

Chemical preservative to aid grain harvest

Abundant supplies of propionic acid grain preserver this fall promise to help farmers avoid the serious grain handling and drying delays that slowed past corn and grain sorghum harvests.

"Many harvesting delays are a result of the time-consuming drying process - a procedure that can be totally eliminated with a chemical preservation system," ex-

plains Ron Maxwell, a chemical grain preservation specialist at Union Carbide Corporation.

"Every year we hear more and more about harvest bottlenecks - farmers having to wait in long lines to have their feed grain dried. With the high corn yields predicted for some areas, those lines could be even longer this year," Maxwell notes.

Propionic acid is a liquid mold inhibitor that protects livestock feed grains from spoilage for up to 12 months. It is simply sprayed onto grain as it is augered into bins or similar on-farm storage facilities. For enclosed storage, it can be used on corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats and barley, with moisture contents as high as 36 percent.

"The chemical preservation process also handles grain faster than most on-farm drying equipment," Maxwell adds. "In most cases, grain can be treated as fast as it is harvested, and farmers don't have to worry

about the availability of fuel."

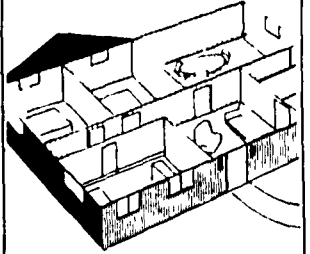
Although supplies of propane and other grain drying fuels appear to be fairly good this year, spot shortages may occur. Inventories of propionic acid and related application equipment, on the other hand, are more than adequate to meet anticipated demand. However, since the availability of rental equipment may be limited in some locations, Maxwell suggests that farmers arrange rental ahead of time.

"Chemical preservation systems allow farmers to

harvest weeks earlier when grain moisture is still high and when custom combine schedules are more flexible," Maxwell states. "Growers with their own combines can rent them out or pick up extra cash custom combining after their own crop has been harvested. Early harvest also reduces field losses caused by adverse weather conditions and pests, and it can free more time for fall field work such as plowing and planting winter crops."

CONSUMER GUIDELINES

—In the future it will be come increasingly important to consider energy conservation in the design of new buildings. The most significant energy conservation features are as follows the use of in-



sulation, control of ventilation, levels of illumination; orientation of the building, the amount of exposed surface area, and proper window and opening installation

KEEP IT CLEAN

Never place other foods on a surface where you have had raw meat or poultry until you have thoroughly cleaned it. Scrub the surface as well as dishes, knives and other utensils you've used with soap and hot water. This keeps harmful bacteria from spreading to cooked foods and salads.



First Lady for UNICEF Longtime supporter of the U.N. Children's Fund, Mrs. Gerald R. Ford is Honorary Chairwoman for National UNICEF Day, the 25th anniversary of Trick or Treat for UNICEF. Mrs. Ford is pictured above greeting a UNICEF Trick or Treater at the White House last year. Sharing UNICEF Day sponsorship with Mrs. Ford will be Mrs. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Honorary Vice Chairwoman, and comedian Danny Kaye, National UNICEF Day Chairman. (UPI Photo)

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