

## USDA Studies Pilot Conv. Plan

The first year of the 1963 Pilot Cropland Conversion Program helped participating farmers in five areas studied to convert from 12 to 34 percent of their cropland to conserving uses, according to a report issued today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This study was made in four States and 11 counties of the 13 States and 41 counties in which the program operated.

USDA's Economic Research Service reports that much of the CCP land in the pilot counties in North Dakota, Mississippi, Iowa, and two areas in Georgia produced row crops and small grains the year prior to the agreements. Farmers plan to leave most of this land in conserving uses after the agreements expire.

The CCP was designed to help farmers convert cropland to pasture, trees, wildlife habitats and recreation areas. Most of the land is under agreements for five years, with some in for 10 years. Participants received payments for changing cropland to other uses and for part of the cost of

establishing conserving practices.

Nearly all of the land under agreements in the four States will be used for pasture. Total feed production on these farms was reduced, however, as an acre of pasture produces less feed than when the land is used to produce grain and hay.

Cash crops will continue to be the main source of farm income in four of the five areas studied. Most of the participants in the Piedmont region of Georgia expect returns from beef cattle to be their major source of farm income by 1967 when the five-year agreements expire. Many farmers reported a drop in labor requirements because of conservation away from intensive agriculture.

Leading reasons for participation centered on an anticipation of larger and firmer incomes and the opportunity to shift to a different type of farming afforded by the conversion payments.

The study also found that most farmers not in the program in the study areas felt that crop production would be more profitable or that participation might interfere with desired land use.

## Pathologists Alerted For New Corn Disease

Maize Dwarf Mosaic is the scientific name given to a serious new virus disease of corn. It was first found in Ohio in 1962, according to Dr. H. W. Crittenden, plant pathologist at the University of Delaware, and is a potential threat to all corn producing areas.

Crittenden attended a two-day conference at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, where all aspects of the disease were discussed by more than 100 scientists from

32 states and Canada.

Although the disease has not been observed in Delaware, plant pathologists at the University are on the alert for it. They plan to conduct field surveys during 1965 to insure that the disease does not get a head start on producers.

The name "Maize Dwarf Mosaic" was picked to distinguish the disease found in Ohio, from corn stunt, a disease known to occur in the southern part of the United States.

The newly discovered disease has also been reported

in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. It caused an estimated 5 million bushel yield loss in Ohio in 1964, according to Crittenden.

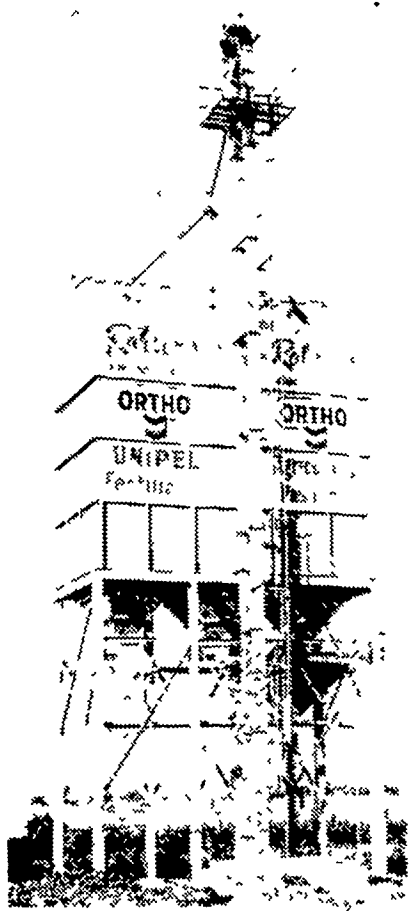
Since corn leaf aphids carry the disease from one plant to another, scientists are concerned about further spread of the disease.

Workers at the conference agreed that the development of resistant varieties seemed to offer the best means of control. Nearly all corn varieties presently grown are susceptible to the disease.

## ORTHO UNIPEL FERTILIZERS

Can help you make more money on your farm crops

- Uniform, free-flowing, coated pellets
- Contains fast acting and long lasting Nitrogen and Phosphate
- Clean and easy to handle
- Available in bulk or 50 lb. bags.
- Bulk spreader service
- Bulk portable bins
- Trucking allowance for customer pick up at Smoketown



Four analyses to choose from

Unipel 16-16-16      Unipel 20-10-10  
Unipel 10-20-20      Unipel 13-34-10

CONTACT US NOW FOR EARLY SEASON PRICES AND LIBERAL DISCOUNTS.

T.M. Reg. U.S. Pat. off. Ortho and Unipel

**P. L. ROHRER & BRO., INC.**

Phone 397-3539

SMOKETOWN, PA.

## DAIRYMEN

No Expensive Specialty Feeds or Additives Needed

when you feed your cows

# Green Pastures Dairy Pellets

Important components such as:

Trace minerals

Vitamins

Reproductive capacity

are all built into one quality feed

GREEN PASTURES DAIRY PELLETS

Ask one of our Dairy Specialists to explain our Dairy Program to you and then give it a good try. Performance is the key to low cost. You will be satisfied.



Miller

&

Bushong, Inc.

ROHRERSTOWN, PA.

Ph. Lancaster 392-2145

FINEST SERVICE ANYWHERE!