

Berks County No-Till Tour

The Berks County Conservation District and its cooperating agencies, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service, and the Cooperative Extension Service have arranged a tour of No-Till corn planting demonstration in Berks County.

The tour will leave by bus from the Agway parking lot in Leesport on Wednesday morning, September 26th at 9:00 a.m. and returns at 3:30 p.m. The cost of the tour will be \$1.00 per person which includes transportation and lunch. Reservations must be made with the Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service at 501A Park Road North, Wyomissing, Phone number 376-6119, by September 23.

Reduced tillage, or no-tillage as it is sometimes called, offers the farmer an alternative to plowing. In



Members of the all-girl Harford county state junior 4-H livestock judging team posed with their coach during the Maryland state fair last month in Timonium. Shown are (front row, left to right): Teresa Holloway, 12, of Darlington; Donna Blevins, 13, of Jarrettsville; Mary Streett, 13, of Failston, and Karen Holloway, 11, of

Darlington, a cousin of Teresa. Mary placed second in individual competition, and Donna was fifth. Their coach is Lawrason R. Sayre of Churchville (rear), an Angus breeder and member of the board of directors for the Maryland Cattlemen's Association.

addition to fuel saving, the system also offers the farmer dramatic savings in costs of equipment usage and time. The new method consists of planting in previously unprepared soil and within a narrow slit, slot or trench to obtain suitable soil contact and seed coverage.

Generally no other soil manipulation is needed because weeds and residues from previous crops are killed before planting by application of the contact herbicide. However, if weeds persist, a selective chemical or several chemicals in combination can be applied before the corn is knee high to kill later emergency weeds.

Recognized advantages of chemical tillage, in addition to fuel, time, equipment and labor-saving benefits, include: moisture conservation, erosion control, less soil compaction, better use of erodible land, and faster crop growth. The system also helps prevent runoff of valuable top soil into lakes and streams.

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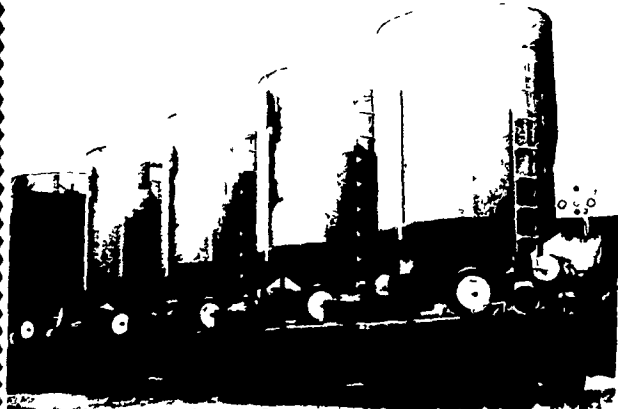
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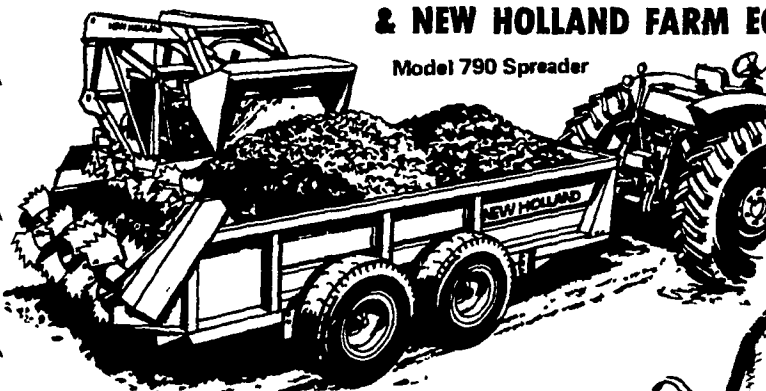
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