



HARVESTING PEAS

Slugs cause heavy damage to farm and garden crops

Slugs annually cause considerable losses to farm, garden and greenhouse crops, especially in wet seasons and in humid regions. They eat the foliage, are particularly fond of the tender young shoots, and feed on ripe fruit, especially strawberries.

Slugs feed almost entirely at night, though some species may feed on a dull day. They and their eggs are very resistant to extremes of weather, as they are hidden in the soil and under protective objects when conditions are unfavorable. Two species, the gray garden slug and

the brown slug, are the principal offenders in most of Canada. Several other species occur mainly in greenhouses or in the humid coastal regions of British Columbia.

These gray and brown species when fully grown and extended, seldom exceed two to three inches in length. They cannot be distinguished by their color, as it varies in different localities, and their feeding habits are similar.

Slugs are completely dependent on hiding places for protection from heat and predators. To keep them out, eliminate rubbish, boards, boxes, stones,

fertilizer bags and the like; keep grass and weeds cut short and crop remnants cleaned up; and when cultivating soil, break it down to a fine tilth and a compact surface before seeding.

PLANT PROTECTION

Protect small plantings or valuable plants with collars of wire fly screen set in the soil and projecting an inch or so above the surface with the cut edge uppermost. Strips of fly screen may also be tacked to the upper edge of a cold frame or flat, with the cut edge projecting upward. Traps are useful and may consist of pieces of thick bark, small boards and the like laid on the ground. Each day, collect and destroy the slugs that gather beneath them.

Metalddehyde is one of the most commonly used chemical controls. You may obtain it as a prepared bait either pelleted or unpelleted. Or, you may make your own bait by thoroughly mixing two ounces of powdered metalddehyde with four quarts of bran, shorts or oatmeal. Apply dry or slightly moistened. You may broadcast it or place a teaspoonful every few feet, beneath or near the plants to be protected. Do this on a warm evening in clear weather. Rain will destroy the baits. Re bait two or three times at weekly intervals. Liquid metalddehyde (50 per cent) may also be used. Mix it with water, one tablespoon per gallon, and sprinkle on the soil in the evening. One gallon will treat about 100 square feet.

CHEAP METHOD

A copper-lime dust is also effective and less costly than metalddehyde. Mix one part by volume of dehydrated copper sulphate with 10 parts of hydrated lime. Apply late in the evening in warm, clear weather. Use a dust-gun for small areas. One pound of dust will treat about 500 feet of row or 1000 square feet.

Various residual insecticides applied as dusts or wettable powders have also proved effective.

Urge restrictions on copper imports

LONDON (AP)—The British government and industrialists called urgent talks today to consider possible restrictions on copper imports after huge price increases by Zambia and Chile, the main producers.

Financial commentators forecast the increases could add £70,000,000 (\$219,000,000) to Britain's import bill. Higher prices were forecast for cars, heating and plumbing systems, and television and radio sets.

Increases became inevitable with the Zambian producers' decision to stop selling at the fixed price of £336 (\$1,068) a ton and instead return to the free market price fixed at the London metal exchange.

The London price closed Friday at £336 (\$1,068) a ton. With more copper coming on to the free market it is expected to settle at around £300 (\$1,500) a ton.

Douglas Jay, president of the government's board of trade, already has power to limit copper imports by decree. The effect of possible restrictions is under study by the confederation of British industry, with whom the government would work out any "rationing" program.

SEVERAL SUBSTITUTES Britain uses about 750,000 tons of copper annually, nearly half of it from Zambia. The main

British consumer, the electrical industry, is looking for ways to switch to substitutes like aluminum or stainless steel.

Even the royal mint may switch from copper for the British penny, some commentators say. They estimate that at current prices the penny costs two pence to produce.

Total withdrawal of existing copper coinage, however, would have only a marginal effect on supplies. Bankers estimate current circulation at only 20,000 tons.

Until the Zambian and Chilean price increases, copper producers in general had sought to keep the metal price down for fear that users would switch to substitutes.

But labor troubles in both Chile and Zambia, plus demand from the Viet-Nam war, sent the free market price soaring. Another factor, market experts say, was hoarding.

CAN'T TEACH OLD DOG

It has been scientifically shown dogs' ability to learn declines rapidly after their second year.

Stress need of soil tests

Laboratory testing of his soil offers a farmer a precise, efficient alternative to guesswork in determining fertilizer requirements.

But accuracy of the lab tests can be impaired if his soil samples are not prepared and handled with care, says D. C. Munro, a soil fertility specialist at the federal experimental farm in Charlottetown.

Loss of moisture from a sample between the time it is collected and tested, for example, can result in a recommendation for nitrogen that is below the amount actually needed, explains the researcher.

He offers some pointers for farmers when submitting samples for testing:

Place each soil sample in a polyethylene bag as soon as it is collected. Tie the bag securely and place it in the regular mailing container.

Collect the samples at the time and in the manner recommended by the provincial soil advisory laboratory serving your area.

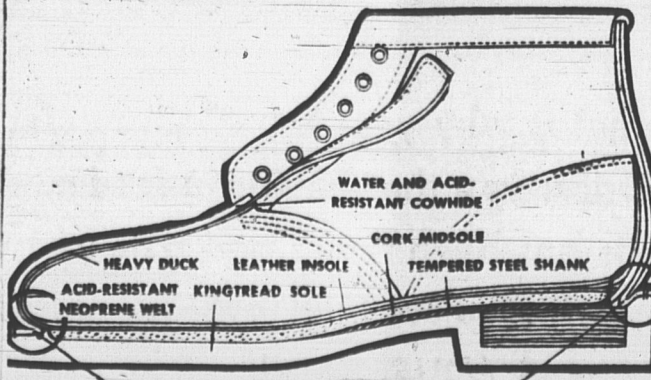
Deliver or mail the samples to the laboratory promptly. If possible, they should be received by the laboratory within 48 hours after being collected from the field.

If it is not possible to forward them immediately for testing, the samples should be kept at a uniform, cool temperature. Make sure they are not stored in a place, or carried in a vehicle, where they will be exposed to manure, livestock feed, fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, or other chemicals.

By heeding these precautions a farmer can be assured that tests of his samples will result in an accurate assessment of his fertilizer requirements, says Mr. Munro.

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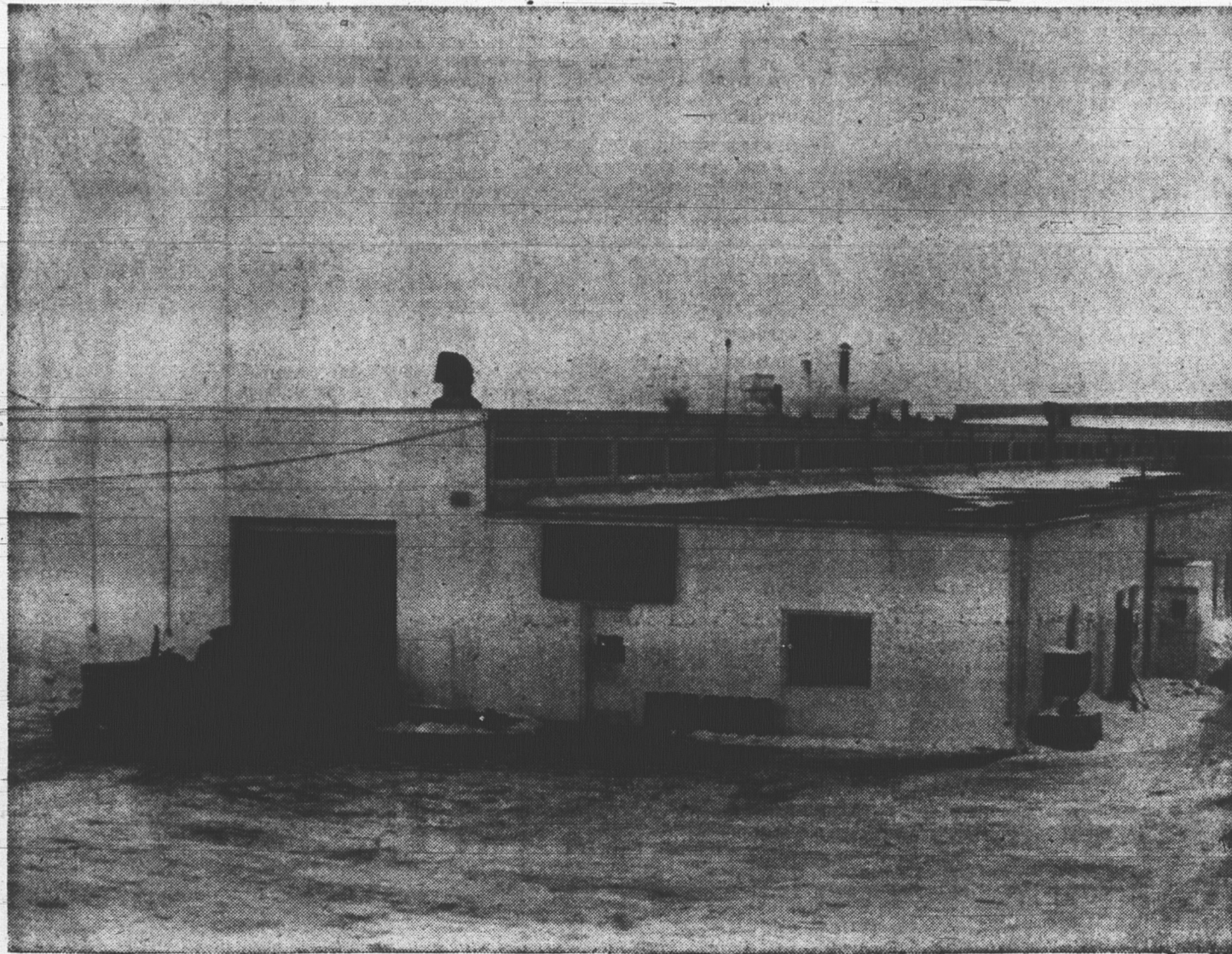
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The plant's raw material requirements are met by P.E.I.'s best growers, all located within 5 to 15 miles of the plant.

The local plant processes nationally, six products, namely, spinach, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, brussels sprouts and potatoes, which find major markets in Ontario and Quebec with an ever increasing sale in the Maritimes and the United Kingdom. The firm also markets green beans, corn, mixed vegetables, carrots and lima beans which at present are packed in affiliated plants throughout Canada. Some of the above may be introduced into P.E.I. production in the future. These products are marketed under the following well-known Brand names SEABROOK FARMS, SNOW-CROP, P.E.I. POTATOES, FLEUR DE LYS, SCOTCH MAID AND SOMERDALE.

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