

Mildew Resistant Lima Available in Delaware

A lima bean resistant to downy mildew has been introduced to Delaware growers for general use, according to Dr. Vernon Fisher, professor in the Plant Science Department at the University of Delaware. The new lima bean cultivar is called "Bridgeton" and carries resistance to strains

A and B of the fungus which causes downy mildew. Fisher has been actively researching new lines of lima beans since 1970.

Because Delaware grows more acres of baby limas for processing than any other state, downy mildew has been a problem to Delaware lima bean growers since it

was first reported in the state in 1904. The problem became sufficiently severe to warrant a four-state (Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Maryland) conference to discuss the issue in 1948. The data submitted at that conference showed that downy mildew had become a major

agricultural problem.

As a result of the conference, R. E. Wester, a USDA horticulturist, introduced the "Thaxter" lima bean cultivar and made seed available in 1958. "Thaxter" was the standard variety grown in Delaware for ten years after its introduction. It was the first variety to be

resistant to downy mildew. However, according to Fisher, it had two limitations: it had a spread set which caused it to set its pods in a nonconcentrated manner, and its mildew resistance was not permanent. Strains of downy mildew fungus developed which could attack "Thaxter".

A variety named "Dover" was developed to overcome "Thaxter's" limitations, but

was not very successful, according to Fisher. The plants were too large and were difficult to harvest.

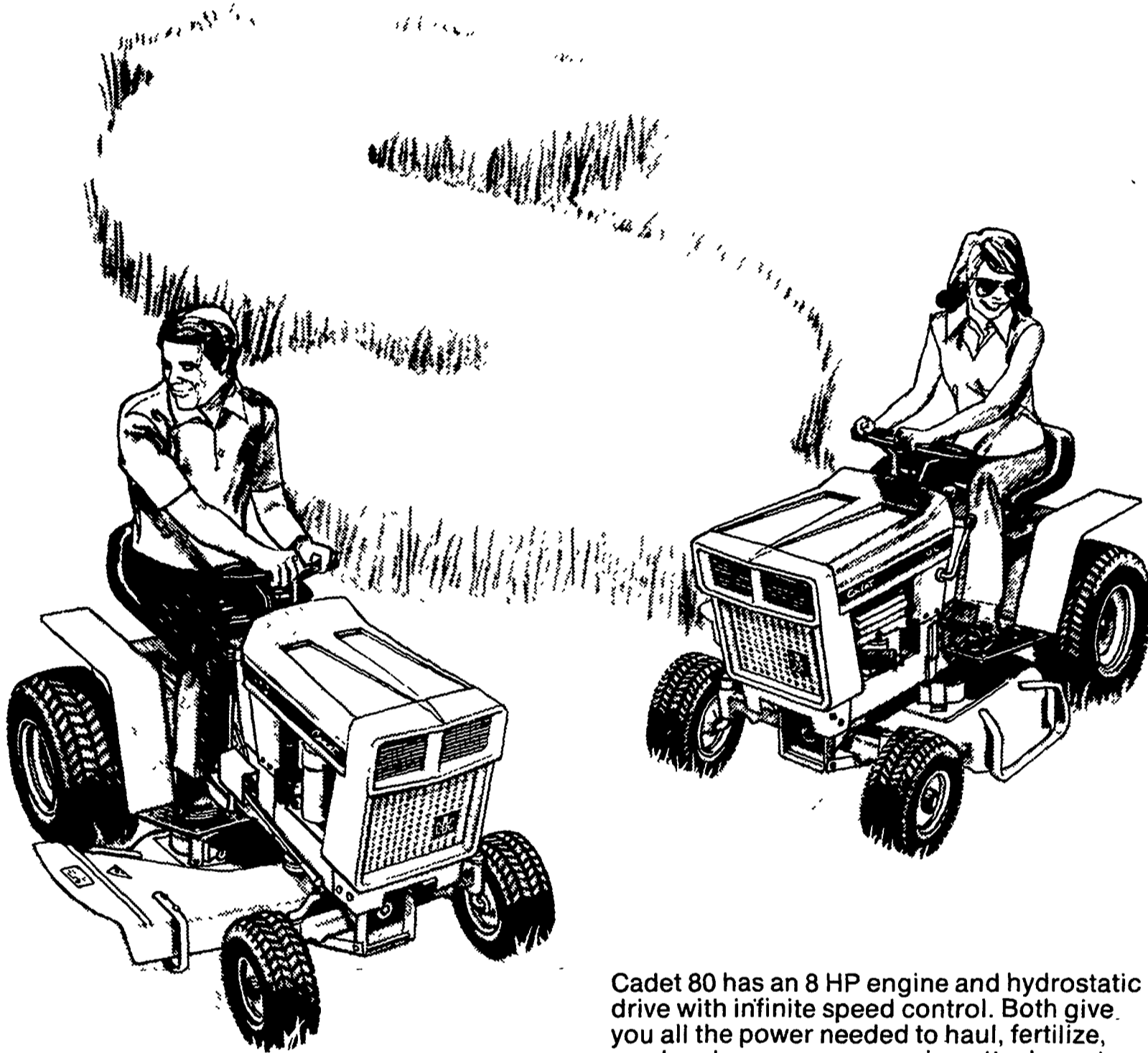
It was after "Dover" was released that Fisher began research on a new variety which could overcome these difficulties and still offer good resistance to downy mildew. In 1970 he began testing lines from which "Bridgeton" ultimately was developed.

Bridgeton seed was offered in 1974. The "Bridgeton" strain closely resembles "Thaxter", which is resistant to only strain A of the downy mildew fungus. "Bridgeton" is resistant to both strains A and B and superior in uniformity of pod set. In addition, its green seed color at the processing stage of maturity makes it more desirable than "Thaxter".

Fisher reports that "Bridgeton" has eliminated or reduced the problems with "Dover", such as large plant size and the associated slow harvest speed, late maturity, splitting seeds in the processing line and its pale green color. "Bridgeton" plants tend to be slightly larger than "Thaxter" and mature 1 to 3 days later. He also points out that because "Bridgeton" pods tend to separate from the plants slightly more readily than those of other cultivars, there is an increased need for careful handling during harvest.

However, even "Bridgeton's" resistance to strains A and B of the downy mildew fungus is not permanent, Fisher points out, but in recent years much sophisticated research has been carried out to determine what it takes for a new variety to succeed. If "Bridgeton" succumbs to a new strain of the downy mildew fungus, he says, researchers will be in a position to introduce a new variety quickly.

Real Grass-Roots Savings!



Enjoy big power features at a surprising price with a Cadet® 76 or Cadet 80 Lawn Tractor. Cadet 76 has a 7 HP engine and gear drive with one-pedal clutch and brake.

Cadet 80 has an 8 HP engine and hydrostatic drive with infinite speed control. Both give you all the power needed to haul, fertilize, seed and remove snow, using attachments that are available. Two-blade mower cuts a 36" swath. Cutting heights adjustable from 1½" to 4½" on-the-go. See these economical tractors today.



INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

SAVE \$ ON '74 LEFTOVER MODELS

MARTIN HARDWARE & EQUIPMENT CO.
Schaefferstown, PA
717-949-6817

COPE & WEAVER
New Providence, PA
717-786-7351

STRALEY FARM SUPPLY INC.
1760 East Canal Road
Dover, PA
717-292-4443

R. S. HOLLINGER & SON
113 West Main St.
Mountville, PA
717-285-4538

HERITAGE INTERNATIONAL INC.
1054 S. State St.
Ephrata, PA
717-733-2283

MYERS EQUIPMENT of STONYBROOK
3852 East Market St.
York, PA
717-755-3759

C. B. HOOBER & SON
Intercourse, PA
717-768-8231

MESSICK FARM EQUIPMENT INC.
2750 N. Market St.
Elizabethtown, PA
717-367-1319

MARK EQUIPMENT INC.
101 Rosehill Ave.,
West Grove, PA
215-869-2474

Pequea Valley 4-H Meets

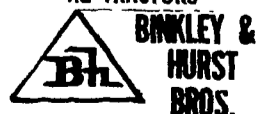
The members of the Pequea Valley 4-H Sewing and Cooking Club met on June 15 for their first project meeting. The meeting was held at Pequea Valley Intermediate School. Cooking Club met at 10:30 a.m. and continued to 12:45. The business meeting was then held, followed by Sewing Club, which met from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Debbie Gregory, from the Extension Office, explained how to give a demonstration. She used thread, for those sewing, and knives, for those involved in cooking, as examples.

The next meeting will be held at Pequea Valley Intermediate School on June 23.

RENTAL EQUIPMENT

BACKHOES
UNLOADERS
SOIL COMPACTORS
GARDEN TRACTORS
PLOWS
AG TRACTORS



Littitz RD4, PA
Phone: 626-4705