

# 'Bankruptcy grass'

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"I feel you need a quick starting, tall hybrid of corn to shade out the late season johnsongrass," says Copenhaver.

"Another practice I think growers should follow is cleaning their equipment when moving from an infested field to a clean field, states Landis. "This prevents spreading rhizomes and seeds from field to field. It is especially important at harvest when the johnsongrass seed is so thick."

### Control program

"The degree of johnsongrass infestation must be considered when deciding on the proper program for its control," Hoke points out. "If the problem is severe, I would recommend first using a systemic foliar spray, like Roundup or maybe dalapon, to kill rhizomes and then use another material on seedlings in the spring."

Many growers, however, do not like using a foliar spray since it involves delay in planting. Foliar sprays also have little effect on johnsongrass seedlings. The preference is for a good seedling control program over a period of years that will also aid in rhizome suppression and thus virtually eliminate the johnsongrass problem.

"When combating seedling johnsongrass," Hoke adds, "the best method of application is to use a suitable preplant herbicide and incorporate."

One advantage of preplant incorporation is that the chemical is mixed uniformly into the soil at the right time and the right depth to assure maximum activity. A second advantage is that incorporation protects the herbicide against dissipation from wind, rain, or sunlight - all common drawbacks with herbicides that are surface applied. Incorporation also removes the need to wait for rainfall to move the material into the weed seed zone.

When incorporating, it is important that the herbicide be well mixed into the top two or three inches of soil immediately after application. This can be most readily done by mounting the sprayer between the tractor and incorporation equipment, with the tank set on either. As the ground is working for planting, the herbicide is incorporated in the same trip across the field.

There are several herbicides that work well on johnsongrass seedlings. Among these are Sutan and Eradicane on corn; Treflan and Vernam on soybeans; and Eptam for seedling establishment of clear-seeded stands of alfalfa.

A double rate of Treflan gives excellent seedling and fair rhizome control in soybeans, but this program can't be used in a bean-corn rotation. The six pound rate of Eradicane will clean up seedlings in corn in addition to aiding in rhizome suppression. And recently Sutan + received a new labeled rate of six pounds to be used against nutsedge and johnsongrass infestations.

"One practice we try to encourage growers to do is plant late when using Eradicane," says Hoke. "We recommend that they plant their infested fields last, around May 15-20. This gives the soil a chance to warm up permitting seeds to germinate and rhizomes to come out of dormancy, maximizing the herbicide's efficiency."

### Chemical Control

"I used Eradicane this year for the first time, experimenting on about 13 of the most heavily infested acres," says Landis. "I got real good control - so good that next year I will be using it on all 80 acres that have the weed."

"Eradicane has sold me on chemical control of johnsongrass," Landis continues. "I even recommend spot

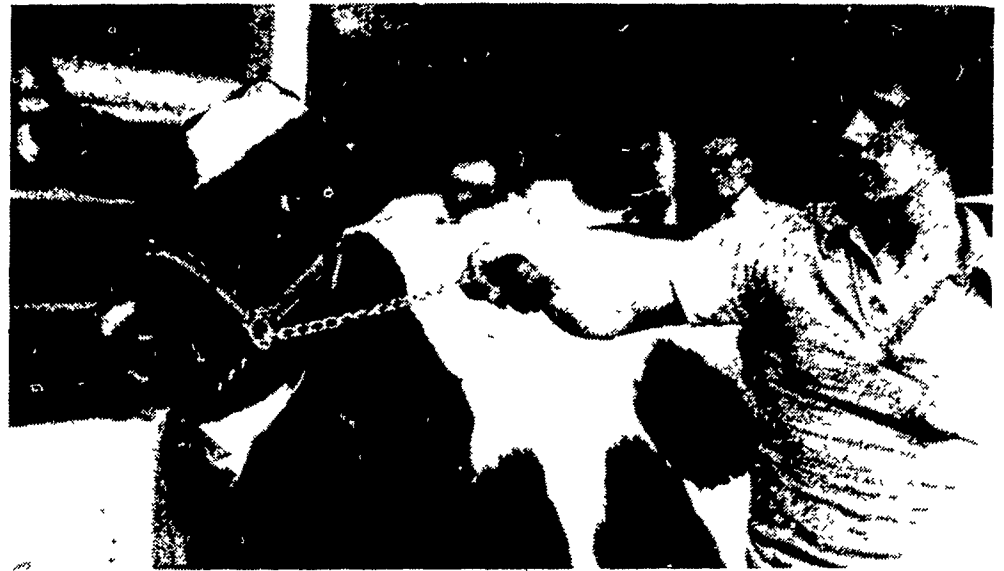
# Dairy cow show and sale held at Green Dragon

EPHRATA, Pa. - The Annual Dairy Cow Show and Sale at the Green Dragon Livestock Sales was held on October 15 with 224 head going over the sale. Buyers came from New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania to watch and bid. The highlight of the sale was "Penn State Ivan Ho Star" shown by Kelly Bowser and purchased by Alfred Albright of Landisburg for \$3200.

The second place Holstein was shown by Alfred Albright and purchased by Raymond Smucker for \$1275. Robert Kennedy showed the third place animal which was purchased for \$1525 by Paul Labe. Norman Kolb showed the fourth place animal which was purchased by Alfred Albright for \$1325.

In the dry cow division, first place went to another animal shown by Kelly Bowser and purchased by Frank Mase for \$2400. Frank Mase also purchased the second place animal for \$1000 from Robert Kennedy. The third place animal was also shown by Kelly Bowser and was purchased by Melvin Kolb for \$1075. Paul Labe showed the fourth place animal which was sold for \$800 to Toni Williams.

In the heifer class, Kelly Bowser again showed the champion, which was purchased by Melvin Kolb for \$2625. Norman Kolb showed



Grand champion of the Green Dragon Annual Show and Sale was "Kerchenhill Miss Noel." She was shown by Kevin Bowser. (at the lead)

Worthington, Pa. She was also first in the dry cow class. Behind her is Kelly Bowser, father of Kevin.

the second place animal which brought \$975 from Alfred Albright. Alfred Albright then showed a heifer which took third place and brought \$910. Robert Kennedy had the fourth place animal which brought \$800 and was purchased by George Scott.

In the mixed breed class, Norman Kolb had the first place animal which was purchased by Frank Mase for \$2325. Robert Kennedy showed the second place animal which was purchased by Carl Herr for \$975. Taking

the third place was an animal shown by Kelly Bowser and purchased by Frank Mase for \$800. Dale Brewer showed the fourth place animal which was also purchased by Carl Herr for \$850.

The grand champion of the show was the dry cow showed by Kelly Bowser and purchased by Frank Mase for \$2400.

Judges for the day were Melvin Kolb, George Scott, and Michael Risser.



Reserve grand champion at the Green Dragon Annual Show and Sale was Silver Brook Dolly de Kol-Twin, sired by Penstate Ivanhoe Star. The animal is held here by Jay Risser, but she was shown in the show by Kelly Bowser.

spraying with Roundup on field edges and in fence rows to avoid possible recontamination from these areas."

"I have been working with a control program for the past two years," Copenhaver explains. "Each year Eradicane has given me better and better control. That farm I was about to give up a few years ago has nearly 95 percent control of johnsongrass."

"Now that we have developed a good johnsongrass control program, I strongly suggest that growers all over the state take a walk through their fields this fall to determine what weed problems are developing," urges Hoke. "I cannot possibly overemphasize the importance of finding johnsongrass early and treating it quickly."

These forebodings are shared by Penn State agronomists when they say - you must control johnsongrass or get out of farming.

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