

DeKalb Comments on Its Spring Seed Corn Outlook

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DeKalb A. Research, Inc. has announced that it expects to have significant quantities of hybrids highly resistant to Leaf Blight (*Helminthosporium maydis*)

Resistance has been achieved in two ways first, most modern hybrids with normal cytoplasm (produced by detasseling) are highly resistant, second, some hybrids show a marked degree of genetic resistance even with sterile cytoplasm

Susceptibility has been traced to the use of the Texas male sterile cytoplasm commonly used by all corn companies

DeKalb's seed supply situation is this For the hard southern states the company is taking emergency measures to provide a supply of certain hybrids in quantities exceeding last year's sales in the area

For southern corn belt areas hit by blight DeKalb will have hybrids in sizable quantities with either resistance or a high degree of tolerance to blight Fifteen hybrids with

normal (highly resistant) cytoplasm will be offered

This wide selection is dominated by a new leader, DeKalb XL 44, which is well adapted to the central corn belt Thirty additional hybrids with approximately 50 per cent of normal detasseled production blended with sterile cytoplasm will have tolerance to the disease Many of the thirty show an added protection by displaying considerable genetic resistance in the sterile portions

Over 20,000 detassellers were employed in DeKalb's seed fields this summer. All told, the 15 hybrids combining the highly resistant with the blend production should approximate 30 to 35 per cent of the entire quantity of seed delivered by DeKalb last spring

For areas where Southern Corn Leaf Blight has not been a significant problem this year, DeKalb will also have an excellent supply of proven sensitive hybrids

DeKalb is in a favorable position for two reasons First,

it has been willing as a matter of policy to produce its new hybrids by the detasseling method involving use of normal cytoplasm These have turned out to be highly resistant to the new race of Southern Corn Leaf Blight

Second, its research department has put heavy emphasis on disease resistance and many of its hybrids carry considerable resistance to the race "O" of Southern Corn Leaf Blight (*Helminthosporium maydis*) by several previous years. The resistance is helping to combat the new mutant race "T" cytoplasm susceptible cytoplasm

In comparison, the 30 hybrid leader produced in fields planted 50 per cent normal and 50 per cent to the DeKalb faced alternatives of (a) having a yield only the normal detasseled plants from its production fields or (b) harvesting the entire field and having the hybrids be tolerant However, if these fields were limited to harvesting only detasseled material, this production would be cut approximately in half, thereby contributing to a possible seed shortage for the 1971 planting season Therefore, DeKalb has decided as a matter of responsibility to farmers, to make this added seed supply available and to offer the larger quantities of blended blight tolerant hybrids rather than a lesser supply of detasseled seed.

Southern Corn Leaf Blight should pose few problems in 1972 as DeKalb plans to switch completely to detasseled production of seed in 1971 and expects to be able to more than meet the needs of the market

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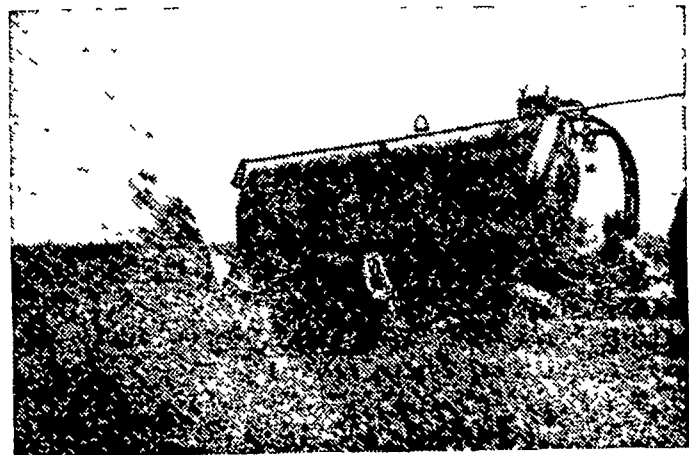
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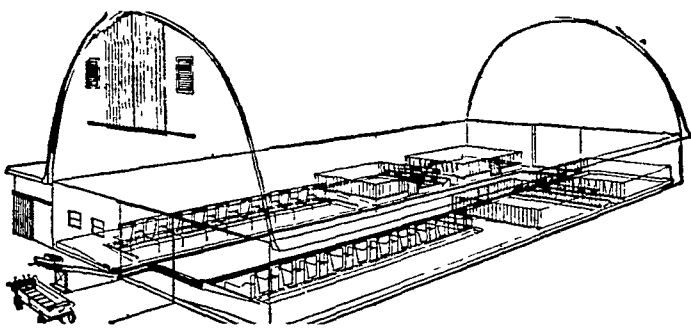
SEE OUR DISPLAY AT THE MANHEIM FAIR OCT. 7 - 8 - 9

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL

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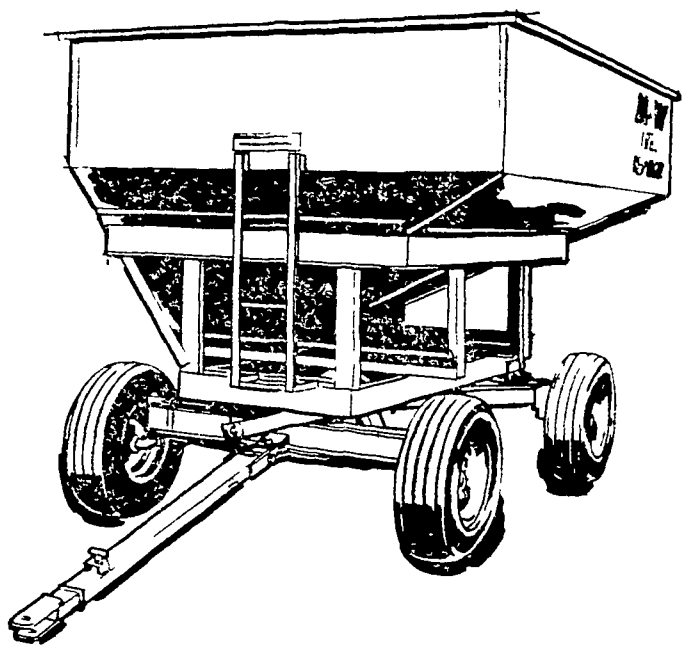
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Local Bull Is Richmond Champ

A champion Angus bull owned by Fied Fley, Quarryville RD2, won his third grand championship in as many shows this week at the Virginia State Fair, Richmond

The bull "Colossals Image", was show grand champion, first place senior bull and first place two-year-old

A second bull, "Manning of Wye", in his first show was named reserve junior bull and first place junior yearling

"Colossals Image" had won grand champion honors at the Ohio State Fair and the Angus Futurity at Lexington, Ky, earlier this year

Help Us Serve You

If your organization didn't make our farm calendar this week it's not because we don't like you or your organization.

We may have missed it in the rush Or maybe you forgot to tell us. Either way, we'd like to send our farm community service to you

To get on the Farm Calendar remind us by calling 626-2117 or 626-2191 or by writing to Lancaster Farming, 22 E. Main St., Lititz, Pa. 17543. And help us serve you better