

Ways To Harvest Algae Garden Being Studied

Washington (Science Service)—The U. S. Government is on the lookout for an enterprising person who can devise an economical method of harvesting algae.

Throughout this country, the little green plant that causes scum on ponds and lakes, is "ripe" for harvesting and can be put to good use—except that no one knows how to gather it inexpensively.

New Vitamin Source

Algae could supplement food and forage products. It could become a new source of vitamins, animal feed, fertilizer and other organic products useful to man. Algae "gardens" exist in many small communities as a treatment for sewage. Dr. C. M. Palmer, algologist, and Harold J. Waiter, biologist, Public Health Service's Sanitary Engineering Center, Cincinnati, report. They are the authors of a new algae report, *Algae In Water Supplies*, which can be purchased for \$1.00 from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Palmer said that it had been estimated that an area the size of Rhode Island, if covered with growing algae, could nourish the population of the world. Right now, Texas, California, South Dakota and several other states use algae extensively to treat many of the sewage ponds in the smaller communities. These gardens could reap good crops if it were possible to harvest the algae inexpensively, he stressed.

Minute Organisms

Algae are minute organisms. If they are to be used as animal fodder, fertilizer, or converted to more appetizing forms for human consumption, they will have to be gathered out of the water and concentrated. This is what costs money today.

Yet, it is the massive growths of algae developed in sewage stabilization ponds that advancing technology may some day be able to convert into useful products.

Rare Fossil Sea Lion In L.A. County Museum

Los Angeles (Science Service)—A rare fossil sea lion, some 20,000,000 years old, can now be seen with almost all its bones neatly in place. In an exhibit prepared by William P. Otto of the Los Angeles County Museum here, the fossil bones are in a large block of matrix. This extinct sea lion, named *Atopotarus courseni*, is related to the living California sea lion common along the Pacific coast from Mexico to northern California. It was found at a point 500 feet up on the northeast side of the Palos Verdes hills imbedded in rocks of the early Miocene period. The sea lion was named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Courson Jr., on whose property the fossil remains were found.

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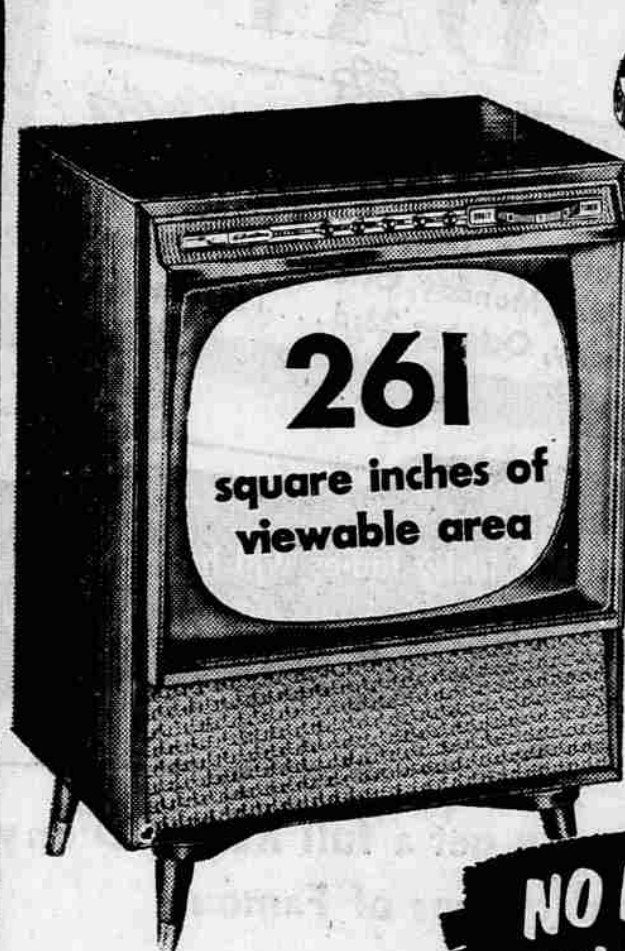
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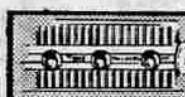
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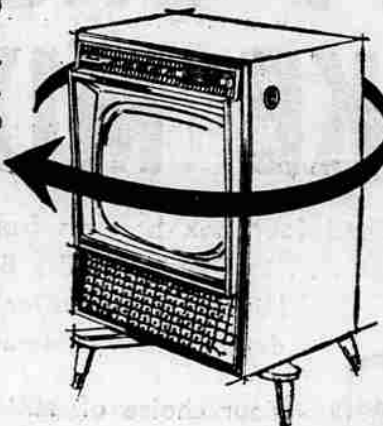


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- Coldspot Super-Wall construction with vacuum-sealed cabinet
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"Blast" Freeze Protects Foods

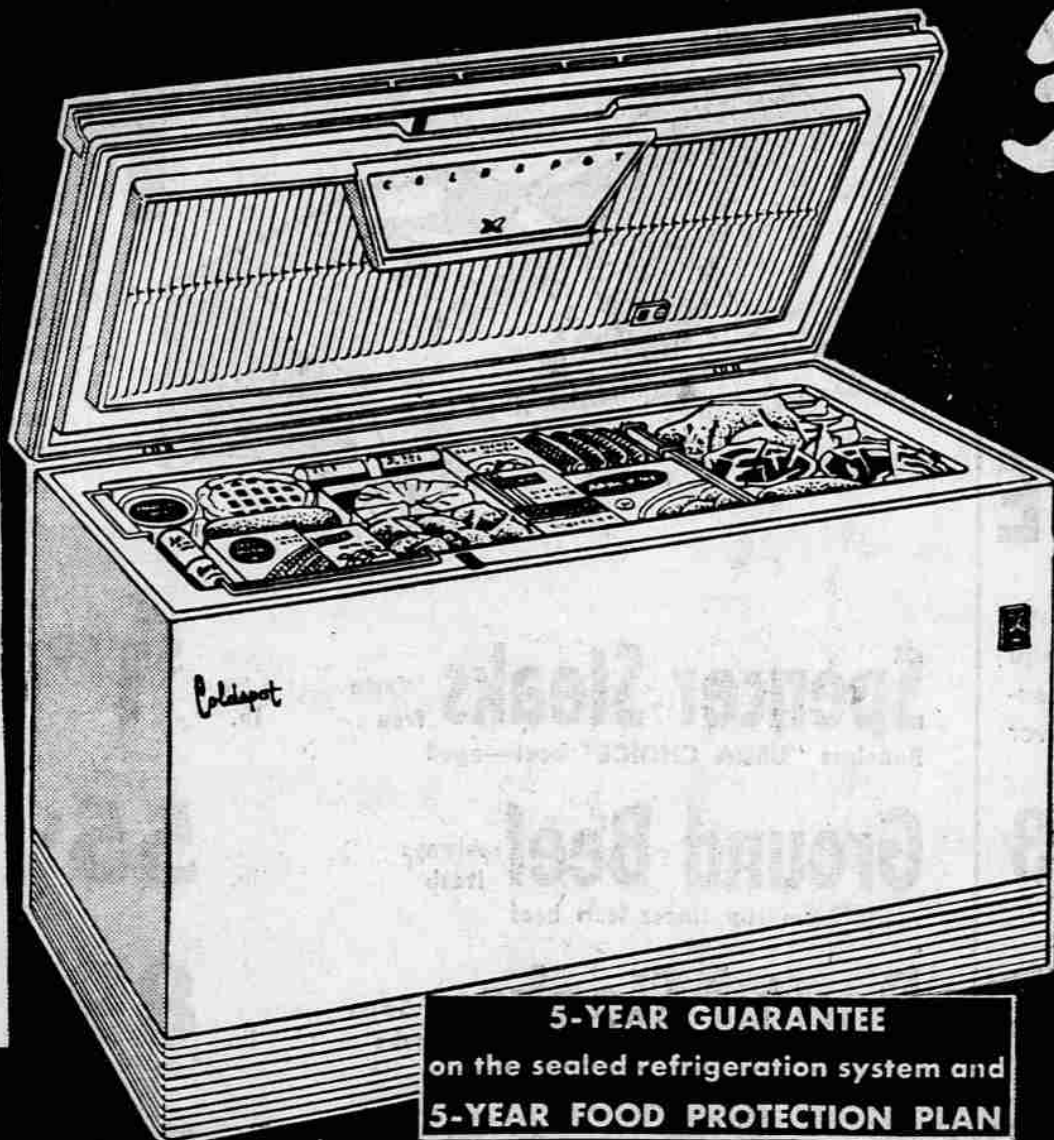
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