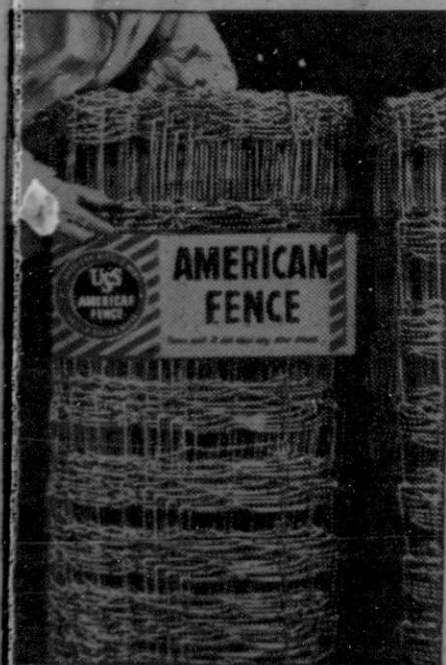


To sleep, to dream, and then to wake.
Ahh, that's the rub!



For this poor pig is going to wake up and find that he's still behind the farm fence that's "ENGINEERED for STRENGTH"—AMERICAN FENCE.

American Fence has—

Wires that are specially selected to make the right fence that will give top service. The medium-hard line wires keep deep tension curves intact so they will act like springs—keeping the fence taut.

Hinge joints that permit the fence to flex, not distort, from pushing livestock.

Proper galvanizing that forms a chemical and mechanical bond between the molten zinc and the steel—giving extra years of weather resistance.

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FREE! ILLUSTRATED FENCE BOOK. "New Frontiers," the exciting history of farm fence and barbed wire. Ask your American Fence Dealer for a free copy or send your name and address to American Steel & Wire Division, Dept. 9144, 614 Superior Avenue, N.W., Cleveland 13, Ohio.

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Soils and Crops

Conversion to Westmont Complete in Adapted Area

By RALPH D. MERCER

ALL HANDS CONCERNED in the production, distribution and marketing of Westmont winter wheat, a variety recommended for the area west of the mountains, have done a tremendous job in the change-over to this variety in the last three years.

Starting with a very small supply of foundation seed and using care in the placement of the supply to assure maximum production, the growers completed the change-over by the fall planting of 1959 for the 1960 crop. Any producer who desired a seed supply this fall was adequately taken care of.

In two counties all forces got together and printed handbills which not only stated the advantages of the variety, but gave planting suggestions that would help the variety further resist dwarf smut. This handbill was to be found everywhere you looked.

It's a cinch that men, women and children in these two counties know more about the recommended variety of winter wheat than they know about any other county activity.

Tillage

This year 1959 has demonstrated rather forcefully that some of our producers have slipped in doing the best job possible in preparing summer-fallow for the following crop. As one producer remarked, "The results this year have sure separated the men from the boys."

For the first time in a number of years there was a higher percentage of summer plowing which was intended to be called summerfallow. Timeliness in the first summerfallow operation contributes more to good fallow than any subsequent operation.

Tillage during the summer months varied from excellent to pitiful, with some fields allowed to be nearly completely covered with tall weeds before a cultivation was made. Of course there are those who cultivate at certain designated periods whether weeds have shown up or not, and while this procedure is costly and of doubtful value, still it's a lot better than allowing weeds to pull out the valuable moisture that should be saved.

The same variations prevailed where land was in the soil bank program. While the program provides for clipping to control weed seed maturity, there were many cases where the acres were being infested with enough weed seeds to be costly in reduced yields and expense of sprays for a long time to come.

There are enough weed seeds in the topsoil of all dryland acres now to make the job of weed control a major problem, so adding a crop every year for three, five, or ten years will not increase the possible returns. Large numbers of wild oat plants were in evidence, and that's anything but good.

Rye in Wheat

Winter rye in winter wheat is going to get us, if we don't watch out. Much has already been said about this situation and as things get worse, a lot more will need to be said.

Older winter wheat areas are getting worse and new winter wheat areas are beginning to show signs of following the rye pattern. Unless producers start a clean up program, discounts are bound to be taken. In the worst areas discounts are already being tak-

en and in the newer areas they are bound to come.

There just isn't any easy way to lick the situation. In too many cases nothing is done. Head clipping has been tried in some areas and, while the percentage of rye is reduced, there are enough low-growing heads to cause a loss.

The only practical method in use at the present time seems to be to take a certain amount of winter wheat acreage out of this type of production each year and plant spring crops until it has been cleaned up. By planting spring grain it is possible to get in an extra cultivation or two prior to seeding. This should destroy all the rye that has germinated. Then when the area is seeded back to winter wheat be sure that the seed which is planted is free of winter rye. It may take a couple of years of spring crops, but it's worth the change.

In areas where the problem is minor at the present time, a good job of pulling up the rye plants and carrying them off the field may save a lot of time and effort in solving the entire problem.

In many areas it is a community problem and should be treated as such.

Soil Analysis Costs Listed

THE FOLLOWING cost list for chemical analysis of soils has been released by Montana State College:

Standard Analysis

1. Standard or general analysis (ph, conductivity, OM P2O5 and lime)—(Providing sample is received in a dry and somewhat pulverized condition) \$1.50
2. Standard Analysis plus potash \$2.00
3. Drying and grinding sample in preparation for analysis \$.50
4. Organic matter (OM) \$1.00
5. Available phosphorus (P2O5) \$.75
6. pH (measure of acidity or alkalinity) \$.25
7. Conductance (measure of soluble salts) \$1.00
8. Available potash (potassium) \$.75
9. Soluble sodium \$2.50
10. Soluble and exchangeable sodium \$4.50
11. Cation exchange capacity \$3.00
12. Cation exchange capacity and exchangeable sodium \$7.00
13. Exchangeable Hydrogen (or lime requirement) \$.50
14. Gypsum requirement \$.75

Irrigation Waters

1. Estimation of soluble salts, calcium plus magnesium, and sodium by difference \$1.00
2. For more exact analysis:
 - Sodium \$1.25
 - Calcium \$1.25
 - Calcium and magnesium on same sample \$1.75
 - Sodium, calcium and magnesium on same sample \$2.50
 - Boron \$5.00

Growers wishing to have an analysis run on their soils are advised to consult their county agents for exact procedures on sending in samples.

THE NATIONAL SAFETY Council records of accidents resulting from careless handling of livestock indicate that farmers need to take proper safety precautions while grooming, fitting and showing farm animals.