

It was described before the convention of the Associated Farmers of California as the first such plan in the country. Insurance policies will cover only costs of production, not profits.

Policies will be written through the Agricultural Inter-Insurance Exchange, a non-profit association of farmers headed by Philip Bancroft of Walnut Creek, Calif., vice president of the Associated Farmers.

A permit to solicit applications for policies was issued last Tuesday by the state insurance inspector. The exchange is accepting policy applications but cannot issue any policies until it builds up a reserve fund of \$100,000.

Bancroft said any farmer in the state is eligible for coverage. Basic coverage will cost from 75 cents to \$1.00 per \$100 depending on the crop. It would protect against losses resulting from labor disturbances on premises of farmers.

In addition, for about \$1.25 per \$100, farmers may be insured against losses from transportation failures within the state and against losses from labor disturbances at processing plants such as canneries or packing houses.

Only farmers paying standard wages and maintaining good working conditions will be insured, promoters of the plan said.

Baked potatoes, red and green cabbage salad with garlic flavored French dressing, and hot rolls make good additions on this menu.

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