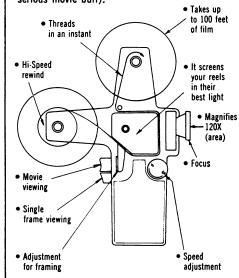


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\* You can if you live near San Francisco where Haverhill's has just opened a new Merchandise Display Center in the Jackson Square District, 526 Washington Street. You're always welcome.

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man's control—the protection of plants against insects, weeds and disease—has helped prevent disastrous destruction of valuable crops, pointed out Dr. Elvin C. Stakman of the University of Minnesota.

Even in a relatively advanced country like the United States, he said, plant killing agents such as weeds, insects and diseases reduce the potential crop production by more than 20%. Loss in many of the less advanced countries is considerably higher.

The pests and pathogens that feed on plants are indeed "shifty enemies." Dr. Stakman said. There are hundreds of species of harmful weeds, thousands of destructive insects, and thousands of plant pathogens ranging from invisible viruses and microscopic bacteria to fungi and nematodes.

Even though tremendous progress has been made in the recent past to develop pesticides, fungicides and herbicides, there remain many insects and diseases that cannot be controlled economically by chemicals. In these cases, plants must be produced that naturally resist these enemies.

During his history man has used at least 3,000 species of plants for food, and cultivated at least 150 of these to the extent that they have entered into the world's commerce. Man has tended to use fewer and fewer species and to concentrate on the more efficient ones.

Science News, 89:333 May 7, 1966

SPACE

## Probe Tracking Antenna Will Follow Men to Pluto

## See Front Cover

> ONE OF THE WORLD'S largest and most sensitive automatic space tracking and telemetry antennas was dedicated officially at Goldstone, Calif.

The new antenna will be able to follow future Mariners and other spacecraft not only to Mars and Venus but even to Pluto on the outer reaches of the solar system.

The antenna, newest facility in the Deep Space Network of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is the United States' largest fully steerable antenna and the world's largest built for research by spacecraft.

With a parabolic aluminum dish reflector 210 feet in diameter, the new Goldstone facility, located in the Mojave Desert, will have two and one-half times the range of the 85-foot diameter antennas at the network member stations in Australia, South Africa and Spain, and the other deep-space facilities at Goldstone.

The reflector of the tracking and communication antenna, shown on this week's front cover, dwarfs workmen standing inside. The cone in the center of the dish, houses ultrasensitive receiving and transmitting equipment. (Cover photograph by NASA.)

Science News, 89:334 May 7, 1966