1-1990

The NEBLINE, January 1990

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Home Extension Scholarships Available

Homemaker grants and scholarships for persons planning to continue their education are available through the Home Extension Council. Application forms are available at the Cooperative Extension Office. Following is a brief explanation of each scholarship.

A $150 Homemaker's Education Grant is sponsored by Nebraska County of Home Extension Clubs. Applicants should have sincere intentions to enroll in any institution of higher education in Nebraska. Grant can be used for classes or correspondence courses leading to an academic degree, vocational training or completing high school. Must be used between June 1, 1990 and December 31, 1990. Applications due by February 15, 1990.

A $275 scholarship for a graduate of a high school in Lancaster County or a permanent resident of Lancaster County majoring in a home economics degree program. Open to full-time students that will be beginning their sophomore, junior or senior year in college during the fall of 1990. Applications due April 2, 1990.

A $125 scholarship for a graduate of a high school in Lancaster County or a permanent resident of Lancaster County, enrolled in Food Service Management, Dietetics Technology or Child Care Services at Southeast Community College. Applicants must be full-time students who have completed two quarters of study, with a grade-point average of 2.5 or above. Applications due April 2, 1990.

A $100 scholarship for a homemaker returning to school, sponsored by the Jolly Dozen Extension Club of Waverly. Applications due April 2, 1990.

CRP Fire Concerns

Farmers and landowners with fields seeded to grass in the Conservation Reserve Program should be concerned about fire prevention and safety on CRP acres. Extreme dry conditions this fall has resulted in a very hazardous potential for uncontrolled fires.

Of major concern are CRP acres seeded to native grasses in fields close to populated areas. Some of these grasses grow four or five feet in height and are often too thick to walk through. Because CRP acres are not normally grazed or cut for hay, an enormous amount of fuel builds up as debris and dry standing grass.

These conditions raise the fire risk category to the highest extremes. The rule of thumb concerning grass fires is that the fire will be four times higher than the height of the grass. If grass four feet tall burns, the fire would be 16 feet in the air. Add wind to the fire scene and flames move, perhaps toward a building. The situation is compounded in Lancaster County because of the large number of homes in the rural areas surrounding Lincoln.

When CRP acres are planted to grasses, the local fire department should be advised that flammable grasses have been planted where soil and crops stood before. The landowner also should advise fire authorities of water sources available, such as ponds, streams, stock tanks, and cisterns. It is important, too, that fire fighters know how to access the fields and the location of buildings and homes adjacent to the property.

Recycle Christmas Tree Into a Plant Protector

The serviceable life of your cut Christmas tree isn't necessarily over when you pull off the last string of lights and drag the tree out of the house. Instead of tossing it into the trash, you can recycle it as a wintertime plant protector.

Place Christmas tree branches over a layer of straw mulch or leaves atop bulb and perennial beds. There they will catch snow and help insulate the beds against deep freezing and early spring thawing. Both can damage bulbs and the roots of landscape plants. You can also use the whole tree as a plant protector. Fasten it to a sturdy stake on the southwest side of a rhododendron or other broadleaf evergreen to shade it. This will help prevent desiccation (severe drying out of the foliage) by bright winter sun.

If you have no uses for the tree, be sure to take it to one of the several recycling sites offered by the Parks and Recreation Department. The trees will be recycled as a mulching material in the parks.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 33
Lincoln, NE 68529

Housing Assistance Available

The Lincoln Housing Authority is now offering assistance to home owners and renters county wide. This new service will provide landlords a steady income on their rental property. At the same time assistance is provided to income eligible families.

Housing will be inspected to insure quality health and safety standards are met according to HUD guidelines. After inspection a house will then be eligible for occupancy by a qualifying family.

Contact Teresa Bergman at Lincoln Action Program, 471-4615, for further information.

Teens in Action (Designed for teens by teens)

Co-sponsored by Camp Fire Inc. and 4-H
Saturday, January 13
Lincoln Electric System
9:15 a.m. - Registration
9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Cost: $8 includes pizza, refreshments, and a Teens in Action T-shirt. Contact the extension office to register.

Lancaster County 4-Hers, Christy Carver and Krista Vancos, along with teens from Camp Fire Inc. in Lincoln, participated in a three day workshop in Minneapolis, Minne­sota on teen stress and suicide prevention.

These teens, together with adult sponsors, Terry Bailey and Gwen Thorpe, have designed a day to help youth learn how to be a good friend to someone who is stressed and depressed. Participants will learn positive ways to intervene if they suspect a suicide attempt.

The program is based on the "Tackling the Tough Stuff" program which was developed by the Minnesota Extension Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Medical School.

Invest a day to learn how to help your friends! Register now!
Upcoming Nutrition Programs

Wednesday, February 14, 7 - 8:30 p.m. — "Healthy Water: Safe or Unsafe." Participants will discuss the importance of safe drinking water and learn about the health implications of waterborne illnesses. Snacks will be served.

Classes in microwave cooking will be offered on Wednesdays, February 21 and 28, from 1 - 3 p.m. Participants will learn to make breakfast, luncheon and dinner menus using the microwave. Freehand drawings will be used to construct curtains or draperies for your home.

Preregistration by January 15, 471-7180. Cost of $4 will be payable at class time.

Microwave Cooking Classes

Classes in microwave cooking will be offered on Wednesdays, February 21 and 28, from 1 - 3 p.m. Participants will learn to make breakfast, luncheon and dinner menus using the microwave. Freehand drawings will be used to construct curtains or draperies for your home.

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Commercial Applicators Pesticide Training

Applicants who use or supervise the use of restricted use pesticides on any property not owned or rented by themselves are considered commercial applicators. This includes someone applying restricted use pesticides as employees for hire.

Initial commercial applicator training will be conducted at the following sites. To register for an initial commercial applicator training session, send $50.00 to Larry D. Schubert, extension specialist-pesticide training, 101 Natural Resources Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0818. Phone 472-1626. Registration is required 10 days in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>01 Ag. Plant</td>
<td>Omaha 8015 W Center Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>04 Ornamental &amp; Turf, 09 Public Health</td>
<td>Omaha 8015 W Center Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 8</td>
<td>01 Ag. Plant</td>
<td>Lincoln Extension Office (Crop Protection Clinic), 444 Cherry Creek Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>04 Ornamental &amp; Turf, 09 Public Health</td>
<td>Omaha 8015 W Center Rd. (Douglas County Extension office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>02 Ag. Animal, 08 Structural, 09 Public Health</td>
<td>Lincoln Nebraska Center 33rd &amp; Holdrege</td>
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Conservation Tillage Area Meetings

Area conservation tillage meetings are set for three locations in the Lancaster County vicinity. Compliance deadlines for the 1985 Food Security Act (Farm Bill) requirements are here and now its time to begin the implementation process.

Conservation tillage is one of the least costly methods of reducing soil erosion and is becoming commonly accepted as a way of crop production. Conservation tillage systems are those that provide at least 30 percent residue cover after tillage and planting. The purpose of these meetings is to provide practical information for managing conservation tillage systems for individual farming situations.

The following meetings are currently scheduled for the Lancaster County area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>Gideon Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>First National Bank &amp; Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>Village Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>Sokol Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>08 Structural</td>
<td>Grange Hall</td>
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The maximum registration fee for these workshops should be $10 ($5 for the 1/2 day meetings). The fee includes registration, proceedings and refreshments. Local financial support may lower the fee at some meetings.

Managing Windbreaks

A windbreak workshop will be held Thursday, January 18, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. Jim Brandle, professor of forestry at the University of Nebraska, will speak on managing the results of his research, as well as Dennis Adams, district forester, Val Bohaty and Gary Kuhin, SCS representatives, Rich Lockwood, representative, and Pat Cole, Game and Park representative, and a local farmer. This workshop is sponsored by the Nebraskaland Windbreak Program, Sustainable Agriculture Society. There is no registration fee for this training.

Private Applicator Pesticide Training

Private applicators are those who use or supervise the use of any restricted use pesticide for producing agricultural commodities on property owned or rented by themselves. This includes farmers, gardeners, Christmas tree growers and hired farm laborers.

Producers wishing to apply restricted use pesticides must possess a federally issued applicator permit. If your card is dated 1990 or earlier you must have it renewed this year (1990). Applicators are strongly encouraged to attend a training session regardless of the type of pesticides they use. Training sessions for initial and Recertification will be held at the sites listed. The training is free of charge. No registration is necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Hidden Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Raymond Fire Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Waverly-Lancaster County Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
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Block Grants Available

Community Development Block Grants used to be city talk. Don’t let the title fool you. Grants for economic development are available to rural Lancaster County farms and businesses and the county commissioners and is administered by Lincoln Action Program.

Loans are available for land acquisition, building construction, and acquisition of machinery and equipment. A minimum of 15% owner equity is required. Loans are generally for 10 years. The interest rate may be as low as 5% of the rate charged by your primary lender. The loan term may be up to 10 years or less if the loan asset is less than those who are served.

If you are thinking about expanding your business or farming operation we encourage you to check with Lincoln Action Corp. for details. Approximately $300,000 is available for business expansion and start-up in rural Lancaster County. Special emphasis is placed on manufacturing companies and agriculture related businesses and those owned by women, minority, or disabled persons.

Crop Focus ’90

Mark your calendars for Crop Focus ’90 which will take place February 3, 4, 6, 9, and 13 at the VFW Hall. Topics to be discussed will include best crop management practices to prevent water contamination along with timely crop production information. Additional details will be available in the February Nebline.

Farm Management Seminars

A series of three seminars addressing specific farm management topics is scheduled for February 15, 1990. Each seminar session will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. The cost of the series is $5/session or $10 for all three sessions. Please call 471-7180 to pre-register.

Topics to be discussed during the seminars will include:

1. Utilizing production costs and financial tools (ie. cashflow) to help a farmer remain competitive with other income tax information and financial management;

2. Implementing a farm marketing plan;

3. Discussing ways to increase personal wealth through estate planning and retirement planning.

Additional details will be available in local newspapers and the Nebline. Transportation will be available at special sites. A combination of the three sites will be available at a special site. Please call 471-7180 to attend those planning to attend. Attendees should report to the VFW Hall.

Crop Farm Briefings

Four farm program briefings are scheduled to update producers on program criteria for 1990. Representatives from the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will be present to answer questions. The program briefing sites are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Hickman</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Raymond</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Lancaster County Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Waverly</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Private applicator pesticide training sessions are conveniently scheduled at these sites following the program briefings. Pesticide training will begin at 1 p.m.

Urban Wildlife Management

An informational meeting concerning management of urban wildlife will be held on February 5, beginning at 7 p.m. Speakers will include Ron Johnson, extension wildlife specialist, Scott Hygstrom, extension vertebrate specialist, Garry Guth, Virtus, and Gary Wells, Game and Parks Commission. Kerk Gustard, Animal Damage Control, and Ann Kelley, National Wildlife Federation.

The purpose of this meeting is to show wildlife needs and help you understand them. This information may then be used to enhance wildlife in backyards or may be used for wildlife damage control. Species to be discussed will include moles, pocket gophers, ground squirrels, woodpeckers, skunks, raccoons, starlings, bats, etc. A $5.00 non-refundable enrollment which will be asked to you to indicate your specific needs for wildlife management. Please call Dave at 471-7180 for further information.

Ag Update

Agricultural News & Events

Don D. Miller, Ext. Agent, Chair
Walter Shadix, Ext. Agent, Ag
David Vaner, Ext. Agent, Ag
Teen Council

Teen Council will hold its January meeting Sunday, January 14, 2:30 p.m. All youth 12 and older are invited to attend. Officers for the 1990 year are President - Mike Schepers; Vice President - Damon Schepers; Secretary - Lana Steinshreuer; Treasurer - Christy Garver; Social Committee Coordinator - Krista Prichett; Social Committee members - Carrie Hershaw, Kristen Schepers, James Hertlein, Tyler Hall, Page Barnbach, Erin Grosshans, Aaron Shead, and Stephanie Richmond. Program planning for the year will be the business of the January meeting. New members are welcome. Come join the fun.

4-H Animal News

4-H Horse Indoor Day
Saturday, January 13, will be a day of interest for all youth and adults involved with the 4-H horse program in Lancaster County. This activity will include an update meeting in the morning and a horse care workshop in the afternoon.

Everyone is invited to attend the 4-H Horse VIPS Committee meeting at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to complete program planning for all horse activities to be conducted this coming year. Items to consider will include workshops and clinics, horse judging and other contests, horse shows, fund raising activities, and other matters of concern. Remember, you don’t have to be selected to be a member of the VIPS committee and it does not mean you have to become a member by visiting a meeting. Membership is open to any youth or adult willing to accept added responsibilities. However, if you are a leader, these meetings are the best source of information for you and your club.

During the noon break, we will send out for pizza for people not bringing their own lunch. The cost will be prorated.

The afternoon will be a workshop on health and nutrition for horses. A veterinarian will talk about health and nutrition and other matters of concern.

4-H and FFA Market Beef Weigh Day
The 4-H and FFA market beef weighing and tagging day will be Saturday, February 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the fairgrounds. If anyone has a conflict with Saturday, a time can be set up to weigh calves on Friday, February 16. The Beef VIPS Committee will be setting up the scales and checking Friday afternoon. All is appreciated. Call Kevin for times.

All market beef projects must be weighed and tagged at the weigh day. A day is available scheduled for February 24. The snow day will be used only if a storm prohibits weighing on February 17.

4-H Horse Indoor Day

Bread Baking Fun
Learn the basic techniques of making bread at a special workshop Monday, January 15, 1 to 3:30 p.m. This session will cover using project leaders, junior and senior bread making, and the Chris Clover award program. Part 2 training will be Monday, February 27th at 7 p.m. If you aren’t registered for the January meeting, you may attend part 2 even if you haven’t attended part 1. All leaders and parents are invited to attend and share ideas.

Laughter As The Best Medicine
A laugh a day truly may keep the doctor away. Doctors tell us that the physiological effects of laughter affect every part of the body. Oxygen floods the blood, the cardiovascular system dilates, the muscles relax, the diahyram constricts and the internal organs even get massaged.

When we laugh, heart rate and blood pressure speed up. Afterward these sink below previous measured levels and we feel more relaxed. Scientists suggest that this increases productions of endorphins, the natural pain relieving, euphoria-producing chemical in the brain.

Author Norman Cousins, when faced with a life-threatening disease, discovered an anaesthetic effect and allowed him at least two hours of pain-free sleep.

Regardless of your belief in the benefits of a good laugh, you probably don’t hurt to laugh—unless you laugh so hard you fall out of your chair.

4-H Camp Counselor

If you are at least 14 years old and interested in helping at a 4-H camp now is the time to submit an application. This year’s training will be held Thursday, January 25, for making bread from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The Best Medicine workshop Monday, January 28, for teaching junior and senior bread making and the Chris Clover award program. Part 2 training will be Monday, February 27th at 7 p.m. If you aren’t registered for the January meeting, you may attend part 2 even if you haven’t attended part 1. All leaders and parents are invited to attend and share ideas.
Tress Suffer in Ice and Snow

Heavy snow can also cause limb breakage, particularly on coniferous trees and shrubs. If it hasn't buried the plant, try shaking or brushing off the snow. If the tree of bush is too large, it usually should snow cover the snow mass begins to settle. This is especially true on houseplants. In this situation, remove the snow or at least break the snow crust around the plant. This relieves much of the settling pressure of the snow mass.

Repair ice or snow damage as soon as weather permits. Remove any broken branches by making a smooth prunings cutting at the point where the broken branch joins another main branch. Trees with split forks or crotches can sometimes be repaired. If dead wood is too severe, allow the type of repair may require special bolting and bracing.

Seed Catalogs

If you've always bought your vegetable and flower seeds at the local grocery store, you've probably found one of the most enjoyable parts of gardening — perusing the seed catalogs. From shopping from seed catalogs offers several advantages. Variety is the key. Seed catalogues offer many more varieties than you could purchase today as seeds or transplants.

Convenience is another. Ordering early from the mail is much easier than driving to the garden center in the spring. By the time you've assembled the complete chemical breakdown, you should have the first frost. The hydrangeas will possess no danger to your garden, crops and birds.

House Plants May Need Pruning

Pruning is a task most gardeners think of in the spring, when outdoor plants are growing vigorously and using more water.

To avoid overwatering, feel the soil before you add water. If the soil feels dry, add it. If it feels wet, add none — it is probably dry and the condition of the plant itself. If it is wet, water and flabby, then it probably needs water. But check the soil, too, just to be sure the plant is not too hot at the roots have rotted from being overwatered.

If a plant dries out rapidly, it may need to be repotted in a larger container. A pot with a mass of roots with very little soil showing indicates the plant needs repotting.

Questions and Answers

Q. Can I grow fomes from spores?

A. Yes. Start by collecting the spores. They're contained in the spots on the undersides, tips or edges of the plant.

R. No, with a slight qualification. Herbicides used alone or in combination for broadleaf weed control in lawns and noncrop areas — 2,4-D, atrazine, simazine, and isopropyl will work) always-direct the blower discharge away from houses and buildings, small gardens, trees, and other plants that could get caught in the snowblower.

Those plants that need occasional pinching to keep them from becoming long and leggy are coleus, begonias, most geraniums, fuchsias, and pelargoniums.

Begin pruning before a plant's stem gets long and gangly.

On-the-Grow

Horticulture News

& Recommendations

Don Janssen
Extension Agent, Horticulture

More horticulture news on page 6
Plan Flowers for Drying

August is no time to decide you should have planted flowers for drying in the spring. Now, while the seed catalogs are coming in and the garden plants are taking shape, is the time to choose what you’ll plant.

Seed catalogs often group together flowers that are especially good for drying. Check the indexes for listings like "everlasting flowers." In a catalog that lists flowers strictly by species, look for the following annuals: strawflowers, statice, annual larkspur, manigold, dusty miller, cockscomb, and calendula. All these flowers dry nicely hung upside-down in bunches or stood upright in jars.

Perennials that dry well by this technique include astilbe, baby’s breath, lavender, lemon verbena, flowering onion, bearded iris, and daylilies.

For drying in sand or breeze, consider annual asters, balsams (Touch-Me-Not), candytuft, Canterbury bells (a biennial), annual dianthus, coreopsis, cornflower, cosmos, delphinium, pimpernel, zinnias, irises, lily-of-the-field, tulips and fritillaries. If you cut the flowers or fruits before they wilt, they will dry well.

Annuals are grown now from seed each year. Some are available as house- or garden-plants, while others are plants seeded as seed in the garden. Biennials take two years to grow, flower, and then produce seed. They are often planted from seed in the fall. Perennials may be planted as seeds, plants, bulbs, corms or tubers. Except for dahlia, which must be lifted and stored for the winter, they do not store well, so don’t freeze, most perennials can be left in the ground year after year and be relied on to send forth new growth each spring. Order your seeds and plants and plan your flower garden now; you’ll have plenty of raw materials for drying and arranging later.

Seed Catalogs (from page 5)

settle for other than your first choice.

Timeliness is another advantage. Once you have your seeds, you can start them anytime and so have transplants ready to go as early or as late as you want them.

Don’t overlook catalogs as a source of gardening information. Many home and garden topics including the care of various crops, offered catalogs include information on how to grow them, when to plant, proper planting space and culture of various crops.

Not the least of the benefits of shopping seed catalogs is that you can avoid the mind off winter and bad weather by looking at color pictures of flowers and vegetables.

Seed catalogs can also provide you with everything you need to start plants from seed, control pests and work the soil, as well as house plants, bulbs, landscape ornaments and food preservation aids.

If you have newer backyard catalogs, add the following address of mail-order seed companies are also available from the Cooperative Extension Office. Companies that sell seeds and plants by mail offer more detailed gardening materials, all the right kind of information.

Stone-Washed/Acid-Washed Guidelines

There are ways to achieve that popular look. As the name implies, stone washing involves tumbling the fabric with pumice stones, resulting in abrasion of the fabric, especially in seam areas and near-holes. If eating more of your calories earlier in the day may be attributed to removing a victim is to have a heavy duty cutting tool which is capable of cutting auger tubing, making it possible to free the victim.

Stone-Washed Acid-Washed Guidelines are a new Backyard Farmer Calendar. All the features in the Backyard Farmer Calendar for 1990 are available at the Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County.

Features in the 1990 Backyard Farmer Calendar include state maps which show the average last spring and first fall freeze dates across Nebraska. The calendar also contains state maps which show the average last spring and first fall freeze dates across Nebraska. The calendar includes a list of county fairs and county fair dates.

Companies that sell seeds and plants by mail offer more detailed gardening materials, all the right kind of information.

Meal Patterns for Maximum Weight Loss

If you’ve been starving yourself to lose weight, take heart! Types and timing of food may affect your weight as much as total calories consumed. According to research reported in "Environmental Nutrition," you will be more likely to lose weight if you eat: 1) a lower calorie diet, and 3) the meal late in the day.

Your body is less efficient at converting carbohydrate to body fat than changing fat to body fat. For excess fat calories, however, your body uses only three percent of them to fuel the change body fat.

Climatically, obese patients seem to be better off with smaller, more frequent meals," says Kelly Brownell, Ph.D., with the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Eating less at your evening meal may also help weight loss. Six volunteers at the University of Minnesota were led to believe that dinner was a week and then doubled it. After eating only dinner, one of the men only diet; four gained weight on the dinner only diet. While eating only breakfast is not recommended, it does suggest that eating more of your calories earlier in the day may help you lose weight.

Home Treatments Available to Make Water Safe to Drink

If you are concerned about the health risks of your private water system or well, and your home’s drinking water, you have an alternative to bottled drinking water. You can purchase water treatment equipment which can remove contaminants, such as chemicals or metals.

One of the major concerns about water in Nebraska is nitrate contamination. There are two primary water treatment products available which can be used to remove nitrates from water used for cooking and drinking. These water treatment products have been a popular item in the plumbing sections of the stores because water to the faucet commonly used for drinking and cooking water — usually the kitchen. Some countertop models are also available.

The first type of treatment is reverse osmosis. This procedure removes up to 95 percent of all inorganic chemicals, such as nitrates. The process uses water pressure to force the water through a semi-permeable membrane. As the water passes through the membrane, the contaminants are filtered out and the "dirty" water is drained away. The treated water is kept in a holding tank until needed.

The second method available to remove nitrate is distillation. This treatment also removes most organic chemicals and bacteria. A distiller heats water to boiling. The steam is piped through condensing coils, and then the nearly pure water is collected into a separate tank. The contaminants are left in the boiling tank.

Both methods treat only a limited quantity of water at a time. To learn more about using water treatment equipment, call the Cooperative Extension Service in Lancaster County at 471-7180 and ask for the WebGuide called "Home Water Treatment Systems."
Husker Feed Grains and Soybean Conference

The 1990 Husker Feed Grains and Soybean Conference is scheduled for January 30-February 2 in Kearney, Nebraska. The conference is designed to provide information and insight into the world of feed grains and soybean farming, to help farmers make informed decisions about their crops. The conference will cover topics such as crop production, crop protection, crop utilization, and crop marketing. It will also provide a forum for discussion and networking among farmers, agronomists, and researchers.

The conference will feature a diverse range of speakers and presenters, including university professors, industry experts, and government officials. Their presentations will cover topics such as the latest crop production practices, the role of soybeans in the global market, and the impact of climate change on crop yields.

The Husker Feed Grains and Soybean Conference is a great opportunity for farmers to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in their field and to network with other farmers and experts. It is a must-attend event for anyone involved in feed grains and soybean farming.
The Nebline

Extension Calendar

January/February

All programs and events will be held at the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County unless otherwise noted.

January

5 Private Applicators Pesticide Training 9 a.m. to noon
8 Crop Protection Clinic 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
8 Commercial Applicators Pesticide Reniformation 7:15 p.m.
4 4-H Computer Club 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.
10 Farm/Ranch Landowners Update 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
11 Nebraska Forage & Grassland Council Day (East Campus Union) 7 to 9 p.m.
11 Care Givers Support Group 9 to 11 a.m.
13 Basic Sewing Class (part 1) 9:30 a.m.
13 4-H Horse Indoor Day 1 to 3:30 p.m.
13 Horse Pasture Management 9:15 p.m.
14 Teens in Action 2:30 p.m.
14 Teen Council 1 p.m.
15 Broadening Workshop 7 to 9 p.m.
16 Facing Our Future (part 1) 7 to 3:30 p.m.
17 Fish & Shore 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
18 New 4-H Leader Orientation - Part 2 1 to 5 p.m.
18 Window Treatment Workshop 7 to 10 p.m.
19 Private Applicators Pesticide Training 8 to 10 a.m.
20-21 MidWinter Escape Camp 9 to 11 a.m.
20 Basic Sewing Class (part 2) 7 to 9 p.m.
22 Home Extension Club Council Meeting 7:30 to 10 p.m.
22 Facing Our Future (part 2) 9:30 a.m. to noon
23 Farm/Ranch Landowners Update 1 to 4 p.m.
25 Farm Program Briefing, Hickman Community Center 1 to 3 or 7 to 9 p.m.
25 Private Applicators Pesticide Training, Hickman Community Center 9 to 11 a.m.
25 Ideal Silhouette Workshop 9 to 11 a.m.
25 Ideal Silhouette Workshop 9 to 11 a.m.
27 Basic Sewing Class (part 3) 9 to 11 a.m.
27 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training 9 to 11 a.m.
30 Beef VIPS 7:30 p.m.
30 Exploring 4-H Activities 7 p.m.
30 Farm Program Briefing, Raymond Fire Station 9:30 a.m. to noon
30 Private Applicators Pesticide Training, Raymond Fire Station 1 to 4 p.m.
30 Planning Your Lifestyle Home Extension Leader Training 1 to 7 p.m.
30 Facing Our Future (part 3) 7 to 9 p.m.

February

5 Wildlife Management Workshop 7 to 9 p.m.
5 Basic Sewing Class 7 to 9 p.m.
6 Crop Focus 90, Ashland-VFW 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
6 Crop Focus 90, Ashland-VFW 7 to 9 p.m.
6 New 4-H Leader Orientation - Part 1 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.
7 Farm Program Briefing, Waverly-Lancaster County Bank 9:30 a.m. to noon
7 Private Applicators Pesticide Triage, Waverly-Lancaster Co. Bank 1 to 4 p.m.
7 Ideal Silhouette Workshop 1 to 3 or 7 to 9 p.m.
7 Ideal Silhouette Workshop 9 to 11 a.m.
7 Basic Sewing Class (part 3) 9 to 11 a.m.
7 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training 9 to 11 a.m.
7 Kaleidoscope Magic Camp 9:45 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.
9-11 K9 Handler Workshop 1 to 4 p.m.
9-11 4-H Leader Orientation - Part 1 9:30 a.m. to noon
9-11 Kaleidoscope Magic Camp 1 to 4 p.m.
10 Farm Program Briefing 9:30 a.m. to noon
10 Private Applicators Pesticide Training 1 to 4 p.m.
10 Teen Council 2:30 p.m.
11 4-H Computer Club 7:15 p.m.
13 Commercial Applicators Pesticide Training (initial) 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
13 Commercial Applicators Pesticide Training (final) 7 to 9 p.m.
14 4-H Speech Workshop 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
14 Healthy Wholesome Salads 7 to 8:30 p.m.
15 Winter Management Series (Part II), Ceresco-Village Hall 7 to 8:30 p.m.
16 Getting to the Heart of Cholesterol & Kids 11 to 12 p.m.
17 National Alfalfa Symposium, Comhusker Hotel 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
17 National Alfalfa Symposium, Comhusker Hotel 9 a.m. to noon
17 Market Beef Weigh Day 8:15 a.m. to noon
19 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, First-Community Center 12:45 to 4 p.m.
20 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Geneva 1 to 3 or 7 to 9 p.m.
20 Fiftieth Birthday Celebration 7 to 9 p.m.
21 Facing Our Future (part 6) 12:45 to 4 p.m.
21 Facing Our Future (part 6) 7 to 9 p.m.
21 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Syracuse-First National Bank 12:45 to 4 p.m.
22 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Wilbur-Okolok Hall 1 to 3 p.m.
22 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Ceresco-Village Hall 8 a.m. to noon
22 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Ceresco-Village Hall 1 to 4 p.m.
22 Irrigation Short Course, Geneva 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
23 Area Conservation Tillage Meeting, Wilbur-Okolok Hall 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
23 New 4-H Leader Orientation - Part 2 7 p.m.
23 Microwave Cooking Class 1 to 3 p.m.

The 1989 Lancaster County Extension Board (from left to right) Carol Talcott (Secretary), Cal Ward, Marilyn Palmer, Don Leising (President), Helen Sellentin, Jerry Minchow, Marilyn Scheipers, Richard Wiese, and David Doeschot (Vice President).

Winterizing Skid Loaders

Regular maintenance plans for skid loaders should already include daily joint lubrication and greasing. Oil, coolant, filters, hand brakes, seat and seat-bar actuated switches should be checked routinely.

But, winter requires some pre-season preparation and adds a few steps to the regular routine. The following tips may be used to develop a checklist for diesel powered engines:

Tighten and clean the battery terminals and cables. Use a battery cable sealant, not grease, on the terminals.

Top off the fuel tank frequently. During cold weather, topping off the fuel tank can help prevent condensation, which can cause equipment failure. Isooctyl-based products are more expensive than methanol-type, but they do a better job of removing moisture.

The following tips may be used to develop a checklist for diesel powered engines:

Check the timing.

Clean the plugs and points.

Fuel is the most important component to watch on diesel powered loaders. Use good quality, winter-grade fuel. Do not use gasoline to dilute the diesel fuel because this mixture can create an explosion inside the injector nozzle. Gasoline doesn't have lubricating properties like diesel fuel, so its use will drastically increase injection pump wear.

Install water traps in the fuel line if the diesel loader isn't equipped with them. To prevent freeze-ups, drain the traps as soon as the weather gets cold.

Check the glow plugs or starting aids. Take them to a dealer if they are not operating properly.

The NEBLINE

Nebraska Cooperative Extension Newsletter

Lancaster County

The Nebline is edited by Mark D. Hendricks, Extension Assistant, Media, and published monthly by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68528. For more information, contact Mark Hendricks at (402) 471-7180.

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Backyard Farmer Catalog

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<th>Price</th>
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<td>10 each</td>
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