

## Rootworm Is Reported

(Continued from Page 1)  
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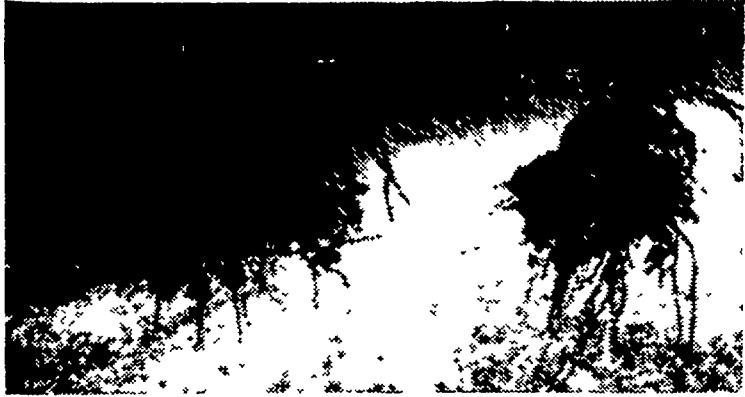
Bux-ten is a Rohrer product Penn State University, in a rootworm brochure, recommends it, along with the following Phorate (Thimet), Dazomet, Dyfonate, and Diazinon. A brochure explaining the damage caused by the rootworm, its life cycle and how to control the pest, including the proper application rate of the various insecticides, can be obtained from the local extension office.

Like Rohrer, the Kreiders urge corn growers to check their crop this year to see if they have a

serious rootworm problem. "If they have bugs this year," Earl Kreider said, "it will be worse next year."

Insecticide treatment isn't the only way to control the problem, Kreider continued. Taking corn out one year also controls the bug, he said.

Penn State also says, "Rotating corn for one year or more with any other crop provides a very effective method of control" and Penn State indicated a serious problem can sometimes be expected in the fourth year of continuous corn. Many area farmers have had continuous corn for more than 10 years, Rohrer noted.



A close-up view of typical corn stalk root system from treated part of field (left) as compared to a typical stalk from untreated area shows a much smaller and weaker root system in the untreated or rootworm-damaged area of the Kreider cornfield. The weak root system results in lower corn yields.

## Local Grain Prices Jump

(Continued from Page 1)  
 recent price increase) was the blight scare."

Lancaster Farming's graph on shelled corn (see page 2), showing the average price of shelled corn at Lancaster County feed mills as of Thursday, dramatically illustrates the impact of the Southern Leaf Blight scare on corn prices.

In the past week alone, the bid price for shelled corn, the price the mill will pay to the farmer, jumped an average of 12 cents, while the offered or mill selling price also climbed 12 cents.

The price to the farmer rose from \$1.60 to \$1.72 per bushel during the week, a 7.5 per cent increase.

Since early July, the price to the farmer had already climbed from \$1.44 to \$1.60.

Meanwhile, other grains in the Lancaster Farming local grain report also showed price increases this week over last week. The bid price or price to the farmer on ear corn went from \$39.67 per ton to \$40.66 per ton average, oats dropped one cent from 75 to 74 cents, barley climbed from 96 cents to \$1.04, and new wheat increased from \$1.47 to \$1.51 per bushel.

In further comments on the grain situation, Landis said:

The local corn crop "looks good," and the corn crop in many other parts of the country still has not been hit by blight.

In Southern Illinois, however, the blight has caused considerable damage, possibly causing a one-third loss of the crop. Parts of central Illinois, Indiana and Ohio have been hit by blight to a lesser extent.

But overall, at this time, the blight scare seems to have been blown out of proportion to the actual situation by speculators who picked up the blight report and spread it for a quick profit.

The blight could be more serious next year, but probably will not be an overwhelming factor. Corn varieties exist which are resistant to the blight and these

varieties can be expected to be used to the fullest extent possible. As of now, not enough of the resistant seed exists, however, to meet everyone's needs, it may take two to three years to develop enough seed to meet the need.

The price jump in corn did drag other grain prices along with it. Locally, oats did not rise, but oats is not a significant crop locally.

Earl Kreider said locally "haven't been too good because of lower cattle prices" and many farmers have turned to shelling out their ear corn.

The Lancaster Farming quote of \$1.72 per bushel to the farmer for shelled corn should be a reasonable price as of Friday. Landis said he feels the local price is about \$1.70 to \$1.75. He doesn't expect this price to rise much further, unless further reports indicate that the corn blight is more serious than is now indicated.

Prices quoted for the new corn crop had been around \$1.30 per bushel, but this week the price went at least 20 cents higher.

The foreign or export market has been a factor. The foreign market quote for the new crop started at about \$1.42, climbed to \$1.47 or 1.48 and is now about \$1.58. If the price gets much higher, however, U.S. corn likely will be priced out of the export market.

### Trading Stamps

Make the most of trading stamps at redemption time, suggests Harold E. Neigh, extension consumer economics specialist at The Pennsylvania State University. Know the value of a book, then figure the dollar cost of the items you're considering and compare them with retail prices. If you take time to save stamps then take time to learn the cash value of the books. You can get the value from the redemption center.



Earl Kreider (left) shows normal corn, while son Melvin shows bent stalk and poor root system of rootworm damaged corn.

## Command Performance

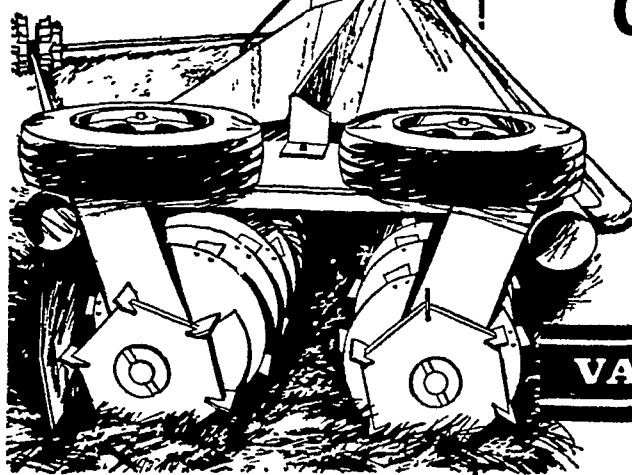
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