

April is Cancer Control Month. Cancer will strike in approximately two of three families. Help conquer cancer by supporting the American Cancer Society Crusade.

Computers Assist in Soil Tests

Electronic computers used in the Pennsylvania State University soil testing program are

proving to be a valuable aid in the production of high quality food at economic prices, a Penn State Extension agronomist said recently in New York at the combined annual meetings of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America.

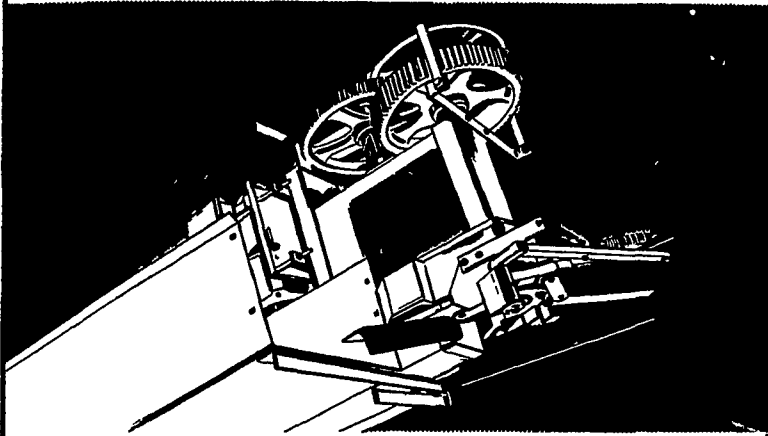
Dr. W. Wayne Hinsh said that the computer brings together scientific knowledge of the soil, the grower's description of his soil, and laboratory tests in making lime and fertilizer recommendations.

"The computer also stores all information about each soil sample tested," the agronomist emphasized. "Studies of this information has located areas in Pennsylvania where animal health and plant quality are suffering from the lack of magnesium."

Dr. Hinsh pointed out that the computer assists in pinpointing areas where soil nutrients are unbalanced and plant growth and quality are affected. It also has found soils where certain nutrient levels are too high for the best plant growth.

"The overall soil testing program," he said, "helps Pennsylvanians better manage their soil for the maintenance and improvement of home lawns, gardens, and greenhouses as well as for farm crop production."

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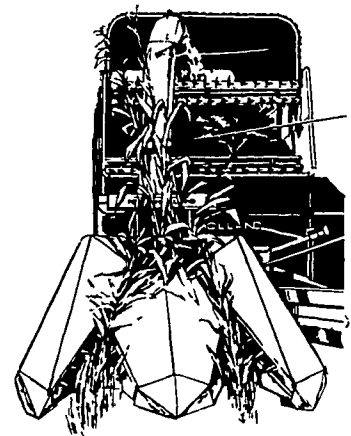


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Joe McGahen, Penn State University agronomist, recently discusses samples of blighted corn from local fields with local farmers and advises them on how to manage their blighted crop to get maximum feed value.

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