

My Thoughts

And welcome to them

By JOANNE SPAHR



Well, it's fair season again. And, despite running around between animals tents like an ant gone berserk, getting hand cramp from taking down illegible show results, working in the pouring rain, and practically standing on my head to get an animal to put its ears front for a picture, I actually enjoy the work.

But, I do have one gripe. And, it's a gripe that, again, stems from my deprived childhood. Why is it that when I was young, fairs never had any competition in which I was able to enter? I don't have the time, at the present, to enter shows, but when I was young I would have been able to.

However, there were never any contests in which I felt qualified to take part.

For example, why wasn't a ribbon handed out for the most disastrous 4-H yeast bread flop, or for the 4-H apron that most closely resembled a potential dust rag?

Then, too, in the open classes, why didn't they have a stable floor sweeping contest where a trophy went to the child who left the biggest skippers?

get out of helping with tobacco stripping. Or, better yet, how about a premier banner for the child who

managed to crack the most eggs while gathering a basket from her father's own home-grown layers.

Now, in these contests, I would have easily excelled. In fact, I could have had a room full of trophies to boast about when I interviewed my new award winners at this year's fairs. Instead, what do I have now when I go the fairs? In most cases, a cramped hand, an occasional wet shoe, and just a general good, fun-filled time.

Not bad for a kid who never won awards.

Field day set

The tenth annual Crops and Soils Field Day at the Wye Institute will be held August 23, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Special features are planned for men and women.

Of special interest to farmers will be the work of plant breeders on crops such as soybeans, small grains, fruits, and vegetables. For the women there will be a special program on fur-

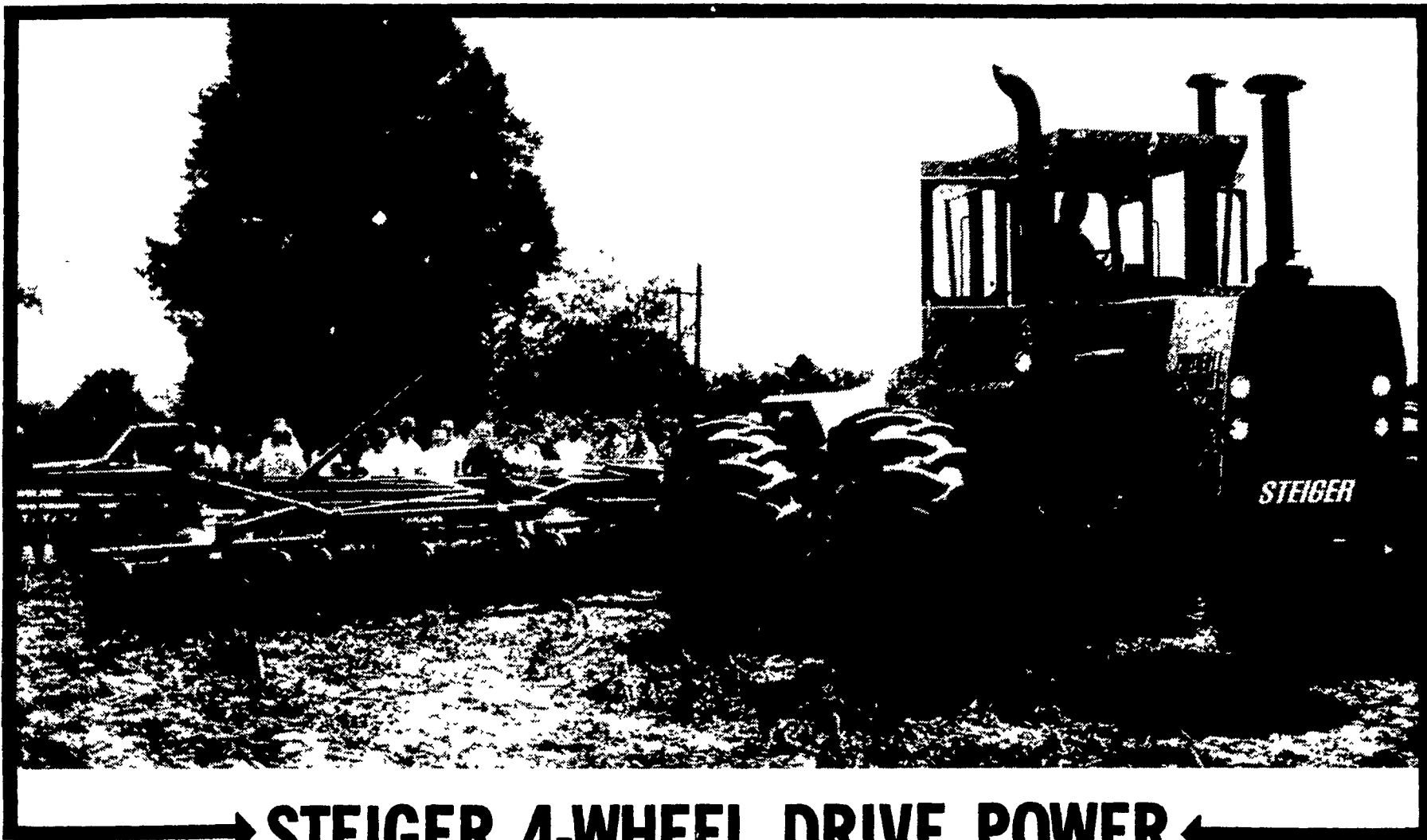
niture, heating and air conditioning costs, and a presentation on how to make a perfect omelet.

The field day is being hosted by the Wye Institute and the University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. The Wye Institute is located seven miles southeast of Queenstown, three miles off Route 50.

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