

**Modern
Sowing Service**

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Contact

Stanley S. Hoffer
Paradise 687-6860

● **"Spuds"**

(Continued from Page 6) he tried to cut his costs a little by using some of his own "size B's." He does not recommend this practice, however.

Equipment costs are shaved by pooling the use of machinery with his father and brother, who are also potato raisers. A two-row digger is used at harvest time, but no automatic picking equipment.

Wissler said that so far there has been plenty of picking help available in the area, making costly automatic equipment impractical at this time.

ing is done in early April, and harvesting in late September. The potatoes go into storage field-run and grading is done at marketing time. They are put up in 100-pound bags if they are going for chips, and in consumer-sized packages if for table stock. The farm is ideally located for retail sales, and many potatoes are sold right at the door. Wissler is a director in the Pa. Cooperative Potato Growers Assn, a marketing agency that has operated since about the mid-1930's, and the bulk of his crop is sold through the co-op

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One of the main time consuming jobs for the potato farmer has always been spraying. Wissler said that now about four spray applications have been eliminated by adding an insecticide at planting time. There are still 5-6 sprayings needed, mainly for blight and aphids in August. A final spraying with sodium arsenate kills the vines. So long as any life remains in the vines the tubers will not mature properly, Wissler said. And if they are not mature, they tend to skin and bruise in storage.

No early potatoes are planted on the Wissler farm. The only variety grown is Katahdan, which is the leading variety grown in the state. Plant-

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