



Forage crop specialist John Baylor, right, points out some characteristics of alfalfa plots to visitors to the Penn State Research Farm at Landisville. The Penn State educator considers anthracnose

and the potato leaf hopper to be the most threatening pests for alfalfa in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Beachley-Hardy Seed Symposium

Seed shortage possible

By DIETER KRIEG

CAMP HILL — There's potential for a shortage of seeds which could become severe, a gathering of seed dealers was told here earlier this month. The occasion was a seed symposium sponsored by the Beachley-Hardy Seed Company of Shiremanstown.

Larry Brown of Waterman-Loomis in California, noted that acres of cropland devoted to seed production is significantly down this year from what it was a year ago and this could have an effect on production and prices. "We face a potential shortage in seeds which could get severe, but there's no shortage this year," he said.

The United States

Department of Agriculture recently released figures which coincide with Brown's prediction. Alfalfa and Kentucky bluegrass seed stocks are down by more than 25 per cent. Clover seed stocks, however, are up considerably, the USDA report said.

Another guest speaker at the seed symposium was Dr. John Baylor, a member of the American Forage and Grassland Council and nationally known specialist in forage crops. The Penn State professor pointed out that many new innovations lie ahead in forage production — including infrared analyzers and computers. He also stressed the increased importance of forages, due to the

economics of buying feed. With that in mind, both he and others who took the podium noted that good management of forage crops is becoming more and more important.

Management includes selecting high quality seeds, a film presentation showed. Yield, stand endurance, resistance to disease and insects are not to be overlooked. When all factors are considered, a "genetically engineered area adapted alfalfa seed" could increase the value of hay per acre by more than \$200, the film showed. Brown made the same point with a worksheet he passed out to the several dozen seedmen who were in attendance here at the Penn Harris Motor Lodge.

Also on the program were Harold Loomis, president of Waterman-Loomis, Bakersfield, Calif.; Robert Thedinger, president of Research Seeds, St. Joseph, Mo.; Dr. David Beard, vice-president of Waterman-Loomis; Dr. Joseph McGahen, Penn State; Al Leffler, product service manager from Acco Seeds, Belmond, Iowa; John Kugler, Waterman-Loomis; Morris Brown of F. M. Brown's Sons, Inc., Paul Roth of Roth Milling Co.;

Ned Clark of Clark's Feed Mill; and William Sprenkle of Spangler and Sprenkle. The latter four served on a discussion panel moderated by Professor Baylor, which was entitled "New Challenges Facing the Seed Dealer."

The Seed Symposium featured a variety of discussions and presentations on the first day which included forage management programs, seed production, new developments in seeds and forages, seed merchandising, breeding pest resistant alfalfa, seed corn in Pennsylvania, and new developments in seed corn.

On the second day of the symposium, hosts and guests visited the Penn State Research Farm at Landisville, where they could see first-hand the results of some of the experimentation which was discussed on the previous day. The group also toured research plots at the Milton Hershey Farms, and Leo Dairy Farm where seed plots and discussions were presented. The day included studies on varieties, insect and weed controls, population, fertilization, and alfalfa dehydration.

Ayrshire breeders meet

LYKENS -- The Pennsylvania Ayrshire breeders met recently at the Foxglove farm owned by Charles F. Miller and family for a day of fun and education

Beginning at 10 am the activities included demonstrations, guest lectures, and Ayrshire judging. Dr. John McCaffrey, official judge for the day, presented a clipping demonstration in the morning, after which the judging competition began.

Four classes were judged with Mrs. Maxine Flory of Lititz coming out on top with a score of 196 out of a possible 200 Upper Dauphin area FFA instructors, Marlin Henninger Jr. and Stanley Weaver acted as official scorers.

At noon the 145 guests enjoyed a buffet luncheon topped off with pie and ice cream. Following a short business meeting, special guest speaker, Dr. Larry Specht of the Penn State University, spoke on bull proofs and presented figures

which pointed out that plus proven bulls sired plus proven sons more frequently, and minus bulls in like fashion have minus proven sons.

After Dr. Specht's speech, Earl Keefer, National Ayrshire Association director, brought the group up to date on the breed programs, the availability of semen from the top bulls of the breed, and the upcoming Pa State Club sale to be held on August 24 at the Guernsey sales pavilion in Lancaster.

Ann Young informed the gathering of the plans for a group tour set for October 1977 to go to England in attendance the World Ayrshire Conference.

Sponsors for the day were Purina Feeds, Atlantic Breeders, International Harvester Co., Agway, Inc., Wilfred Deppen, Curtis representative, Hershey Foods Corp., Vigortone, M. G. Henninger and Sons, the Gehl Company, Mechley Dalmatia, Young's Inc., Badger Corp., and Pioneer Seeds.

Tobacco

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the leaves, a trait which does not develop as readily during dry weather.

Having 23 acres of tobacco, Hess ranks as one of the larger growers in the County. He says he hasn't cut down in acreage over the years as have many others, and that tobacco is still the main cash crop on his place.

The Manheim area farmer has been cutting the crop for about two weeks now, sometimes employing as many as 10 men for this job which is strictly all hand labor. He's expecting yields of about a ton per acre.

All of his fields were sprayed three times for aphids, which was the only significant problem he encountered. Earlier in the year he had some portions of a field damaged by hail and heavy rains, but those areas have recovered favorably. Some other growers in the County, particularly in the New Holland area, weren't so lucky as storms played havoc with a few fields. But

for the most part, Lancaster County's tobacco crop for 1976 is very good.

John Murray was out hoeing his tobacco by hand when this reporter drove by. Like Hess, he described his crop as being very good and cited aphids as the only problem he had encountered. He has about 20 acres of the famous Lancaster County cash crop on his father's farm near Columbia.

Although most Alaskans accept the inevitability of change, there is a great deal of concern over whether many of their ancient traditions can be salvaged. Most natives want to acquire the skills that will enable them to become wage-earners but not at the loss of their linguistic, cultural, and artistic traditions. In this transition the educational system will play a key role, and efforts are going forward to adapt the system to the special needs of natives.



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