

With the new type piperazine wormers, the sows may be wormed a few weeks before farrowing.

During hot weather shade is necessary for swine. The best type of shade is a movable range shelter, which can be moved to clean ground periodically.

By using a program consisting of dry lots or pastures and movable range shelters, the number of earthworms that are available to swine will be decreased. The number of eggs or larvae of round worms that might infect swine also will be decreased.

ABOUT THOSE ANCIENT TURTLES

Scientists are by nature a skeptical breed, so it is no wonder that they are going to put under very close scrutiny a tortoise which bears upon its shell the carved in dates 1844 and 1860. If the dates are authentic, it is estimated that this particular tortoise is 129 years old, which would make it a pretty old tortoise. In general tortoises are honest animals with no interest in deceiving anybody about their age. Occasionally one turns up with its shell inscribed 1776 or 1492, but this is generally regarded as the imposition of a prankster rather than the work of George Washington or Christopher Columbus.

The longevity of the tortoise has long impressed more shortlived creatures such as man. The explanation seems to lie in the animal's habits, which include a disinclination to move any faster or any farther than is absolutely necessary. Most tortoises, it seems, spend their careers within a range of only 250 yards, a distance they evidently figure is adequate for all reasonable purposes.

A wise turtle knows that a lifetime is hardly enough to take care of all problems close at hand, without looking for trouble elsewhere. And if anyone wants to carve a date, genuine or otherwise, into its shell, that is hardly cause for concern. Perhaps the best solution to the present controversy would be to add a 1955 to the dates already inscribed in this tortoise's back and pass him on with best wishes to future generations.

In the near future a farmer may be riding on a tractor or in a truck, parts of which will be made of reinforced plastics.

Reinforced plastics were brought to a high state of development during World War II, primarily for aircraft use. Since then many other uses have been made of them. Today we are all familiar with plastic cars, bread boxes, chairs, boats, hammer handles, fishing rods, and a host of other common every-day items.

Plastics offer many advantages in the manufacture of agricultural equipment. Some of these are corrosive resistance to fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals; rustproof; light weight with high strength; and high impact strength. Even though plastics are of an organic nature, they are rot and fungus proof. They have good insulation properties and require a minimum amount of maintenance. Plastics already are in experimental use for fertilizer hoppers, fenders for farm trucks, tanks for liquid fertilizers and pesticides, seed plates and metering equipment.

Honey production in North Dakota in 1955 was an estimated 1,792,000 pounds, down from the 1,820,000 pounds in 1954. The 1955 production came from 14,000 colonies of bees compared to 13,000 in 1954. However, even the 1955 per-colony average of 128 pounds in 1955 in North Dakota was the highest per-colony average in the nation. For the U.S. as a whole, production per colony was 46.4 pounds.