

6-1999

## The NEBLINE, June 1999

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## Using biosolids or manure as a source of phosphorus

Barb Ogg  
Extension Educator

Like other organic fertilizers, biosolids have significant amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus—two nutrients that are necessary for plant growth. Some Lancaster County crop producers cooperating in Lincoln's Biosolids Land Application Program are using biosolids primarily as a source of phosphorus for their phosphorus-deficient soil. One advantage to using biosolids (or manure) as a source of phosphorus, is that, unlike other phosphorus fertilizers, the phosphorus in biosolids is immediately available for use by plants<sup>(1)</sup>.

Phosphorus is found in significant quantities in biosolids and manure because animals do not require the high levels that are found in plants and the excessive phosphorus is excreted. Phosphates are added to many laundry detergents to improve their cleaning ability in hard water and biosolids contain phosphates from detergents as well.

Most of the time, biosolids are applied at agronomic rates for nitrogen. Based on nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in Lincoln's Theresa Street biosolids, the nitrogen application rate for dryland field corn is about 40-45 yd<sup>3</sup>/acre (32-36 tons/acre). When biosolids are applied at the rate of 40 yd<sup>3</sup>/acre, there will be about 290 lbs of elemental phosphorus applied per acre equivalent to about 666 lbs of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>—the form of phosphorus fertilizer that crop producers are most familiar with. Eventually, all the 666 lbs of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> will act just like P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> applied from commercial fertilizer, like 11-52-0.

According to Dr. Ken Frank, UNL Soil Scientist, about 90% of the 666 lbs of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/acre will be immediately available for plant use—about 600 lbs P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/acre. In Lancaster County soils, 15 lbs of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/acre (from any source) will increase the Bray-Kurtz #1 phosphorus soil test about 1 ppm. This means that a single application of biosolids at 40 cubic yd/acre can raise the Bray-Kurtz phosphorus soil test about 40 ppm.

From Table 1, you can see that there are about 35 lbs P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> in 100 bushels of corn in the grain. Therefore, after one application of biosolids [at the rate of 40 yd<sup>3</sup> per acre (600 lbs of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>)], it would take about

17 years (average of 100 bushel grain) to get back to the present phosphorus soil level. Calculation: 600 lbs P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ÷ 35 lbs P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> removed/year = 17 years. On phosphorus deficient soils, there is no better way to apply phosphorus than using biosolids.

Even though phosphorus is essential for plant growth, studies have shown that amounts

understand, Steve Comfort and Bahman Eghball<sup>(2)</sup> have explained this movement using the concept of a "tipping bucket approach". The tipping bucket approach assumes that each soil layer in the profile can hold only so much phosphorus. Once the bucket (soil layer) is full (~150 ppm), adding additional phosphorus will spill (move or leach)

levels lower than most aquatic animals can survive. Farmers using biosolids must adhere to setback distances near surface waters to prevent runoff. Soil conservation practices, like minimum tillage, terracing fields, are also encouraged.

Biosolids and manures can greatly improve poor soils, but, like other fertilizers, they should be used carefully to prevent environmental problems. In an attempt to prevent problems with phosphorus, some states have set soil phosphorus limits above which, no manure or other sources of phosphorus can be applied to the soil<sup>(3)</sup>. These limits are generally about 150 ppm, the phosphorus saturation level in most soils. So far, Nebraska has not put limits on soil phosphorus levels, but the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality is currently reviewing and discussing soil phosphorus limits and the protection of surface waters.

Sources:

1. Frank, K.D. and Eghball, B. *Phosphorus Availability to Crops from Manure*. Manure Matters; Vol 1:5. University of Nebraska

2. Comfort, S.D. and Eghball, B. *Phosphorus Leaching from Manure Applications*. Manure Matters; Vol 2:8. University of Nebraska

3. Eghball, B. *Phosphorus and Nitrogen Based Manure and Compost Application*. Manure Matters; Vol 2:9. University of Nebraska

Table 1. Phosphorus removal for the most common crops grown in Southeast Nebraska.

Crop	Amount of Phosphorus Removed
Corn	0.35 lb/bushel (grain)
Soybean	0.88 lb/bushel (grain)
Alfalfa	10 lbs/ton (hay)
Sorghum	0.42 lb/bushel (grain)
Wheat	0.63 lb/bushel (grain)

over about 25 ppm in the soil, do not improve plant health or increase yields of field crops typically planted in Southeastern Nebraska. There is also no scientific evidence that high soil phosphorus levels (even up to 1000 ppm Bray-Kurtz # soil phosphorus) cause any plant toxicity or reduce crop yield.

### Environmental Concerns:

There are two different aspects that cause environmental concern with excessive phosphorus loading of the soil. The first is when the soil becomes saturated with phosphorus (about 150 ppm Bray-Kurtz #1 soil phosphorus). At levels lower than about 150 ppm, phosphorus will adhere to soil particles and not move through the soil, but once the saturation level is reached, phosphorus can move down into the soil profile.

To make this easier to

understand, Steve Comfort and Bahman Eghball<sup>(2)</sup> have explained this movement using the concept of a "tipping bucket approach". The tipping bucket approach assumes that each soil layer in the profile can hold only so much phosphorus. Once the bucket (soil layer) is full (~150 ppm), adding additional phosphorus will spill (move or leach)

There is also concern that runoff or soil erosion after applications of biosolids or manure, can contaminate surface waters with nutrients that stimulate aquatic weeds and growth of algae in streams and lakes—the "algae bloom" phenomenon. The algae overproduction eventually sinks to the bottom and decays, consuming the available oxygen in the bottom waters reducing it to



Regardless of the source of fertilizer, all crop producers are encouraged to use minimum tillage and other soil conservation measures to help prevent nutrient displacement from crop fields into surface waters.

### In this issue...

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**Horticulture**  
—page 2



**Environmental Focus**  
—page 3



**Farm Views**  
—page 4



**Acres Insights**  
—page 5



**Food & Fitness**  
—page 6



**Family Living**  
—page 7



**4-H & Youth**  
—pages 8-9

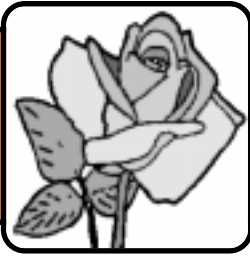


**Community Focus**  
—page 10

Lancaster County 4-H Council  
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Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
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# Horticulture

## Summer flowering perennials

Herbaceous perennials that bloom in the spring; such as tulips, daffodils, iris, peonies and many others, are familiar plants found in almost every garden. Chrysanthemums and asters are popular fall-blooming perennials. Summer-flowering perennials are often absent in many gardens. Fortunately, there are many good plants to choose from to fill this void. Perennials which bloom in June, July and August include:

**Yarrow** (*Achillea* spp.) Zone 4, blooms June through September; flowers are yellow, white, pink or red in flat-topped clusters; fern-like foliage and strong scented; prefers full sun and well drained soil; native plant that does well in naturalized areas; grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

**Cupid's Dart** (*Catananche caerulea*) Zone 5, blooms June through August; blue or white flowers are daisy-like rays with toothed petals, good cut or dried flower; full sun, good in mass planting; grows 1 to 2 feet tall.

**Coreopsis** (*Coreopsis* spp.) Zone 4, blooms June through September; disk-like flowers are yellow or orange, full sun; good as a border, mass planting, naturalized area; grows 2 to 3 feet tall.

**Purple Coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea*) Zone 4, blooms July through August; cone-shaped purple to pink flowers, good cut flower; prefers full sun and well drained soils; native plant good in naturalized areas; grows 2 to 4 feet tall.

**Gayfeather** (*Liatis* spp.) Zone 4, blooms June to September; purple, rose or white flower spikes, good cut or dried flower; attracts butterflies and bees; well-drained soils; native prairie wildflower; grows 2 to 5 feet tall.

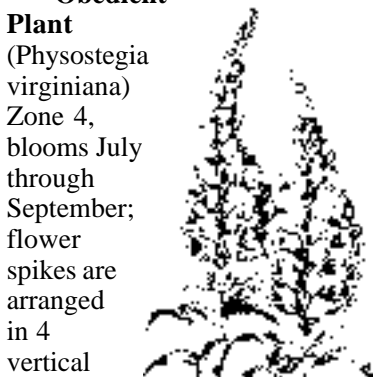
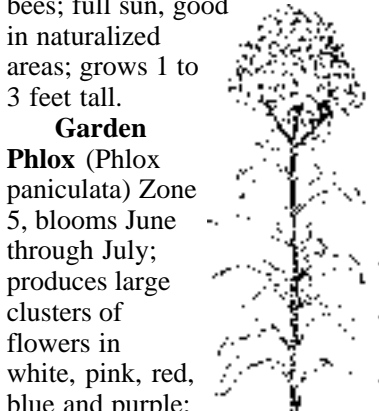
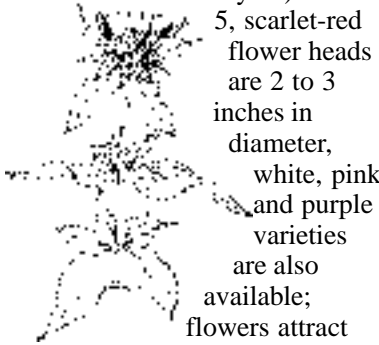
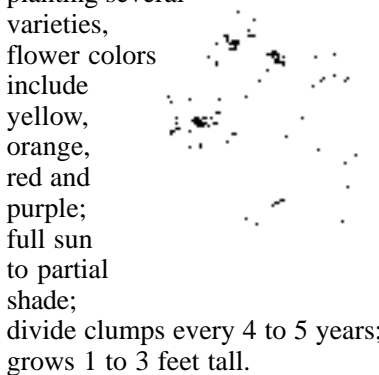
**Daylily** (*Hemerocallis* spp.) Zone 4, bloom can be extended from June through September by planting several varieties, flower colors include yellow, orange, red and purple; full sun to partial shade; divide clumps every 4 to 5 years; grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

**Bee Balm** (*Monarda didyma*) Zone 5, scarlet-red flower heads are 2 to 3 inches in diameter, white, pink and purple varieties are also available; flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies and bees; full sun, good in naturalized areas; grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

**Garden Phlox** (*Phlox paniculata*) Zone 5, blooms June through July; produces large clusters of flowers in white, pink, red, blue and purple; well-drained soils; grows 2 to 3 feet tall.

**Obedient Plant** (*Physostegia virginiana*) Zone 4, blooms July through September; flower spikes are arranged in 4 vertical rows; partial shade to full sun; grows 2 to 4 feet tall.

Other good summer blooming perennials are Lady's Mantel, Bellflower, Perennial Bachelor's Button, Larkspur, Foxglove, Sweet Rocket, Hibiscus, Flax, Evening Primrose, Penstemon, Pincushion Flower and Shasta Daisy. (MJM)



## Controlling undesirable perennial grasses in the lawn

Perennial grasses, such as quackgrass and nimblewill, are some of the most difficult weeds to control in the lawn. Control is difficult because there is no herbicide that will selectively destroy these weeds. Also, pulling or digging these perennial grasses is often unsuccessful.

Quackgrass is a cool-season perennial grass. It spreads rapidly by underground stems or rhizomes. Its leaf blades are bright green, coarse in texture, and twice the width of leaves of bluegrass. Quackgrass is objectionable in lawns because of its coarse texture and spreading habit. Quackgrass also can be a major problem in flower and vegetable gardens.

Nimblewill is a warm-season perennial grass. Nimblewill is a thin, wiry grass that is pale green or gray-green. It spreads by above ground shoots or stolons, often forming circular spots in the lawn. Nimblewill is easy to spot in the lawn because it greens up late in the spring and turns brown in early fall. Nimblewill is objectionable in the lawn because of its gray-green color

and delayed green-up in the spring and early browning in fall.

The best way to control quackgrass, nimblewill and other undesirable perennial grasses in the lawn is to spot treat the weed-infested areas with glyphosate (Roundup, Kleenup, etc.). Glyphosate is a systemic, nonselective herbicide that is absorbed through the foliage and translocated to all parts of the plant. Visible symptoms, yellowing or browning of foliage, usually develop in 7 to 10 days of the application. Death typically occurs in 2 to 4 weeks. Glyphosate is most effective when applied to actively growing plants.

Midsummer is an excellent time to control undesirable perennial grasses in the lawn. Most perennial grasses, such as nimblewill, are actively growing in summer. Also, midsummer control efforts allow adequate time to kill the weedy grasses and to prepare the areas for seeding or sodding in late summer. Complete destruction of the weeds is necessary to prevent their reappearance. Spray the weedy patches and a few inches beyond

these areas to ensure their complete destruction. If the treated areas are not dead in 2 to 4 weeks, a second application is necessary. Treated areas can be seeded or sodded 7 days after the application.

After the treated areas have been completely destroyed, reestablish the lawn by seeding or sodding. If you plan to sow seed, it's not necessary to dig up the destroyed areas. Small areas can be raked vigorously with a garden rake to remove some of the dead debris and to break the soil surface. After seeding, work the grass seed into the soil by lightly raking the areas. The best time to sow grass seed is mid-August through mid-September. After seeding, keep the soil moist with frequent, light applications of water. If you plan to lay sod, remove the dead debris before sodding. Late summer and fall are excellent times to lay sod.

Destroying undesirable, perennial grasses in the lawn is difficult. However, if done properly, your efforts should produce an attractive lawn free of weeds. (MJM)

## GreatPlants™ releases new plants for 1999

A distinctive selection of a prairie wildflower and a unique shrub from China are new releases from Nebraska's GreatPlants™ program for 1999.

'My Antonia' aster is a white-flowered form of a native prairie wildflower (*Aster fendleri*). Discovered near Red Cloud, Nebraska, hometown of author Willa Cather, the name commemorates Cather's famous novel of pioneer life.

A compact, 8-10 inch tall perennial with glossy, narrow foliage, 'My Antonia' is covered with white daisies in August and September. It is native to rocky

prairie habitat and will perform well in a sunny, hot, dry location in the garden or landscape.

'Mongolian Gold' clematis (*Clematis fruticosa*) was collected in China's Inner Mongolia province by a team of plant explorers from the University of Nebraska and Bluebird Nursery. The name refers to the clusters of yellow, bell-like flowers that are produced in August and September.

A shrubby plant in a group known mostly for its vines, 'Mongolian Gold' clematis reaches 3-4 feet in height and has a similar width. In addition

to its showy flowers, it features attractive foliage and silky seed heads. Native to rugged mountainous habitat, it promises to be as hardy as it is beautiful.

These plants have been released to the gardening public through GreatPlants™, a collaborative program of the Nebraska Nursery & Landscape Association and the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum.

For more information about GreatPlants™, call 402-472-2971 or write Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, P.O. Box 830715, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583-0715. (MJM)

## 1999 June/July Garden Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Power rake zoysia grass	2	3	4	5
6	7 Apply fungicide to pines for tip blight	8 Control euonymus scale	9 Apply preventive fungicide to bluegrass	10	11 Check pines for sawfly	12
13 Average date of last frost	14 Control billbugs in bluegrass	15 Put out rain gauge	16 Apply fungicide to pines for needle blight	17 Plant wildflower seeds	18	19 Plant buffalo-grass
20	21	22	23 Plant gladiolus bulbs	24 Fertilize zoysiagrass	25 Plant cannas	26
27	28	29	30 Plant warm season transplants	1	2	3
4	5	6 Power rake zoysiagrass	7	8	9	10
11	12 Plug zoysiagrass	13	14 Watch for cabbage worms	15	16	17
18	19 Control apple maggot	20	21 Apply fungicide to pines for needle blight	22 Prune spring flowering bulbs	23	24 Check bluegrass for sod web worm
25	26 Control bagworms	27 Fertilize buffalograss	28 Watch for bean leaf beetle	29 Check roses for black spot	30 take softwood cuttings to start plants	31
27	28 Watch for squash vine borer	29	30			

Many of us need reminders. That is the purpose of this calendar. Check the calendar each month and follow the recommendations if they are necessary in your landscape situation. (MJM)

# The world is their litter box

Soni Cochran  
Extension Educator

I get many calls in early summer (especially when the humidity soars), regarding problems with neighborhood cats. Outside cats, especially those not your own, can create difficult problems. As a cat owner, you should consider ways to minimize your cat annoying your neighbors. You could keep your cat inside, supervise your cat when outside, bring it inside at night, etc.

### Outdoor cat problems:

**Bare Soil = Ready-made Kitty Litter!**

Between digging and eating in your plants, cats can do considerable damage to gardens, flowerbeds and around foundations. There are a number of ways to keep cats from digging in, chewing on or eliminating around these areas.

**\*Replace the "used" soil.** If an area has been used for a litter box for an extended period of time, it is important to remove the soil and replace it with fresh topsoil.

**\*Bare soil.** This is perfect for a "natural" litter box. The simplest solution is don't leave any bare soil. Plant anything—rue, roses or whatever you fancy—just don't leave any bare soil. Use decorative rock, grass clippings or chicken wire on top of the soil between plants until the plants fill in that space. Several sources, including one gardener in the Lincoln area, report that chicken wire, laid on the bare soil, is great for keeping cats out of gardens and away from foundations. Apparently, cats don't like to walk on chicken wire.

**\*Alternative sites.** Some people have successfully kept cats out of most of their yard by

planting catnip in a far corner of the yard or garden. By doing this, they confine the destruction to one spot.

**\*Deterrents.** Most cats hate water—especially bursts of water. Surprise the offenders with a squirt gun. Or, turn on your sprinklers when the cats approach their favorite "potty-spot."

**\*Repellents.** There are a variety of repellent products available for cats and dogs. Check with your favorite pet store or veterinarian. You may be limited to where you can apply the product. There may also be limitations (and many reapplications) if it rains or if you water the area.

### Spraying and Marking Territory

If the offender is your cat, spay or neuter your pet to help reduce the urge for territorial marking. (Note: spraying could also be the result of a medical condition. Check with your veterinarian). Keep your cat indoors—this will diminish the scent of your cat around the property. Neighborhood cats may not be as tempted to mark your property if they don't smell your cat.

If the offender is not your cat, you can call Animal Control (441-7900) to solve the problem. This agency can work with you to trap and remove the offending animals. There is no charge to trap and remove cats in Lincoln. In Lancaster County, Animal Control will rent you a trap for \$30 which is refundable when the trap is returned.

Property that has been sprayed, will need to be cleaned thoroughly. There are commercial products that will help eliminate cat odors. Check with your local pet store/supplier or veterinarian. In some instances, where cat spray has saturated a



wood surface (like your front door), the finish will need to be stripped, sanded and refinished to eliminate the odor.

### Other Outdoor Problems

**Cats stalking at bird feeders.** Locate your bird feeder in an area where the cats cannot hide and spring on the birds. At the same time, try to locate it under something, like a tree, to provide refuge from attack by other birds like hawks.

**Cat Noise.** Mating cats can make an unbelievable amount of noise under your window. The same can be said for "fighting cats." If the cats belong to you, be responsible:

**\*Spay and/or neuter your cats.**

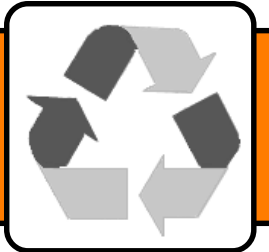
If the cats belong to a neighbor, use a non-confrontational approach to discuss the matter—make sure you're not "threatening." When approached reasonably, most people can be reasonable in turn. Sometimes your neighbor just doesn't know his/her cat is bothering you.

If you don't know who the cat belongs to, contact Animal Control to get assistance in trapping and removing the cat(s).

Cats are wonderful pets. I know, because I have two terrific cats. But, with cat ownership comes responsibility.

**\*Keep your cats indoors.** If you want to take them outside for brief periods, supervise their activities. Respect the property of your neighbors, keep your cats in your own yard. Neutering your cat can prevent many of the problems that have been discussed in this article.

## Environmental Focus



# "What can I spray around my house to keep bugs out?"



Barb Ogg  
Extension Educator  
&  
Soni Cochran  
Extension Associate

This is a very common question that comes into the extension office. This article discusses how we answer this question.

It is true that the vast majority of "bugs" that show up inside the house, come in from outside. Only a few (cockroaches, silverfish and some pantry pests that feed on stored food are examples), actually live and reproduce inside the house. We call the critters that wander into the house, "accidental invaders". The most common accidental invaders include most ants, sowbugs, pillbugs, millipedes, centipedes, crickets and spiders. Most of the time, these pests do not survive very well inside the home.



Sometimes we create situations around the house that are attractive to "bugs". For example, several invading pests live in mulch or wood chips. When you place large quantities of mulch near your house, you may be increasing the population of millipedes, sowbugs and pillbugs, crickets and their predators (spiders and centipedes). We are not trying to discourage the use of mulch because it is great stuff, but it is very attractive to a lot of small insects and arthropods.

No one management tactic,

including a perimeter spray, will effectively keep all insects from coming into your home. In addition, insecticides break down with the ultraviolet rays in sunlight and may be effective for only a few days.

We do not recommend routine use of a perimeter treatment to prevent entry by accidental invaders. Instead, homeowners should caulk cracks and crevices and remedy those situations outside that are conducive to these pests. When invading insects come into the house, a vacuum cleaner is often as effective as any insecticides in eliminating them. When a pest problem arises, actions other than insecticides, inside or outside the house, will usually be much more effective.

Unfortunately, many people think that home ownership requires routine spraying around the house for pests. Most of the time, a perimeter treatment does not control any pest problem. Instead, the application causes unnecessary risk to the person applying the pesticide, children or pets and unnecessary environmental hazards. Instead of routine monthly spraying, we encourage a little tolerance and a common sense approach to pests that they may find around the home.

Call the extension office for assistance with insect pest problems. We provide free diagnostic services and advice based on using least toxic controls. We do recommend insecticides on occasion, when using a chemical is the best approach. Call 441-7180, 8 a.m. - noon, M-F.

# Read the label before purchasing and using DEET

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) receives nearly 10,000 reports of Lyme disease (tick-vector) and 1,000 reports of encephalitis (transmitted by mosquitoes) annually. Both of these diseases are serious. Where these diseases are found, the CDC recommends using insect repellents when out-of-doors. Studies submitted to the EPA indicated the DEET repels ticks for three to eight hours, depending on the percentage of DEET in the product.

DEET is an acronym for diethyltoluamide, an extremely effective repellent of mosquitoes, ticks, mites and blood-feeding flies and gnats. It was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 and was registered for use by the general population in 1957. Over 200 products containing DEET are currently registered with the EPA. These products contain from 4 to 100% DEET.

Because there have been some recent concerns about the safety of DEET, especially with children, the EPA recently conducted a comprehensive

reassessment of this repellent and released its findings in April, 1998. The EPA has made some changes on the label, but has said that as long as consumers follow these new label directions, the agency believes that normal use of DEET does not present a health concern to the general population.

To use DEET products safely, read the product labels carefully. Statements on all DEET product labels will be revised to include the following directions:

Read and follow all directions and precautions on the product label.

Do not apply over cuts, wounds or irritated skin.

Do not apply to hands or near eyes and mouth of young children.

Do not allow young children to apply this product.

Use just enough repellent to cover exposed skin and/or clothing.

Do not use under clothing. Avoid over-application of this product.

After returning indoors,

wash treated skin with soap and water.

Wash treated clothing before wearing it again.

Use of DEET-containing products may cause skin reactions in rare cases.

On aerosol and pump spray formulation labels:

Do not spray in enclosed areas.

To apply to face, spray on hands first and then rub on face. Do not spray directly onto face.

Certain products that contained less than 15% DEET were claiming to be safer to children. The EPA is no longer allowing child safety claims on these products, because the scientific data does not support this claim.

If you are still concerned about using DEET on exposed skin, apply it to clothing. DEET will not damage clothing made of nylon, cotton or wool fabrics, but do not apply DEET near plastics acetate, rayon, spandex or other synthetic fabrics.

Source: EPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/citizens/deet.htm> (BPO)

## Household hazardous waste collection

### June 26

Lancaster County residents can bring household hazardous wastes to the following collection site:

Saturday, June 26, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD), 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 3140 "N" Street, south parking lot.

Items that you can bring for disposal:

Heavy metals: items containing mercury such as thermometers and thermostats. Fluorescent bulbs and many batteries contain heavy metals, but can now be recycled locally.

Solvents: mineral spirits, turpentine, paint strippers and thinners, oil-based paints, varnishes.

Pesticides: weed killers, garden sprays, wood preservatives, roach powder, rat poisons. You may also bring banned products, like DDT, chlordane, 2,4,5-T, pentachlorophenol, silvex.

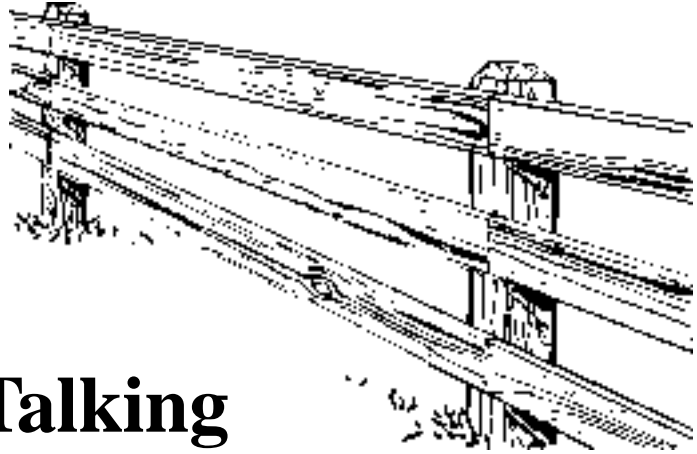
PCBs: Ballasts from old fluorescent fixtures and capacitors from old appliances including radios, motors and televisions.

Leave products in their original container and keep the label intact. Open, leaking or rusted containers should be placed in a clear plastic bag during transport. Do not mix chemicals.

Do not bring latex paint, medicines, explosives, fertilizers, used oil, general household trash, antifreeze or batteries. For more specific information, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8040. (BPO)



## Farm Views



# Talking over the fence

Even though fences are designed to divide you and your neighbor's property, the issues of fence maintenance and repair may divide you further.

Such agreements often are uncomfortable, even with neighbors who have good relations; if you're not on the best terms with your neighbor, agreeing about anything might be difficult. Fortunately, Nebraska's laws are designed to facilitate fence building and repair for neighbors of all kinds.

The state of Nebraska allows several kinds of lawful division fences: rail fences, board fences, rail and post fences, pole and post fences, wire fences, old-time Warner's Patent wooden fences and sheep- and hog-tight fences. Because the state fence laws were enacted more than a century ago, electric fences aren't considered lawful division fences. Landowners can, however, install electric fences on a property line if they pay the cost themselves or if their neighbors agree to share the expense of the electric fence. Each fence type has a set of specific requirements, which are relevant primarily if neighbors disagree over sharing costs of the fence.

If you want to build a fence between your property and your neighbor's property, you have the right to ask your neighbor to pay for half by going through the fence viewer process. When requested, the county clerk will select three fence viewers for your case. Fence viewers function like an unofficial jury; they view the property, call and subpoena witnesses if necessary, and eventually make a decision by majority vote. As with a jury, fence viewers are selected from the general population. They receive \$30 a day for their services, paid for by the landowner requesting the fence viewers. If more than one fence view is done, the two neighbors split the cost. The fence viewers' decision is legally binding. If

one neighbor refuses to pay his share of fence maintenance expenses, the other neighbor has the right to sue for those costs.

The fence viewer process shouldn't be an initial option. Landowners have the choice of paying for a fence themselves or contracting with their neighbors to share costs and responsibilities of the fence.

If you own livestock and your neighbor doesn't and you want to put in a livestock fence, your neighbor is required only to reimburse you for the cost of a regular wire fence if you go through the fence viewer process. There also are state laws dealing with trespassing livestock, although they're different for cultivated and uncultivated land. If cultivated land is damaged, the landowner has the right to impound the trespassing animals. If the livestock owner refuses to reimburse the neighbor for the neighbor's losses, the neighbor may sell the impounded livestock to cover costs. That right doesn't apply to owners of uncultivated land, although they still can sue their neighbor for trespassing.

Livestock owners are legally responsible for any damage their animals might do to their neighbors land while trespassing; if one neighbors land has been damaged by the other's livestock, the fence viewers might make the livestock owner pay for a larger share of the fence.

Ideally, neighbors should try to work out an agreement without resorting to fence viewers. In addition to helping neighbor relations, an agreement also gives flexibility to build the kind of fence you want.

To find out more about Nebraska fence laws, see NebFacts guide NF98-390 or read it online at <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/farmgmt/nf390.htm>.

SOURCE: David Aiken, J.D., water law specialist, NU/IANR, (402) 472-1848. (WS)

# Fertilizing grass pastures and hay lands-Part 1

This article discusses managing nitrogen for grass pastures and hay lands.

Pastures are important to many livestock producers in Nebraska, but production from many pastures is low. Research shows that fertilizing, weed control and rotational grazing increases grass production from pastures, resulting in greater livestock production.

Fertilizing and controlling weeds on hay lands also increases production. Since more plant material is removed when land is managed as hay land, more attention needs to be paid to fertilization.

In addition to increasing grass production, fertilizing can improve forage quality. On-the-farm demonstrations show that fertilizing increases the amount of beef produced per acre, even in a dry year. This increased production is primarily a result of added carrying capacity, rather than an increase in average daily gain.

### Nitrogen Management

Apply nitrogen (N) fertilizer yearly to grass pastures and hay lands for profitable livestock production. Nitrogen improves both grass yield and protein content. It also improves the vigor of grass plants, which can thicken stands and reduce weed invasions. When adequate soil moisture is present, economical rates of nitrogen more than double forage production.

Note that fertilization with nitrogen is most economical where weeds have been controlled and additional grass growth is needed for livestock. If additional forage can be purchased or pasture rented at a lower cost than fertilizer, these alternatives may be better choices.

Nitrogen fertilizer applied just prior to the period of most rapid grass growth assures that the applied nitrogen is available to the plants. For cool season grasses, such as smooth brome and wheatgrass, maximum growth occurs in mid to late spring (Table 1). These grasses grow very little in July and August. A small amount of growth takes place in late August and September if soil moisture is adequate and temperatures are favorable. Fall growth, however, is only a small

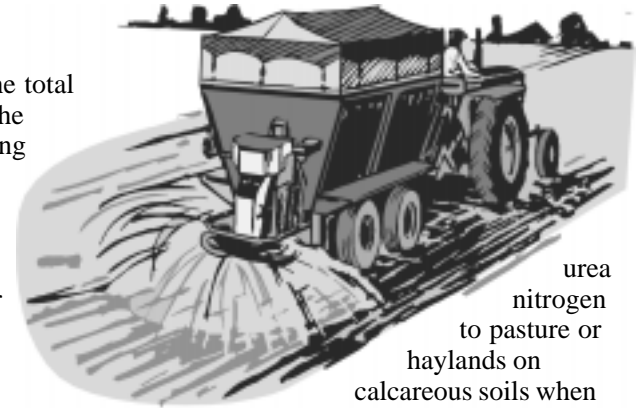
portion of the total growth for the entire growing season.

Nitrogen can be applied in either fall or spring on cool season grasses. The risk of losing applied nitrogen by either leaching or run-off is reduced if it is applied in early spring. Therefore, spring applications are preferred.

Split applications of nitrogen for production of cool season grasses under dryland conditions are useful only when more than 100 lbs of nitrogen per acre are to be applied during the growing season, and good growing conditions are anticipated during September and October.

Apply fertilizer in mid to late May to pastures and hay lands containing warm season grasses, such as switchgrass and bluestem. Do not fertilize warm season grasses in early spring in order to reduce fertilizer loss and to avoid stimulating growth of cool season species. Begin application in mid-May in southern Nebraska and delay until late May in the northern portion of the state.

Some pastures and haylands contain a mixture of both cool



urea nitrogen to pasture or haylands on calcareous soils when air temperatures are above 85 degrees F. Nitrogen loss due to ammonia volatilization can be high under these conditions. Since urea supplies more than half the nitrogen in solution nitrogen fertilizers, use similar care with their use.

Pasture production is highly dependent on rainfall, so nitrogen recommendations are adjusted accordingly. Suggested application rates for nitrogen are shown in Table 1. The lower rates listed are the minimum amounts recommended for average conditions and management situations. Even in years when summer rainfall is below normal, the use of 80 lbs of nitrogen per acre usually will increase production economically on pastures and haylands in eastern and northeastern Nebraska. Use the higher rates listed for each zone when there is a full profile of subsoil moisture at the start of the growing season.

Zone I is southeast of a line running from Blair, in Washing-

**Table 1. Nitrogen recommendations for pastures and hayland in Nebraska**

Zone	Pounds of nitrogen to apply per acre*			
	Cool-season grasses		Warm-season grasses	
	Pasture	Hayland	Pasture	Hayland
I	80-120	100-150	60-90	75-100
II	50-80	60-90	40-75	50-80

and warm season grasses. Fertilizing these pastures with nitrogen in early spring often stimulates the cool season grasses which crowd out any warm season grasses present. To maintain warm season grasses in such a mixture, fertilize in late May. It also may be necessary to apply herbicides to suppress the cool season grasses.

Liquid and dry forms of nitrogen fertilizer are equally effective for increasing pasture production when certain precautions are taken. Do not apply

ton County to Hebron, in Thayer County and includes all of Lancaster County except the Branched Oak Lake area. Zone II is southeast of a line running from Niobrara in Knox County to Alma in Harlan County down to Zone I. \*Use the higher rate when a full profile of subsoil moisture is present.

**Phosphorus and other nutrients - Part 2 will be continued in the July Issue of the Nebline.**

# Weed control in and around a sewage lagoon

There must be free air movement over the lagoon for it to work properly. Weeds and trees should, therefore, be controlled around the lagoon and in the lagoon itself. Open water during the summer months also provides a nesting ground for mosquitos, which requires mowing of the lagoon banks to reduce possible mosquito breeding areas. Cattails seem to be the most common aquatic weed in many lagoons. Proper herbicide rates and timing are

critical for good control.

Reward (diquat) can be used for control of cattails and many other aquatic weeds. Reward is a contact herbicide, but has some residual effect when in clear water. Reward can be applied at any growth stage to actively growing plants.

Some chemicals are classed as systemic as opposed to contact herbicides. These are most effective if they can be translocated into the root system. Cattails are more actively

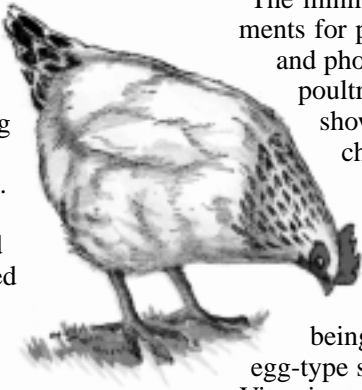
translocating food reserves into the root system just before and during the flowering period than at other growth stages. Systemic chemicals applied at that time will, therefore, be most effective. The herbicide guide lists two systemic chemicals for cattail control. 2,4-D LV ester at 1.5 gallon per acre + 5% diesel fuel + 0.5% emulsifier at boot to early flowering and Rodeo (glyphosate) at 3 quarts in 10 gallons of water per acre at flowering. (TD)

### A REMINDER FOR INTERNET USERS:

Lancaster County Extension Office has a new, shorter home page address: [www.lanco.unl.edu](http://www.lanco.unl.edu)  
 Some shortcuts:  
[www.lanco.unl.edu/food](http://www.lanco.unl.edu/food)  
[www.lanco.unl.edu/ag](http://www.lanco.unl.edu/ag)  
[www.lanco.unl.edu/enviro](http://www.lanco.unl.edu/enviro)  
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## Feeding the home flock

Poultry feeds are referred to as "complete" feeds because they contain all the protein, energy, vitamins, minerals and other nutrients necessary for proper growth, egg production and health of the birds. Feeding any other ingredients, mixed with the feed or fed separately, upsets the balance of nutrients in the "complete" feed. Feeding additional grain or supplement with the complete poultry feed is not recommended.



of age. When they begin egg production, feed them a "layer" ration until egg production ends.

The minimum requirements for protein, calcium and phosphorus in poultry feeds are shown. Remember, chickens saved for egg production are fed pullet-type diets, not broiler diets, regardless of being from broiler or egg-type stock.

Vitamins are always added to poultry feed in higher amounts than are needed. This ensures the chickens eat plenty

Minimum requirements	Protein %	Calcium %	Phosphorus %
Broilers (6 weeks to market)	10	0.8	0.5
Pullets (8 to 20 weeks)	14	0.8	0.5
Laying Hens	16	3.0	0.5

of vitamins for proper health. Higher levels usually are not harmful, but extra vitamins are unnecessary and expensive.

Layer feeds are fed only to laying hens. Hens require higher levels of minerals (calcium for eggshell formation) than chicks. Layer feed, fed to chicks, will reduce growth and place unnecessary stress on chicks.

Poultry feeds are available with several types of medications for preventing or treating diseases. Coccidiostats and/or antibiotics are the two most common medications added to

feed. Follow the recommended medication withdrawal periods before eating meat or eggs from the treated birds. Follow all warning instructions listed on the feed label.

Many people overlook the importance of providing clean, fresh water to their flocks. Water, though not often considered a nutrient, is the most important nutrient for animals. Chickens, as all farm animals, need clean water at all times. Drinking water must not get too hot or cold, or chickens will not drink it. Clean the water troughs and replace with fresh water at least once daily.

You must keep water and feed troughs clean of droppings, litter, soil and other contaminants. Keep feed troughs clean and dry. Place the trough so the feed stays dry. Empty the feed troughs at least two or three times weekly (daily if necessary) and refill with dry, fresh feed. Do not wash feed troughs unless they are contaminated with harmful residues or unless the feed gets wet. Do not let the feed become moldy. Moldy feed can kill chickens. (DJ)

## Shaping evergreen trees

Shaping evergreen or conifer trees can give them a fuller, balanced look, while helping correct certain growing problems. It's important, though, to know tree varieties to trim at the right time of year.

When shaping, follow the tree's natural lines. Don't try to force it into a predetermined shape; trees, like people, come in a variety of sizes and forms. Before shaping, prune any dead or damaged branches. Shaping is normally done on the current season's growth. Trim back individual shoots with clean

cuts. Shaping techniques vary slightly among coniferous species. Junipers, cedars, spruces and firs can be trimmed anytime, although the dormant time between October 1 and April 1 is ideal. When trimming, leave a bud at the end of the branch so foliage will grow from that point.

Pines are a little different as they produce a cluster of buds at the end of the season's growth. Because of that, pines should be trimmed from mid-May to mid-July. If trimmed too early, too

many buds will set. If trimmed too late, few, if any buds, may set for the next year's growth.

Any regular pair of pruning shears or a special shearing knife can be used to trim evergreens. However, using unclean cutting equipment can spread infection from tree to tree. Avoid infection by dipping equipment in a bleach solution to kill any spores.

A successful shaping job can make an evergreen tree a much more attractive part of the landscape. (DJ)

## To have or not to have—that is the sumac dilemma



Smooth sumac is a native deciduous shrub found throughout Nebraska that forms dense thickets from widely spreading roots. Trees and other shrubs readily establish in aging sumac thickets, accelerating the conversion of grassland to woodland. Small amounts of smooth sumac may be desirable because it provides wildlife habitat and food and has attractive fall

foliage, but too much of a good thing can be a problem.

Unlike many woody species, smooth sumac is not controlled by fire. It resprouts vigorously after defoliation, drawing on abundant energy reserves stored in the extensive root system. Improper grazing promotes the spread of thickets because new stems sprouting at the peripheries of thickets can out-compete the grazed grasses.

Cutting and mowing is an ineffective means of controlling sumac unless repeated treatments over many years are used to control abundant resprouts. The sharp stumps, resulting from cutting, are another drawback and may be a hazard to animals or vehicle tires.

Like cutting, prescribed burning is ineffective. Single spring fires can result in nearly 100 percent top kill of stems, but vigorous resprouting can lead to stem densities higher than those before the fire.

Many herbicides are very effective against smooth sumac. They can be applied to the foliage, stem bases or to the soil. Approved herbicides include 2,4-D, Crossbow, Spike, Tordon and Velpar. The herbicide 2,4-D LV4 ester, provides excellent low-cost control. Apply 2,4-D LV4 ester at 2 quarts per acre when sumac is flowering in mid-to late June. Sumac thickets should be monitored and stems surviving after one year should be spot treated with 2,4-D. (DJ)

## Acreage Insights



## Tractor safety tips (part 6)

Tractors are one of the most important pieces of equipment on a farm, yet they are also among the most dangerous. More deaths are caused by tractors than by any other type of farm accident. It is, therefore, imperative that tractor owners routinely check their tractors and keep in mind the following safety guidelines:



Tractor speeds should match surface conditions. Rough or uneven surfaces require reduced speeds. Be alert for rocks, holes, embankments or other hazards that can change the tractor's center of gravity.

When working on a sloped surface, use a tractor with a wide front-end and space the rear wheels as far apart as possible. Cross slopes slowly and keep side-mounted equipment on the uphill side of the tractor.

Lock brake pedals together when driving at transport speeds to ensure even braking. Shift to a lower gear before traveling downhill to let the engine and transmission reduce speeds. Be sure that any loads are not going to try and outrun the tractor on the way down a hill. To avoid having a load outrun the tractor, never pull a load heavier than the tractor can safely handle under any conditions that may be encountered. Remember, two trips may take longer, but it is better than never completing the job. (DJ)

## Horse Information Available on the Web.

The Lancaster County Extension Web pages contain links to a wealth of information on many subjects. Within the Nebraska Production Ag section of the Ag & Acreage pages, horse owners will find many useful links to Extension Publications regarding horses. From the main horse page, the user is taken directly to a complete listing of NebGuides that discuss: Care & Feeding, Breeding, and Insects and Parasites.

The site also goes beyond Nebraska to other land grant universities that provide extensive horse-related information. There are links to the Horse Fact Sheets published by the University of Kentucky, Horse Publications from Oklahoma State University.

In addition to the Extension Publications, one will find a link to the Oklahoma State Livestock Virtual Library - with links to both public and private information sources worldwide.

There is also a link to Oklahoma State Breeds of Livestock - Horses where one finds an alphabetical listing of every breed of horse, each with color photos and a description.

Finally, there are two links to non-extension databases that contain many sound links and expert advice. These are The Horseman's Advisor, and the International Equine Resource Center.

One can go to the horse page either by starting with the Ag - Acreage Page at [www.lanco.unl.edu/ag/](http://www.lanco.unl.edu/ag/). Clicking on the Nebraska Production Ag icon, then on the Livestock button, and then on Horse; or one can go directly to the Horse page by typing the following address into your web browser netsite field: <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/ianr/lanco/ag/livestok/horse.htm>. <TD>

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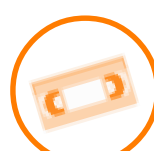
NUFACTS audio message center offers fast, convenient information. In the Lincoln area call 441-7188; for the rest of Nebraska call 1-800-832-5441. When directed, enter the 3-digit number of the message you wish to hear.

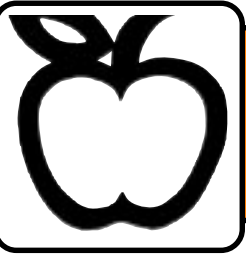
### Acreage & Small Farm Insights Web Site

Visit our Internet web site at: <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/ianr/dodge/acreage/index.htm> to learn about Extension programs, publications and links to other acreage and small farm information.

### "Part-time Farming" video

"Part-time Farming" will help develop your country environment and improve your quality of life. Just one hour of "Part-time Farming" provides tips that will save you costly mistakes and precious time. Call 402-441-7180 to order your copy.





## Food & Fitness



Alice Henneman, RD, LMNT, Extension Educator

Milk is a naturally nutrient rich beverage. Milk and foods made from milk are an integral part of the USDA Food Guide Pyramid, National Nutrition Guidelines, USDA Federally Funded Child-Care, School, Senior and WIC Programs.

The DASH diet (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) tested nutrients as they occur together in foods. In the past, researchers had tested various single nutrients, such as calcium and magnesium. These studies were done mostly with dietary supplements and their findings were not conclusive.

DASH results showed that a plan similar to what Americans eat but high in fruits and vegetables (combined total of 8 or more servings daily) reduced blood pressure. However, when they also increased dairy servings to three fat free or low-fat dairy foods daily, the drop in blood pressure was even greater, equaling or exceeding the effects of many types of medication.

So, to dash up your diet in a heart healthy way, include plenty of low fat dairy products, fruits and vegetables.

Milk is not only good for you, it's good for Nebraska's economy! The approximate yearly raw milk value for milk in the State of Nebraska is \$150,000,000 from approximately 750 producers. The value added of products made from milk in the state of Nebraska is 2 or 3 times the raw milk value. Over 1000 people are employed in cheese and milk processing plants in Nebraska!

### Fruit Chiller - A DASH Idea!

(two, approximately 12-ounce servings)

1 cup of fruit, cut into bite-sized pieces and frozen\*

1 - 8 ounce carton, fruit flavored yogurt, frozen\*

(freeze in ice cube trays)

1 cup, very cold, fluid milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Place all ingredients in blender. Select speeds and options that will produce a smooth blended drink.

\*Mix and match fruits, milks and yogurt flavors. Some combinations that have been tested and judged to be absolutely delicious include:

#### ■ White fat-free milk and

- raspberry yogurt and peaches
- lime yogurt and kiwi
- apricot yogurt and apricots
- blueberry yogurt and blueberries
- lemon yogurt and blueberries
- raspberry yogurt and mango

#### ■ Reduced fat chocolate milk, one cup frozen chocolate milk and strawberries (AH)

## Focus on Food



Alice Henneman, RD, LMNT, Extension Educator

### Q: Why do you have to use a pressure canner when canning vegetables and meats?

**A:** There are two very important reasons for using a pressure canner with all non-acid foods like meats and vegetables (with the exception of tomatoes):

■ Because native spores of *Clostridium botulinum*, the bacteria that cause the potentially fatal botulism, are extremely difficult to destroy at boiling water temperatures, all low-acid foods should be processed at the much higher temperatures achieved with pressure canners. Processing times are scientifically determined to ensure destruction of the most heat-resistant disease-causing bacteria capable of growing in each type of food packed in a jar of a specific size. Therefore, there are different processing times for different foods.

■ The only time a water bath canner can be used is when canning acid foods such as tomatoes, fruits, pickled and fermented products, jams, jellies, marmalades and fruit butters. Once you start to add meat and/or vegetables to soups and tomato sauces, the acidity of that food changes and you must use a pressure canner for most formulations.

continued on page 12

## 1,500 youth benefit from NEP

Lancaster County Nutrition Education Program taught 1,500 elementary students during this school year. Youth learned the importance of washing their hands, reading food labels, eating a balanced diet, setting the table and using manners during meal time.

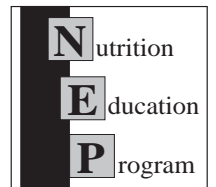
The "Clean Hands Detective" visited classrooms, looking for places germs could hide. Students learned the ten most common ways germs are spread: THEIR FINGERS! Participants were given the chance to test their hand washing technique. They understand that it is important to use warm water and soapy bubbles to get hands clean. Sixty-four percent of the youth learned that spoiled food does not always smell, taste or look bad.

Over 400 children were taught the importance of reading food labels. They compared

several of their favorite foods and had the chance to vote for the most nutritious.

Kindergarten and first-grade students took a trip through the Food Guide Pyramid. They discovered the five food groups that make a healthy body. Food puppets reminded them of the importance of eating healthy foods every day. Some youth were surprised that certain foods were healthy for them, such as yogurt, potatoes, peanut butter and cabbage.

Planning meals and using table manners involved more than 400 youth. They were taught the importance of eating a variety of foods each day. Table manners were practiced



Mary Abbott  
Extension Assistant, NEP

while eating food they prepared. One boy stated, "Using manners isn't so bad after all."

Participating Agencies: Lincoln Public Schools, Family Service, Homestead Girl Scout Council, Parks and Recreation, Salvation Army and Willard Community Center.

## Clean Hands Campaign

Have fun using "glo-germ" to teach hand washing to youth and adults. Receive handouts for your group and a supplementary copy of reproduction ready hand washing activities. This activity can be used with any number of people.

Call Alice Henneman at 441-7180 to check out the Clean Hands Kit and receive about 15 minutes of training on using it. Kit must be checked out and returned within the same week. Available on a first come, first served, basis. (AH)

## Safety first when grilling outdoors

When the weather warms, many think about lighting up outdoor grills. Less thought may be given to food safety. Food safety is a necessary part of grilling, as with all food preparation. Some basic food safety tips as applied to grilling follow.

Basic food safety handling, after purchase, is a major problem. When shopping, choose meat last, and don't put it in the trunk. The temperature there is too hot and bacteria will grow rapidly. Don't let meat get into the temperature danger zone of 40-140 degrees F. When the meat temperature gets in this danger zone, bacteria grow to higher numbers that take more time to kill during cooking. During growth, the bacteria also can produce toxins that can cause illness and stay active even during cooking.

Thaw frozen meat properly. Never defrost meat on the counter—bacteria will begin to grow. It should thaw overnight in the refrigerator or in the microwave. If thawed in microwave, cook immediately. Clean

juice spills immediately so a raw product does not get on a cooked product. Juice spills should be cleaned with a paper towel. If using a cloth towel to wipe up raw meat juices, wash the towel before using it again.

Marinate meat in the refrigerator. The sauce can be brushed on the meat while cooking, but never use the same sauce after cooking that has touched the raw meat. Also, use a clean plate and a clean spatula when changing from raw to cooked meat.

Cooking is key to meat safety. The grill does not have to be thoroughly cleaned each time, but let it warm up for 15-20 minutes to reach 160 degrees F, which will kill most microorganisms.

When meat is done cooking, juices will run clear, but use a thermometer to be sure. Spices can hide the color change of the meat and some meat may brown prematurely. Ground meats should be heated to 160 degrees F to kill microorganisms, but temperatures for steaks can be

145 to 150 degrees F for medium rare, 150 to 160 degrees F for medium, 160 to 170 degrees F for medium well and 180 degrees F for well done. Fish can cook to 145 degrees F, which is about 10 minutes of cooking for each one inch thickness of fish.

Another food safety problem people may encounter is charring. The black charring on food can produce a chemical substance that produces cancer in animal tests. Smoke also carries carcinogens called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Although the risk is very minimal, avoid having a lot of black on food. To prevent this, trim excess fat to avoid smoke and flare up, raise the cooking rack to the highest position, make sure the grill surface is clean and when barbecuing or glazing do it within the last minutes of cooking.

Adapted from information provided by: Mindy Brashears, Ph.D., food safety specialist, NU/IANR (AH)



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- 302 Using a Boiling Water Bath

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### FREE monthly Food Relections e-mail newsletter.

To be added to the mailing list, e-mail Alice Henneman at [AHENNEMAN1@UNL.EDU](mailto:AHENNEMAN1@UNL.EDU)

### Diabetes Study Course

Call Alice Henneman (441-7180) for more information.

# Jean's Journal

Jean Wheelock  
FCE Council Chair



Our June 28th, 7 p.m. Council meeting will be an interesting one. The program "Hats" will be presented by Ann Smith of Emerald FCE club. There will be the selection of delegates for our State Convention to be held in Norfolk, August 19-21.

There was a nice article in

the Lincoln Journal Star by John Barrette about FCE. Hope everyone had a chance to see it.

Our September Council meeting will be a 1 p.m. luncheon at the Governor's Mansion followed by a tour. We need a minimum of 25 people. Cost of lunch will be about \$7.00 so how about our clubs using this as their September meeting/social event and enjoy the governor's renovated home. To make your reservations call Pam, 441-7180 by August 30. (JW)

## Fathers matter

LaDeane Jha  
Extension Educator

Today nearly one-third of children are born out of wedlock, and many children born to married couples experience the divorce of their parents. Increases in non-marital childbearing and divorce over recent decades have resulted in complex economic, social and cultural changes that have changed the role that male parents play in the life of their children.

Many of today's fathers are profoundly confused about their roles as fathers. They are forced to develop family relationships that are quite different from those they had with their own fathers. They cannot easily fall back on their own childhood experiences for guidance. What worked very well for their fathers 20 or 30 years ago may not work at all with the kinds of challenges fathers face today. In spite of the confusion, we know that most men want to be and are excellent fathers who are loved and appreciated in their families.

Dr. Ron Klinger, author of

*The Common Sense No Frills Plain English Guide to Being a Successful Dad* offers these thirteen contributions made by active fathers:

- financial support
- self-protection
- humor
- self-confidence
- independence
- security
- courage
- patience
- forgiveness
- caregiving
- trust
- identity
- family tradition

Taken collectively these contributions prepare a child for real life away from the comfort and security of the family. The greatest gift a nurturing father gives his children is a healthy model of what it means to be a boy, a man and a father.

Boys and girls both need their father's affection. But with boys it may be harder for dads to openly show it, even those fathers and sons who spend lots of companionship time together.

Young boys need warmth and security from a loving father to

## Children with active dads:

- are more ambitious.
- are less susceptible to peer pressure.
- are more competent.
- are self-protective and self-reliant.
- are more self-confident with respective male or female identities.

Source: Center for Successful Fathering, Inc. (LJ)

develop positive self-esteem. Studies show that sons of sensitive, affectionate fathers score higher on intelligence tests and do better at school than children of colder, authoritarian fathers.

In this month of celebrating fatherhood, it is important to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions fathers make in the lives of their children. Research has consistently found positive effects of father involvement in two-parent families, however, a growing body of research indicates financial support plus the positive involvement of a father, including cooperation between parents, increases positive outcomes for children who do not live with both of their parents.

Fathers affect children's behavior, but children also affect fathers' behavior. Married men with children work more hours and have higher earnings than other men. Parental competence and satisfaction are also associated with positive effects on fathers' own development and participation in the larger community.

Fathers Matter.

## Summer fun things to do with your children

Boredom is one of the leading causes of misbehavior. Providing interesting playthings for the child prevents boredom. Playthings need not be expensive. Many creative toys can be made from household items. For example:

- Punch holes around used greeting cards. Let your child sew around the cards with yarn.
- Let your children decorate empty grocery boxes to keep their special things in.
- Make finger puppets by cutting

the fingers off old gloves and decorating them into interesting personalities.

- Make a bowling game with empty two-liter plastic bottles and a large ball.
- Let your children "paint" the outside of the house with a brush and a bucket of water.
- Make simple puzzles out of old greeting cards or grocery boxes. Make and decorate crowns from paper, grocery bags or aluminum foil. Let your children be "queen" or "king" for a day or

on birthdays.

- Make personalized books with your children by punching holes in zipped plastic sandwich bags that have been filled with pictures, shapes, colors, or textures, and tying the bags together with pieces of yarn.
- Make musical instruments and have a marching band show: finger cymbals from frozen juice lids, drum from oatmeal box, maracas from plastic bottles filled with rice or beans. (LJ)

## Gaining cooperation

There are three broad ways to deal with child misbehavior. We can manage the environment and relate to the child in such a way that misbehavior is less likely to occur--prevent misbehavior. Or we can use guidance principles to deal with children in the midst of misbehavior. Or we can punish children after the misbehavior has occurred.

It is easier on the parent and the child to keep misbehavior from happening than to deal with it afterward. Here are some suggestions for preventing behavior problems. Try them and see if they work for you.

See if you and your child enjoy each other more. Give each suggestion a two-week trial period. It may take that long to see results. Try only one new technique at a time. Changing the way you treat your child is hard to do. It takes time to form new habits. Once you have the habit, though, it will seem natural to you.

For the next two weeks try giving your child choices as a way to prevent misbehavior. Whenever possible, give children a choice between two acceptable behaviors. For example, say, "Randy, it really

disturbs me when you run in the house. You can either play with your cars or go outside and play." Giving a choice lets the child learn to make decisions.

You aren't really giving a choice when you offer two undesirable choices. For example, Rick is beating his drum and mother says, "Rick, you can either stop that or not get your allowance this week!" Rick wouldn't like either of those choices.

If you don't want to let the child make a decision, then don't offer a choice. You'll just

*continued on page 12*

## Family Living



### HOUSEHOLD HINTS



by Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

## Excess lint on clothes

To prevent excess lint on clothes:

- \* Separate "lint givers" (towels, flannel and sweaters) from "lint takers" (corduroy, permanent press and synthetics).
- \* Turn "lint givers" inside out before laundering.
- \* Use the correct amount of detergent for the load size.
- \* Load the washer properly and use the correct water level for the load size.
- \* Clean the lint filter on the dryer after each load. (LB)

## Summer: A time to make neighborhood connections

With summer quickly approaching, your neighborhood is likely to come alive with kids riding their bikes, shopping in stores, skating, heading off to the local swimming pool, playing ball in the evenings and selling lemonade in front yards. What a good time to make new connections with the young people in your neighborhood. It's a chance to visit over the fence, sit on the porch, share stories and celebrate long warm evenings chasing fireflies. Time spent developing relationships among all ages, means fewer neighborhood conflicts and greater cooperation.

One way to build a foundation for good relations in your neighborhood is to get to know people of all ages who live nearby. Nancy Ashley of *It's About Time for Kids* has these ideas for things grown-ups can do to reach out to kids.

Learn the names of the children on your block. Say hello and call them by name when you see them.

Send congratulations to young people when you hear

about their achievements.

If you have a block party or block watch planning meeting, make certain several young people are included.

If you're faced with problems with kids where you live, look for positive ways to work them out. Patterns are harder to change after they have become habits. Important assets identified by the Search Institute include: caring neighborhoods, feeling valued by the community, adult role models and good family communications. Clearly, kids benefit from positive connections with adults. So do adults; they report finding unexpected treasures when they spend time with kids.

Make this a memorable summer for everyone in your community by celebrating the young people who reside in your neighborhood. Think about ways you might perform random acts of neighborliness. A few hints to get you started might include: Visit a farmer's market and bring home fresh produce for a homebound neighbor. Mow your

*continued on page 12*

## Sizzling Summer Sampler

Tuesday, July 13 • 6 to 9 p.m.  
Lancaster Extension Education Center  
444 Cherrycreek Road

sponsored by Lancaster County Association for Family and Community Education

### Learnshops:

- "Flower Arrangement" by Gaga's Greenery & Flowers
- "Stamping Demonstration Fun" by The Loft - Cheryl Rauch & Kathy Stewart
- "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Plate" by Clarice Orr

### Light supper at 6 p.m.

Plan to attend and invite a friend!  
Cost \$7.50. Make checks payable to: FCE Council.  
Send reservations to:  
Joy Kruse, 850 Adams, Lincoln, NE 68521  
Mark your calendar today!  
Join the fun and fellowship.







## 4-H & Youth

# 4-H Bulletin Board

- 4-H animal fair entries are due to the extension office by 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 9. (DK)
- **No late animal entries will be accepted** for the 1999 Lancaster County Fair. *Register by July 9!* Registration forms for county fair are available at the extension office. (DK)
- Remember to sign up to help at the fair if you are 12 years old or older. We need help on entry day from 4-8 p.m. and on judging day, all day. Call the extension office to sign up! (LB)
- Teen Council is Sunday, July 11 at the Schepers' home. Watch your mail for more information. (TK)
- Lancaster County Fair is August 4-8. (LB)
- There is still time to register for 4-H camp at the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center. Call the extension office for more information. (TK)
- Fair books have been mailed. Make sure you have yours and that you refer to it for information about the fair. (LB)
- A handout on "How to Exhibit at the Fair" is available at the extension office. (TK)

## County fair contests and interview judging

**Lifetime Skills (Home Economics) Judging**  
Wednesday, July 14, 1 p.m., registration at 12:45 p.m. 4-H members will use their decision making skills in the junior division (8-12 years old) or senior division (12 years old and older as of January 1). See related article for topics and resources.

**Demonstrations**  
The Demonstration Contest is one of the best ways to share your expertise and ideas with others. Demonstrations can be done as an individual or as a team. There will be two demonstration contests: Friday, July 16, 2:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center and Saturday, August 7 at the county fair. See page 9 of the fair book for categories.

**Table Setting**  
Thursday, August 5, 8:30 a.m. in Ag Hall at State Fair Park. This contest gives you a chance to choose a theme category, (holiday, formal, picnic, birthday or casual) plan a menu, centerpiece and place setting to coordinate with your theme. Each 4-H member will have a 5-minute interview with the judge. A table setting contest booklet and information sheet is available from the office.

**Style Revue**  
Style Revue Judging, Wednesday, July 21, First Lutheran Church, 1551 S 70<sup>th</sup> Street. 4-H members should sign up, for a block of time to be judged, by calling the extension office.

Public show, Wednesday, August 4, 7 p.m. at the 4-H Building Arena, State Fair Park.

The public is invited to the style revue to see the 4-H members show off their outfits.

**Bicycle Safety**  
Saturday, August 7, 9 a.m., at the county fair. 4-H members do not need to be enrolled in the bicycle project to enter this contest. Check the fair book for contest rules.

**Interview Judging**  
Wednesday, August 4, check pages 5-6 of the fair book for project areas that will have interview judging. Sign up for a 5-minute time lot by calling the extension office. If you have more than one item in a project area, sign up for 5 minutes per item. Talk to the judge about your fair exhibits, share the trials and lessons of your exhibits. Interview judging is a great way for 4-H members to learn what the judge looks for and how to improve their skills.

**Shooting Sports**  
Must be enrolled in a shooting sports project under the direction of a certified 4-H shooting sports instructor to participate. See pages 13, 14 and 15 of the fair book for categories and rules.

**Horticulture**  
The 4-H Horticulture Contest is Wednesday, July 14, 10 a.m. Study material for the contest is available at the extension office.

Registration forms for demonstration contests are available at the extension office. Call the office at 441-7180 by July 9 to register for the contests. No preregistration is needed for the Lifetime Skills Contest. (LB/TK)

## Needed: 4-H Ambassadors

4-H members who will be in grades 9-12 in the fall are eligible to apply. Ambassadors will be selected through an application and interview process. Six positions are open.

- 4-H Ambassadors
- promote 4-H through PSA's and displays
  - serve as master/mistress of ceremonies at events
  - develop marketing skills through selling ads for the fair flyer
  - provide leadership for 4-H activities

To apply, send a letter on why you would like to be an ambassador and resume of your 4-H, school and community activities to Lorene Bartos, University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507. Call Lorene if you have questions. (LB)



Members of Lancaster County 4-H Shooting Sports Club receiving academic excellence awards at the Eastern Cornhusker Trapshooting Conference are: (front row) Eric Timperly, (back row) Nate Buhman, Brent Timperly, Jason Hardnock and Zack Marshall. Students receiving this award need to carry a grade point average of 3.5 or better.



Winning the senior 4-H division trophy at the state trapshooting tournament May 7 and 8 held in Doniphan, Nebraska are members of the Lancaster 4-H team. Front row: Eric Whitefoot, David Staley. Back row: Nate Buhman, Jason Hardnock and Vernon Blackwell.

## Teen leadership opportunities

Throughout the summer, numerous opportunities will be made available for teens ages 15-18 to enhance their leadership skills as well as their character. During events such as youth day camps and county fair, teen leaders will be needed to aid in youth development and other teaching activities.

Teens completing the "Choices for Character" training workshop on June 11 can use these newly acquired skills and continue their character enrichment process through leading and teaching others. This process will include extended training in career development areas such as career shadowing, resume and portfolio building, and interviewing. These additional workshops will be held throughout the summer at the extension office. Also, involvement in Character Counts! youth day camps will help to achieve your enrichment goals.

Those wishing to participate in these teen and career events can contact Tim Vaughn or LaDeane Jha at 441-7180, or inquire at the teen training workshop on June 11. (TV)

## Showmanship workshops to be offered

If you would like to learn or better your showmanship skills, plan on attending the 1999 4-H and FFA Showmanship Workshops July 21 and 22 at State Fair Park.

During these workshops, the youth will learn proper show techniques such as setting animals up, grooming and much more. We will also discuss possible questions showmanship judges may ask and review the parts of an animal.

### Day 1

Beef Workshop, July 21, 9 a.m. to noon, East Arena and Beef Barn  
Swine Workshop, July 21, 1-3 p.m., Swine Barn

### Day 2

Sheep Workshop, July 22, 9 a.m. to noon, Sheep Barn  
Goat Workshop, July 22, 1 to 3 p.m., Goat Barn

Youth are encouraged to bring their animals with them. You may attend one or all of the workshops. No registration is required. All youth are welcome to attend. If you are not enrolled in a livestock project and would still like to learn, bring yourself and a friend. If you have any questions, call Deanna or Tim at 441-7180. (DK/TV)

## Fair Fun Day volunteers needed!

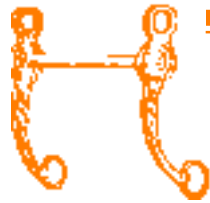
When? Friday, August 6  
Where? Lancaster County Fair  
Time? 9:30-11:30 a.m. and/or 1-3 p.m.  
Activity? Leading tours around the fair for kindergarten through 4th grade children  
Helping with registration, snacks or activities  
Who? Teens or interested adults  
Training? Will be provided the day of the activity

Call 441-7180 to volunteer. You may sign up for all day or for either time slot. Please indicate whether you would like to be a tour guide or other helper. If you have any questions, contact Tim Vaughn, Fair Fun Day coordinator. (TV)



## Mark your calendar

Wednesday, June 23 is the date 4-H members can practice for the Life Skills Judging Contest and receive help with their demonstrations. Learn judging techniques and decision making skills for the Life Skills Judging Contest from 1-2:30 p.m. At 2:30 p.m., 4-H members can learn what a demonstration is and how to present it at the fair. If your demonstration is ready, present it and receive help, if needed. Preregistration is not necessary. Contact Tracy if you have any questions. (TK)



# HORSE BITS

## Advice on how to prepare for a clinic

We go to a clinic to get as much help as we can, take it home and put it to use. It never hurts to think about what we're getting into before we get there. In order to get the most out of a clinic, we can do a little research and planning. The more you put into preparing, the further you will be at the end of the clinic. You need to know where you want to be with your animal. You should have some specific goals that you want to work toward while you have the help and instruction of the clinician. This will ensure that you get the most for your money.

Have questions; things that you want to work on. Try and pick some specific, tangible, reachable goals. Know what you want to learn and then find a clinic that is going to teach you those skills. Go to someone whom you respect and who has something to offer you. Go in with an open learning frame of mind. If you go with the idea that you don't know anything, by being open, you'll get a lot back in return.

Get books or videos on the subject or person that you are learning from. If you are not familiar with the terms, you are going to spend 3/4 of the time just trying to figure out what they are

talking about.

Most clinicians try to work with each horse and each person where they are at. So accept where you are and they'll spend the time trying to get you to another level when you get there. You aren't there to look good or show them how much you already know. You should be there to learn. Please accept the learning.

My feeling is you should try whatever the person is teaching at the clinic. If it is something that works for you, great. If you don't feel the technique is something that would work for you, then don't use it when you get home, but at least be open to try it at the clinic. You will find you can learn a great deal.

Take care of details before the clinic starts. It lets you devote your full attention to the clinic once you get there. Take care of your comfort. Bring enough warm gear and, when in doubt, bring extra.

Bring an older, more seasoned horse for your first clinic. You'll be more comfortable learning what the clinic is all about, and the clinician can assess what kind of rider you are and if it would be appropriate for you to bring a less experienced horse later. You'll get more out of

the clinic on a quieter horse that you can take home and then apply to your other, less experienced horse.

If you are a visual learner, videotape the clinic, watch the other riders. If you learn from writing something down, take notes.

The kinds of questions that you ask are just about as important for the clinician as they are to the other participants. The most simple questions are quite often the most profound.

Have your horse and yourself in shape. Don't spend a lot of money to bring a horse that is too young or too out of shape to handle the clinic.

Be gracious and polite to the clinic organizer. Bring your own supplies and leave the facility in better condition than you found it. Respect others. If your buddy is watching the clinic, wait for another time to catch up on gossip. Don't distract others trying to learn and don't be rude to the clinician by talking while he/she is talking.

There are plenty of good clinics being offered. Take advantage of the ones you can and you'll be a better rider for it. (EK)



## County fair livestock bedding

No straw will be allowed for bedding during county fair. Wood chips will be available for purchase or you may bring your own. This includes all species. If you have any questions, call Deanna at 441-7180. (DK)



## PQA certification

All members who are not PQA certified will need to register for the last certification class. The certification workshop will be held Saturday, July 10 from 9-11 a.m., at the county extension office. Remember, if you are not certified, you may not exhibit at the county or state fair. If you have any questions, call Deanna or Tim at 441-7180. (DK/TV)



## Beef artificial insemination workshop

An artificial insemination workshop will be held Thursday, July 15, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. This workshop is being held to help educate some of the future cattle producers of the advancements in cattle breeding and the proper methods and techniques of them.

In this workshop many aspects and steps of artificial insemination will be covered. The workshop will cover genetic and sire selection, based on individual EPD's and ability of a sire to fit and improve your cow herd. The areas of estrus synchronization, heat detection and insemination will be covered with an emphasis on management of breeding stock as well as the reproductive physiology.

For registration or questions about the workshop, please call Tim or Deanna at 441-7180. Call and register by July 13. (TV/DK)



## PAK-10 Poultry Judging Clinic and Contest

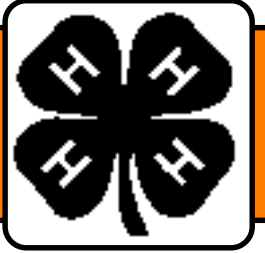
There will be a PAK-10 Poultry Judging Clinic and Contest Thursday, July 8 at the Animal Science Building on UNL's East Campus. The clinic will be from 9:30 a.m.-noon. The contest will begin at 1 p.m. and last until 3:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. There is no charge, this is strictly for fun. (EK)



## District horse shows

District horse shows are fast approaching. All exhibitors should have received a letter acknowledging receipt of their entry and directions to the district show grounds. If you have not received this letter, let Ellen know as soon as possible. Good luck to all of the entrants! (EK)

## 4-H & Youth



## Life Skills Judging Contest

Wednesday, July 14, 1 p.m.  
(12:45 p.m. registration)

The contest will be divided into two divisions, the junior division and the senior division. 4-H members under 12 years of age as of January 1 of the current year, will judge in the junior division. 4-H members 12 years old and older as of January 1 of the current year will judge in the senior division.

Topics and resources for the contest are:

Topic	Publication
<b>Senior Division</b>	
<b>Foods and Nutrition</b>	Foodworks (4H794)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Food Selection</li> <li>• Food Safety</li> </ul>	
<b>Home Environment</b>	Design Decisions (4H440)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selecting Accessories</li> <li>• Storage</li> </ul>	
<b>Safety</b>	Citizen Safety (4H415)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Adventures</li> <li>• First Aid</li> </ul>	
<b>Clothing &amp; Textiles</b>	Challenging Patterns (4H304)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design Elements &amp; Principles in Clothing</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewing Basics</li> <li>• Analyzing Advertising</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stain Removal</li> </ul>	
<b>Junior Division</b>	
<b>Foods and Nutrition</b>	Six Easy Bites (4H791) pp. 11, 14, 15, 17, 19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Food Labels</li> <li>• Microwaving</li> </ul>	
<b>Home Environment</b>	Create Your Corner (4H153) pp. 14, 22, 23, 30, 33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Texture</li> <li>• Shape</li> <li>• Color</li> </ul>	
<b>Safety</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Adventures</li> <li>• First Aid</li> </ul>	Citizen Safety (4H153) pp. 4, 12, 22
<b>Clothing &amp; Textiles</b>	Attention Shoppers (4H449) pp. 13, 14, 31, 32
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fads &amp; Fashions</li> <li>• Sorting Clothing</li> </ul>	

Individuals will answer 5 written questions for each of the four situations, totaling 20 written questions. Also, senior 4-H members will choose 2 of 8 oral questions to answer for a judge. Juniors will choose 1 of 5 oral questions to answer for a judge. (LB)

## We need you... At the 1999 Lancaster County Fair!

Volunteer helpers (ages 12 and over) are needed to help in the information booth, assist judges by writing comments, putting up project displays, check in exhibits on entry day and make the fair the best it can be!

Call 441-7180 to sign up.

Thanks, in advance, for all you help! (LB)

## Food booth training

**What:** A workshop for ALL food booth volunteers. Even if you have attended before, you are encouraged to come this year.

**Where:** State Fair Park, 4-H Demo Rooms, just south of the 4-H Rock Café in the 4-H Youth Complex. (Check fair book map.)

**When:** Thursday, July 29, 6-8 p.m.

**Workshops:** Customer Service  
Making Change and Taking Orders  
Food Safety  
Your Responsibilities as a Volunteer

**Visit:** Food Booths

**Bonus:** Certificate of Completion and lots of fun. (LB)

**Community Focus**



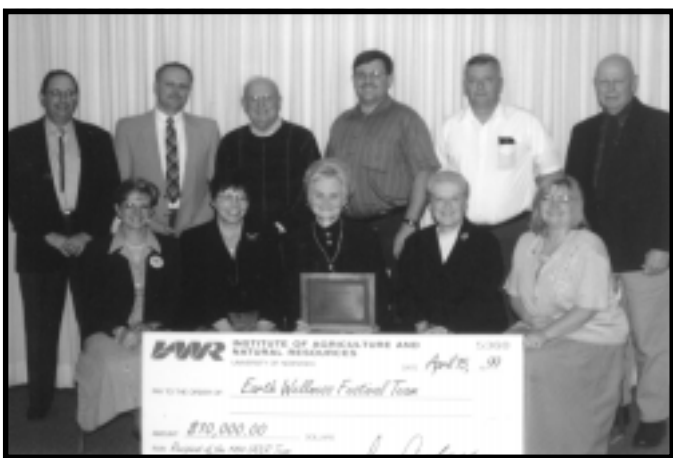
**Good Neighbor garden**

Over 30 volunteers gathered on May 12 to plant a garden at the Good Neighbor Center. The garden was developed by Bryan Learning Center students to provide beautification, as well as an educational landscape for Good Neighbor Center clients (primarily low-income and refugee families), and to deter neighborhood residents from dumping garbage at the site (a problem for which the Center has often been ticketed). Bryan students spent last fall researching and designing the plot area. They received a "Teens for Teens" Learn and Serve grant from UNL Cooperative Extension to purchase and lay the garden wall. On May 12, they were able to see their plan come

to full fruition when they hosted a volunteer planting party at the Center. Volunteers included over 20 Bryan students, several Clinton neighborhood youth in the "Character Counts! Club," Novartis corporate volunteers, and neighborhood residents. Plants were donated/purchased with the support of Novartis, Earl May on "O" Street, Nebraska Landscapes, Finke Gardens and the Herb Society. Bryan students plan to continue the garden's development by seeking a birdbath, picnic table and tree bench, while Clinton neighborhood youth plan to add herbs and annuals, as well as help with the garden's upkeep. (TB)



**earth wellness festival wins award**



earth wellness festival received the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources 1999 Team Effort Award. The award was presented on April 15, 1999 by Vice Chancellor Irv Omtvedt and Associate Vice Chancellor Edna McBreen at April Preview. Teams that produce results in research, teaching, extension, service and/or international programs are honored. earth wellness festival team received \$10,000 in recognition for providing youth with innovative, experiential learning opportunities and to continue teaching Lancaster County 5<sup>th</sup> graders innovative ways to understand and improve the environment.

The earth wellness festival steering committee represents ten community educational resource units. They include: Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County/UNL, City of Lincoln, The Groundwater Foundation, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Lincoln Public Schools, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, Southeast Community College-Lincoln, University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska Water Center/Environmental programs and Ventures in Partnerships. Congratulations ewf—for a great program that impacts the whole community. (ALH)

**Lancaster County fairbooks available**

1999 County Fair books for 4-H, FFA and open class entries are available at the Lancaster County Extension office during business hours. A limited supply of fair books are also available at local banks and post offices throughout the community.

"Old Fashioned Family Fun" is this year's county fair theme. The fair will be held August 4<sup>th</sup> thru the 8<sup>th</sup>. The July issue of the NEBLINE will feature the fair schedule and highlights. (GB)

**More topics for The Nufacts information Center**



**Information Center**

"HELPING YOU PUT KNOWLEDGE TO WORK"

*Fast, Convenient, Accessible  
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- Families and Parenting
- Family Finances
- Farming and Small Acreages
- Health
- Household Insects
- Housing and Clothing
- Nutrition and Food Safety
- Public Policy
- Water Quality
- Wildlife
- Yard and Garden
- Youth Development



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**(441-7188 in Lincoln area)**

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"Thank you for calling your University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension NUFACTS Information Center. NUFACTS is your reliable source of educational information available via your touch-tone telephone.

"To listen to a NUFACTS message **PRESS 1.**"

"To order a NUFACTS brochure **PRESS 3.**"

"To leave a comment about NUFACTS **PRESS 4.**"

"To exit the system **PRESS 5.**"

When directed, enter the 3-digit number of the voice message you wish to hear.

**Health**

- 743 The Value of Vitamin Pills
- 744 Treating Cataracts
- 745 Treating Incontinence
- 746 Use Caution When Cooking Outdoors
- 747 What You Should Know About Prescription Drugs
- 748 Maintaining a Proper Medicine Chest
- 749 Making the Medicine Go Down Easier
- 750 When Hiccups Won't Stop

**Household Insects**

- 751 Ant Control Using Baits
- 752 Bee and Wasp Control
- 753 Accidental Invaders: Boxelder Bugs and Elm Leaf Beetles
- 754 Carpenter Ants
- 755 Carpet Beetles and Clothes Moths
- 756 Chiggers
- 757 Clover Mites in the Home
- 758 Cockroach Control
- 759 Crickets
- 760 Drain Flies
- 761 House Dust Mites
- 762 Economics of Termite Control
- 763 Preventing Flea Problems

- 764 Fruit Flies
- 765 Grain Moths and Beetles in the Pantry
- 766 Human Lice
- 767 Insects in Firewood
- 768 Bugs That Bite in the Fall
- 769 Midges: Non-Biting Gnats
- 770 Millipedes, Centipedes and Pillbugs
- 771 Mosquito Bite Prevention
- 772 Spiders of Medical Importance
- 773 Swarming Ants and Termites
- 774 Ticks and Lyme Disease
- 775 Winter Flies in the Home
- 776 Wolf Spiders
- 777 Wood Roaches
- 778 Silverfish
- 779 Understanding Termite Baits

**Housing and Clothing**

- 825 Removing Tar Stain
- 826 Removing Mud Stain
- 827 Preventing Fabrics From Bleeding
- 828 Removing Mustard Stain
- 829 General Stain Removal

**Home Maintenance**

- 802 Cleaning Brass and Copper
- 803 Cleaning and Removing Odor From Refrigerators and Freezers
- 805 Fixing Burst or Frozen Pipes
- 806 No-Wax Vinyl Floor Care
- 807 Removing Hard Water Stains
- 808 Restoring Weathered Wood
- 809 Selecting Vinyl Siding for Your Home
- 810 Soap Scum Removal
- 870 Water Quality Can Affect Humidifiers
- 871 Lead-safe Home

**Waste Management**

- 611 Hazardous Waste Disposal
- 612 Recycling Tips
- 613 Shop S.M.A.R.T.
- 614 Waste Banned From Landfills

**Nutrition and Food Safety**

**Food Preservation**

- 300 Newer Canning Recommendations
- 301 Canning Vegetables Safely
- 302 Using a Boiling Water Bath
- 303 Keeping Canned Fruit From Floating
- 304 Safe Equipment for Making Pickles
- 305 Safe Vinegars for Pickling
- 306 Making Jam or Jelly From Frozen Fruit
- 307 Remedies for Jam and Jelly That Doesn't Set
- 308 Foods That Do Not Freeze Well
- 309 Blanching Vegetables — Why and How
- 310 Making Freezer Jam
- 311 Freezing Berries
- 312 Freezing Corn on the Cob
- 313 Canning Tomatoes Safely
- 314 Freezing Milk
- 315 Freezing Cheese
- 316 Quickly Remove Tomato Skins
- 317 Dangers of Open Kettle Canning

**Water Quality**

**Domestic Water Contaminants**

- 851 Drinking Water: Bacteria
- 852 Drinking Water: Hard Water
- 853 Drinking Water: Hydrogen Sulfide

## Join the fun!

Participate in the Kiddie Parade  
to be held at the Lancaster County Fair  
Keeping Families First Day

Saturday, August 7, 1999  
1:30-2 p.m.  
State Fair Park



Entries may be a walking unit, organization banner, clowns, pets, etc., but no larger than a Radio Flyer wagon. (LJ)  
Send entry to 5903 Walker Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68507 by July 1.

Club _____	Type of Entry _____
Contact Person _____	
Address _____	
Phone _____	

## Making character count!

Summer is here again and along with it comes summer camps. The theme for our 1999 summer youth camp is "Rocket to Good Decision Making." We are focusing on the enhancement of decision making skills based on the six pillars of the Character Counts! curriculum: caring, citizenship, fairness, responsibility, trustworthiness and respect.

The camps will run for two hours a day on two consecutive days. All kids ages 8-12 are invited to participate. 4-H membership is not required.

The following is a schedule of camp dates:

Denton Community Center and Park  
June 21 and 22, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Norris Elementary School-Multipurpose Room  
June 23 and 24, 10 a.m. to noon

Bennet Elementary School-Multipurpose Room  
June 28 and 29, 10 a.m. to noon

Waverly City Park (Community Room at City Offices Building in case of rain)  
July 7 and 8, 10 a.m. to noon

State Fair Park, Demonstration Rooms in Youth Complex  
August 11 and 12, 10 a.m. to noon (LJ)

### Registration Information

Registration fee is \$10 per child and must be enclosed with registration. Make check(s) payable to cooperative extension. This fee includes T-shirt, snack and materials. Registration deadline is **one week before each day camp**. If you have any questions, contact LaDeane Jha or Tim Vaughn at 441-7180. Please return the form and fee to:

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
Attention: LaDeane Jha  
444 Cherrycreek Road  
Lincoln, NE 68528-1507

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone & Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (dietary restrictions, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

We will be taking photos at the day camp. Will you allow your child's photo taken?  yes  no

This form may be reproduced as necessary.

Please check the camp you plan to attend.

June 21 and 22, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Denton Community Center and Park

June 23 and 24, 10 a.m. to noon

Norris Elementary School-Multipurpose Room

June 28 and 29, 10 a.m. to noon

Bennet Elementary School-Multipurpose Room

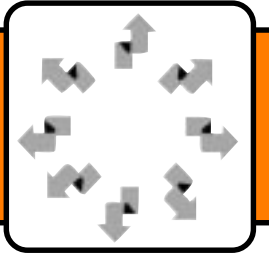
July 7 and 8, 10 a.m. to noon

Waverly City Park (Community Room at City Offices Building in case of rain)

August 11 and 12, 10 a.m. to noon

State Fair Park, Demonstration Rooms in Youth Complex

## Miscellaneous



## NuFacts Information Center

continued from page 10

- 854 Drinking Water: Iron and Manganese
- 855 Drinking Water: Lead
- 856 Drinking Water: Man-made Chemicals
- 857 Drinking Water: Nitrate-Nitrogen
- 858 Drinking Water: Sulfates
- 859 Drinking Water: Copper
- 860 Drinking Water: Fluoride
- 861 Drinking Water: Nitrate and Blue Baby Syndrome

### Water Quality and the Environment

- 865 Understanding Groundwater
- 866 Glossary of Water-related Terms
- 867 Best Management Practices for Agricultural Pesticides to Protect Water Quality
- 868 Plugging Abandoned Wells
- 869 Conserving Water in the Landscape
- 875 Shock Chlorination of Domestic Water Supplies

### Water Treatment

- 801 Buying a Water Softener
- 862 Is Bottled Water Safer Than Tap Water?
- 863 Storing Water for an Emergency
- 864 Emergency Water Purification
- 876 Water Treatment Equipment: a Buyer's Guide
- 877 Water Treatment Equipment: an Overview
- 878 Water Treatment Equipment: Test Water Before Buying

## Wildlife

- 700 Attracting Wildlife — Bat Houses
- 701 Bats
- 702 Beavers
- 703 Cleaning Up After Rodents
- 704 Damage From Woodpeckers and Flickers
- 705 Earthworms
- 706 Eastern Cottontail Rabbits
- 707 Garter Snakes in the House
- 708 Garter Snakes in the Yard
- 709 Ground Squirrels
- 710 Moles
- 711 Pigeons
- 712 Preventing Wildlife Damage in Landscapes
- 713 Skunks in Yard
- 714 Squirrels
- 715 Voles
- 716 Woodchucks or Groundhogs
- 717 Mouse Control in the Home
- 718 Hantavirus
- 719 Nuisance Birds
- 720 Attracting Wildlife — Birds

## Yard and Garden

### Compost

- 615 Composting Process
- 616 Composting Ingredients
- 617 Compost Building and Turning
- 618 Compost Use
- 619 Grasscycling
- 620 Organic Mulches

### Flowers

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 150 Perennials in Landscape | 163 Annual Flowers       |
| 151 Iris Care               | 164 Drying Flowers       |
| 152 Peony Care              | 165 Groundcovers         |
| 153 Cannas                  | 166 Tender Bulb Care     |
| 154 Wildflowers             | 167 Hostas               |
| 155 Vines in Landscape      | 168 Geraniums            |
| 156 Black Spot on Roses     | 169 Clematis             |
| 157 Winter Rose Care        | 170 Spring Bulb Forcing  |
| 158 Scented Geraniums       | 171 Improving Clay Soils |
| 159 Rock Gardens            | 172 Climbing Roses       |
| 160 Spring Bulb Planting    | 173 Rose Fertilizing     |
| 161 Fuchsia                 | 174 Butterfly Garden     |
| 162 Ferns                   | 175 Hanging Baskets      |

### Fruits

- |                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 230 Pruning Grapes          | 238 Strawberry Leaf Spot         |
| 231 Apple Maggot Control    | 239 Apple Harvesting             |
| 232 Everbearing Raspberries | 240 Pruning Apple Trees          |
| 233 Raspberry Anthracnose   | 241 Fruit Storage                |
| 234 Pruning Pear Trees      | 242 Pruning Peach Trees          |
| 235 Grafting                | 243 Harvesting Peaches and Pears |
| 236 Strawberry Winter Care  | 244 Why Fruit Trees Fail to Bear |
| 237 Strawberries            | 245 Apple Leaf Spot              |

In the July Neblin additional NuFacts topics will be listed.

# The NEBLINE

Nebraska Cooperative Extension  
Newsletter  
Lancaster County

THE NEBLINE is published monthly by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Rd., Lincoln, Nebraska, 68528-1507. Contact the extension office, (402) 441-7180 for more information.



Gary C. Bergman, Extension Educator—Unit Leader

NOTICE: All programs and events listed in this newsletter will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless noted otherwise. Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County.

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**Return to:**  
University of Nebraska  
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444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507

# Extension Calendar

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

- June 14**  
UNL Wheat Variety Plot Tour—*Toogood Farm* ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Extension Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- June 15**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Frontier Coop, Mead* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
4-H Beef, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Goat, Llama, Horse, Rabbit and Sheep I.D.'s Due
- June 15-18**  
4-H Clover College
- June 17**  
Fair Board Meeting ..... 7:30 p.m.
- June 18**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Farmers Coop, Waverly* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- June 21-22**  
Character Counts! Camp—*Denton Community Center and Park* ..... 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- June 22**  
4-H Cat Workshop ..... 7 p.m.
- June 23**  
Practice Lifetime Skills Judging ..... 1 p.m.  
Practice Demonstration ..... 2:30 p.m.
- June 23-24**  
Character Counts! Camp—*Norris Elementary School, Multipurpose Room* ..... 10 a.m.-noon
- June 24**  
District Horse Show—*Beatrice*
- June 25**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Firth Coop, Firth* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- June 28-29**  
Character Counts! Camp—*Bennet Elementary School, Multipurpose Room* ..... 10 a.m.-noon
- June 29**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Greenwood Farmers Coop, Greenwood* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- July 2**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Farmers Co-op Elevator Co., Fairbury* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- July 6**  
4-H Council Meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- July 7**  
4-H Horse VIPS Meeting ..... 7 p.m.  
4-H Livestock VIPS Meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- July 7-8**  
Character Counts! Camp—*Waverly City Park* ..... 10 a.m.-noon
- July 7-9**  
ExpoVisions '99—*Lincoln*
- July 8**  
PQA Training ..... 9-11 a.m.  
PAK-10 Poultry Judging Clinic and Contest—*UNL East Campus*  
4-H Rabbit VIPS Meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- July 9**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Farmers Co-op Elevator Co., Plymouth* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
All 4-H Animal Entries for the Lancaster County Fair Due
- July 11**  
4-H Ambassador Meeting ..... 1:45 p.m.  
4-H Teen Council Meeting—*Schepers* ..... 3-5 p.m.
- July 11-15**  
4-H State Horse Exposition—*Grand Island*
- July 12**  
Extension Board Meeting ..... 7:30 p.m.  
4-H Production Livestock Booster Club Meeting ..... 8 p.m.
- July 13**  
Pesticide Container Recycling—*Farmers Cooperative Co., Bennet* ..... 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- July 14**  
Horticulture, Grass & Weed I.D., Tree I.D. Contests ..... 10 a.m.-noon  
Lifetime Skills Contest ..... 1 p.m.
- July 15**  
Artificial Insemination Workshop ..... 8 a.m.-noon  
Fair Board Meeting ..... 7 p.m.

### Gaining cooperation

continued from page 7

get yourself in trouble. For example, suppose the temperature is 32 degrees outside, Erin is going out to play, and you say, "Erin, don't you want to put your coat on? It is real cold outside!" What are you going to do if she says, "No?" You will get better results if you say, "Put your coat on before you go outside." Then, if she says "No," you can tell her that she cannot go outside unless she puts her coat on.

Giving choices is a way to prevent misbehavior and at the same time, help your child learn to make decisions. (LJ)

### Focus on Food

continued from page 6

(Source: University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Services, "Botulism: It Only Takes A Taste," Fact Sheet HE-8198, May 1991.)

If you don't own a pressure canner, can't borrow one or find access to one, then your only option is to freeze the food.

If you are planning to can, be aware that the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) revised its canning guidelines September 1994. Canning instructions based on materials printed before then may be unsafe. (AH)

### Summer: A time to make neighborhood connections

continued from page 7

neighbors lawn, share some fresh flowers from your garden, buy some lemonade from that lemonade stand, offer to babysit for a few hours, plan a neighborhood ice cream social—the list is limitless. Make connections, get to know young people and enhance the quality of life for yourself and others by your enthusiasm and positive outlook. (LJ)

