

Ag weather service stalled

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for the government. Spokesmen at PASTEL say they haven't been able to find sponsors for the service. Bell of Pennsylvania confirmed the lack of business backing in an interview with Lancaster Farming yesterday.

The weather service, when implemented, will depend heavily on telephone lines. According to a spokesman at PASTEL, callers will have access to their respective weather reports by calling a local number. Taped messages will be given. Information is compiled by the U.S. Weather Bureau and distributed by PASTEL.

Congressman Walker, spokesmen at PASTEL, the telephone companies, and USDA all seem to be enthusiastic and eager about the possibilities of the specialized weather service. They have been unable to sell the program to businesses, however. Figures on the costs of such a program were not available at press time.

Some rough estimates given by PASTEL, however, indicate that the costs could range from several hundred to several thousand dollars per month, depending on the size of the communities involved.

PASTEL also indicated that similar weather programs are already in existence in other portions of the country. The difference is that those are not primarily geared to the farmer. Rather, they're aimed at broader audiences, a concept which sponsors in Lancaster County would like to envision if they pour money into it.

According to a USDA weather specialist, there's a lot of weather information his Department could provide if an economical system of dissemination is devised. There are plans within the U.S. Department of Agriculture to build information systems to aid in long-term and day-to-day agricultural planning. Secretary Bergland is largely credited for stimulating such programs.

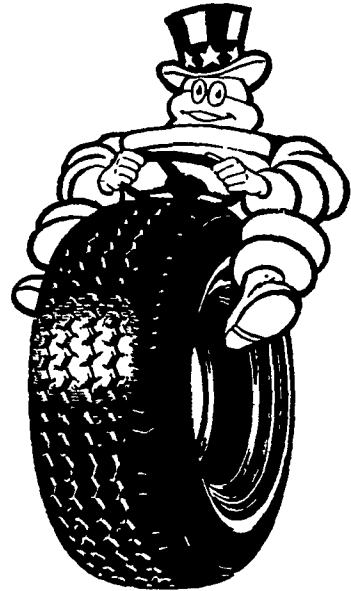
According to USDA, the weather has a "definite impact on farmers' decisions, even to the point of whether or not he buys a certain parcel of property." Weather has become so important in agricultural production since 1972 that farm prices are no longer influenced by just local weather, but by global conditions, USDA affirms.

USDA further contends that greater cooperation is needed between them and other agencies in order to realize their goal of providing more weather information for farmers.



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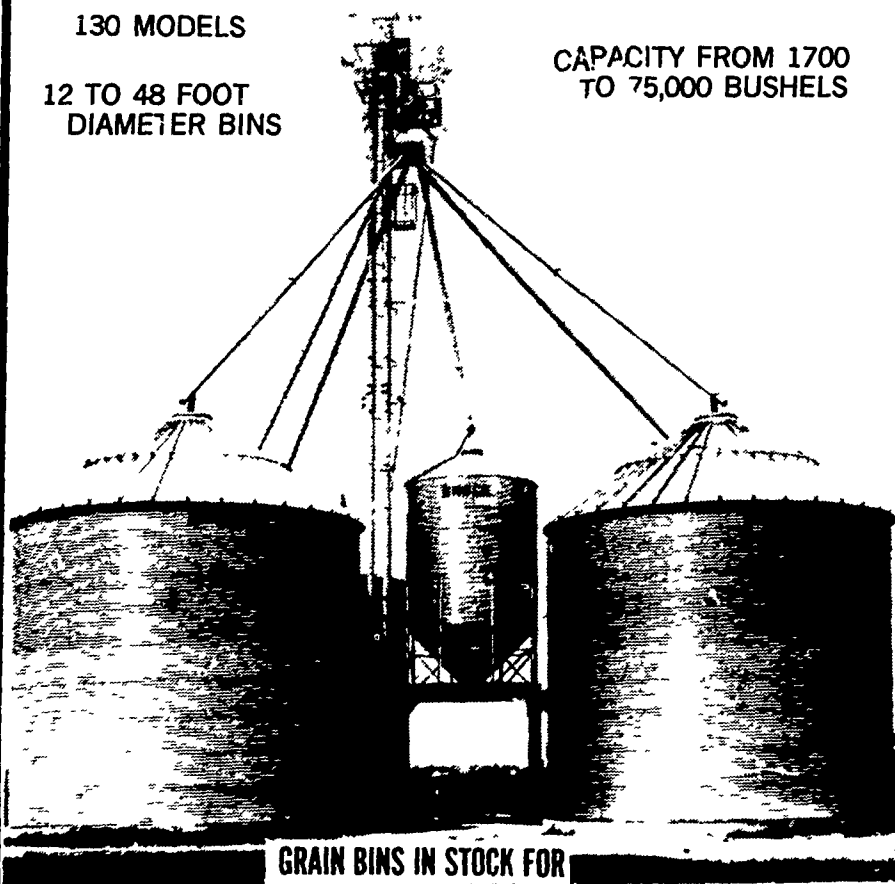
1 Mile West of Blue Ball On Rt. 322

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130 MODELS

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DIAMETER BINS

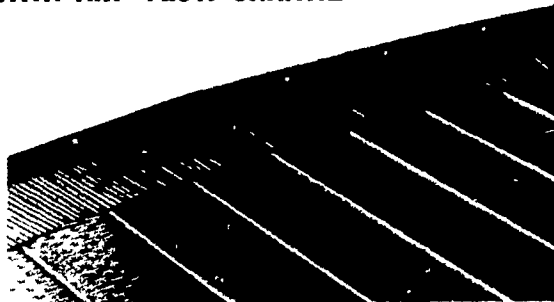
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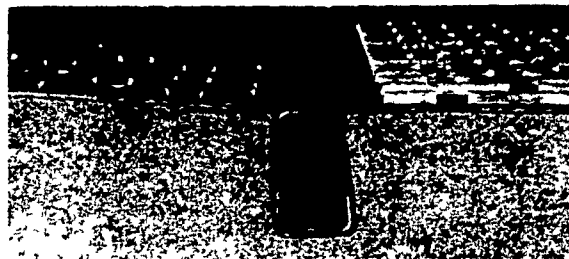
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The galvanized steel flashing is crimped for strength and gives the sweep wheel of the bin unloader more gripping power. The flashing is perforated for maximum air flow. Standard type with slits will also be furnished.



CHANNEL-LOCK FLOORS

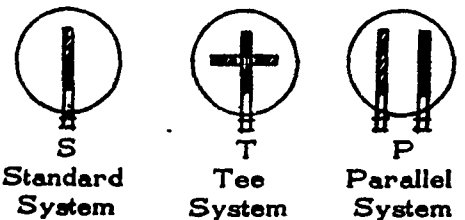
Channel type support gives more strength because sections fit securely together with a tight fit. Assembly is simple and easy. Floor sections are made of roll forming quality steel for strength, and are quality galvanized to help eliminate corrosion.

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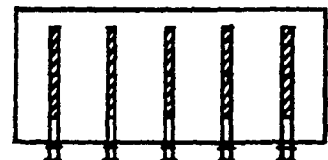
- FOR
- COOLING GRAIN IN STORAGE
 - HOLDING WET GRAIN
 - TEMPERING AND COOLING HOT GRAIN DIRECTLY FROM A DRYER
 - ALSO CAN BE USED AS PART OF BIN UNLOADING SYSTEM

AERATION SYSTEMS LAYOUTS
FOR TYPICAL GRAIN STORAGE
STRUCTURES

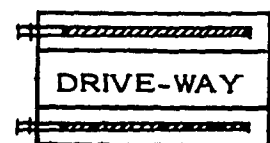
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