

NEWS AND NOTES

MARINE ECOLOGY COURSE. The Sea and Shores of Fundy is the name of a course to be offered Sept. 13 to 19, 1980 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Among topics on the program are use and conservation of coastal resources, implications for international fisheries, and abundance of life in the sea. The course is organized by Sunbury Shores Arts and Nature Centre in conjunction with the Huntsman Marine Laboratory and the Biological Station in St. Andrews. The program will be developed through laboratory sessions, informal discussion, background reading and field trips. For further information write to Sunbury Shores Arts and Nature Centre, St. Andrews, N.B., EOG 2X0.

OF HARES AND HAIRS by David Cairns

The familiar four-legged hopping creature of Island woodlots and thickets is called a what? To a biologist, this menace of orchards and delight of foxes is known as a hare, but to everyone else, the name is rabbit.

Why then are the biologists so obstinate in their appellation? It has to do, at least partly, with hairs. Hares, unlike rabbits, are born haired and, in the case of our hares, this coat changes colour every spring and fall. Hares also spend all of their time above ground, whereas rabbits are burrowing creatures. (Hence the necessity of wire mesh floor under the tame rabbit hutch.)

So hares are hares for a good reason. But if you can't bring yourself to use this term, you may call them all bunnies.



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Signs of fair weather: high clouds, wind from the west, evening rainbow, clear sunset. And foul: red sky in the morning, strong south wind with clouds from the west, distant sounds carry with clarity, wind from the east.

