

Wheel Track Corn Planting Gives Aid to Production, Conservation

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Easier corn production and better soil conservation at the same time — that's the advantage claimed for a new corn-growing system outlined by two University of Wisconsin scientists here last night.

A. E. Peterson and A. M. Strommen spoke before the Agricultural section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, reporting research with wheel-track corn planting and alfalfa interseeding.

With wheel-track planting, the farmer merely plows the ground, then drives back over the land with a corn planter dropping seeds in tracks left by the tractor tires. Thus, he has to travel over his land only twice.

Under the conventional system of corn planting, the land is worked with a disc or harrow several times between plowing and planting. This not only takes additional time during a busy season, Peterson and Strommen explained; it also gives weeds a chance to get a head start and it breaks down the structure of the soil.

Since the land between corn rows is left in a rough condition by the wheel-track method, it's less likely to wash away in spring rains; each furrow acts as a dam to hold back the water.

Yields of wheel-track-planted corn have equaled yields of conventionally planted corn in the Wisconsin tests — sometimes as high as 130 bushels per acre.

By adjusting front tractor wheels wide and rear wheels narrow, four-row wheel-track planting is possible. Two-row planters have been used for years with

the wheel-track system. Only one cultivation is usually necessary when 2, 4-D weed killer is sprayed directly over the row to kill broadleaf weeds.

To make this corn-growing system most efficient for erosion control, Peterson and Strommen recommend seeding alfalfa between the rows. This gives a rotation of corn and hay, without the grain crop and open land which contribute heavily to soil loss — the sod is plowed, planted to corn, and alfalfa is established all in one year.

With alfalfa interseeded, some further changes are needed in wheel-track planting. Normally, corn rows are 40 inches apart. When a farmer wants to grow alfalfa between the rows, they have to be spaced at 60 inches or more.

The alfalfa is seeded when the corn is about a foot high, Peterson and Strommen said. A special roller-seeder is used to press the alfalfa seed into the soil. Weed control — either by clipping or by chemicals — is necessary with this early alfalfa seeding. The chemicals are still in the experimental stage, but 2, 4-DB and dalapon seem promising.

The scientists also told of promising results with dwarf corn, but they warned the group that seed will not be available for several years. Dwarf corn can be planted in regular 40-inch rows without shading the alfalfa between the rows. Yields of dwarf corn in 40-inch rows have compared favorably with yields of regular corn in 60-inch rows, Peterson and Strommen said.

8 Co. Holsteins Complete HIR Record in 1956

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — The Holstein-Friesian Assn. of America announces the completion of official Herd Improvement Registry production records by cows owned by Lancaster County breeders.

The breeders, cows and their records are:

Paul H. Eby, Cochranville, Highland Admiral Sally Ann, milked twice daily for 365 days, produced a total of 17,518 lbs of milk and 626 lbs. of butterfat as a seven-year-old.

J. Mowery Frey, Lancaster, Fultonway Rag Apple Lucy, milked twice daily for 267 days, produced a total of 12,084 lbs. of milk, and 499 lbs of butterfat as a three-year-old.

Henry Hess, Mt. Joy, Clovena Le Winter Ivy, milked twice daily for 281 days, produced a total of 14,050 lbs of milk and 541 lbs. of butterfat as a four-year-old.

Steven K. Stoltzfus, Christiana Smyrna View De Kol Betty, milked twice daily for 311 days, produced a total of 14,166 lbs. of milk and 515 lbs of butterfat as a nine-year-old; and Colantha Autocrat Abbekerk, milked twice daily for 316 days, produced a total of 17,779 lbs. of milk and 637 lbs. of butterfat as a four-year-old.

M. M. Wenger, Rheems, Carnation Lola Hello Letta, milked twice daily for 365 days, produced a total of 21,395 lbs. of milk and 770 lbs. of butterfat as a six-year-old.

A. W. Wickenheiser, Mt. Joy, Garwood Homstead Bessie, milked twice daily for 266 days, produced a total of 12,481 lbs. of milk and 437 lbs. of butterfat as an eight-year-old.

Number of Eggs Set Up 14 Per Cent in December

Fourteen per cent more eggs were set in the 22 main broiler producing states in the week ending Dec. 22 than during the same week of the previous year.

Three Counties Cop All Poultry Prizes

HARRISBURG — York, Berks and Lancaster county members of the Future Farmers of America won all prizes awarded in judging of vocational poultry trios at the State Farm Show.

Prizes were \$5 for first place, \$4 for second, \$3 for third, \$2 for fourth, and \$1 for fifth and lower prizes. Winners were:

New Hampshire—First, Forrest Laudenslager, R1 New Tripoli, Berks County.

White Leghorns — First, Ronald E. Newhard, R3 Kutztown, Berks County, second, Dale A. Pensinger, Topton, Berks County, third, Richard Spahr, R2, Dover, York County; fourth, Glenn M. Fetrow, R3 Dover, York County; fifth, Gerald Greiner, R4 Manheim, Lancaster County; sixth, Keith A. Eisenhart, R4 Dover, York County.

Miscellaneous Trios — First, Carl Seifert, R2 Dover, York County; Second, Donald Frone, R2 Dover, York County.

Pennsylvania Assn. of County Fairs To Meet at Reading Jan. 23-25

READING, Pa., Jan. 17 — Fairmen, carnival men, amusement bookers, midway concessionaires and other representatives of outdoor show business will attend the 45th annual convention of the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel here, Jan. 23-25.

The convention agenda as released by Charles W. Swoyer, Reading, secretary-treasurer of the state association, calls for the annual meeting of the Central Fair Circuit at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday and business sessions of the fair group Thursday. The Central Fair Circuit is a league of harness horse racetracks in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

Thursday sessions will begin at 11 a. m. and will be conducted by John P. Bloom, Cambria county potato grower and association president. Mayor Daniel F. McDevitt, Reading, will give the welcoming address.

The afternoon meeting, to begin at 1:30 p. m., will feature addresses by Duane Carter, director of competition for the U. S. Auto Club, Speedway City, Ind., D. William L. Henning, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture; Louis P. Shannon, extension division manager of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Del., and Capt. Elmer Faber, public relations director, Pennsylvania State Police.

The convention will close with a banquet at 7:30 p. m. Thursday. Well known booking agencies will furnish entertainment. Swoyer will be presented with a plaque in recognition of his 18 years service as a U. S. Trotting Association director. Lawrence E. Sheppard, Hanover, owner of Hanover Shoe Farms, and president of the U. S. Trotting Association, will make the presentation. John S. Giles, president of the Reading Fair, will be toastmaster.

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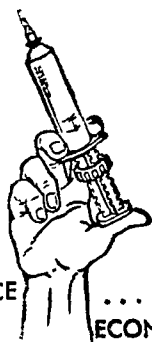
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