



The remarkable difference between conventionally and intensively managed fields is illustrated here by the height and thickness of the stands. The same varieties were used in both cases. Checking the specific results were, left to right, Becky Raschke, student teacher of vocational agriculture at Garden Spot High School;

Homer Martin, territory manager of Stanford Seed Co.; and Donald Robinson, agriculture teacher at Garden Spot. Not shown, but also present for the clover management study were Paul Eby, of the P.L. Rohrer Company, Smoketown; and Robert Anderson, adult instructor for agriculture at the Hinkletown Alternative School.

Intensive management gets farmer into clover

By DIETER KRIEG
HINKLETOWN - Intensive management of clover fields can bring pleasantly surprising results to the farmer, according to a research project conducted by the vocational agriculture department of the Eastern Lancaster County School District.

Although similar findings have been recorded all over the country - including the Penn State Field Research Laboratory near Landisville - the plot near here offers some of the most dramatic proof on the subject.

Donald Robinson, advisor for the adult agricultural education program, noted that one of the keys to good clover management is to have the crop mowed before it reaches full bloom. If that does not occur, then the crop will not come back the following year. Although clover is a biennial, research by Penn State University and other institutions has shown that a properly managed clover stand can be productive and profitable for as long as five years. Penn State's Dr. John Baylor, one of the leading authorities on forage crops and hay, has been lecturing for years that clover can do much better if it wouldn't be so neglected.

The Eastern Lancaster County School District's purpose for the research at the Hinkletown plot is to provide farmers with an opportunity to see for themselves what clover can do if it's managed properly. Seeded in the Spring of 1977, and cut for the first time last Fall, the plots came back this year with yields surpassing two tons per acre.

Robinson, who is assisted in his programs by Robert Anderson, noted that during the first harvest last Fall, the three planted clover

varieties gave the following yields:

Pennscott - 0.94 tons per acre; Flory - 1.54 tons per acre; and Redland - 1.14 tons per acre. All of these yields were the result of intensive management procedures. Yield checks for conventionally managed fields were not taken, explains Robinson, due to interference by weeds and rain. He also noted that mildew was a problem last year when the crop was established.

Last week, when the first cutting was made for 1978, only the intensively managed plots were worth mowing. Portions of the field which had been treated conventionally had all but died away. The explanation is that the crop was mowed too late last Fall (when it was in full bloom) and weeds had taken over.

First cutting yields this year were as follows: Pennscott - 1.16 tons per acre; Flory - 1.46 tons, and Redland - 2.04 tons.

Even before the clover was cut last week, and yield checks were taken, Robinson and others noted that Redland had survived the Winter much better than the other varieties. Also, in the conventionally managed plots, it had withstood full bloom much better than the others.

Robinson recommends that clover be cut at the late bud or early bloom stage. Fertilization and weed control are also important.

In the case of his test plots, the clover was sowed in mid-April of 1977. The seedbeds were conventionally prepared and Eptam was sprayed on before seeding.

"It controlled weeds very nicely," Robinson observed. A hundred pounds of 0-15-30 fertilizer were used to

nourish the plants. This Spring, the field was sprayed with Butyrac for continued weed control, and a topdressing of 100 pounds 10-10-30 to the acre was applied. A second topdressing will follow the final cutting this Fall.

"A farmer should be able to expect to maintain im-

proved varieties of clover for at least three years," Robinson explained, adding that it could even be four years and that stands at the Landisville research facility have stood for as long as five years.

"The key", Robinson repeated, "is to not allow the clover to reach full bloom."



The late bud to early bloom stage is when properly managed clover should be cut for harvest.

LOOK FOR



- | | |
|--|--|
| ADAMS CO.
O.C. RICE, INC.
Biglerville, PA
717-677-8135 | UMBERGERS MILL
RD 4, Lebanon (Fontana), PA
717-867-5161 |
| YINGLING'S IMPLEMENT
RD 1 Gettysburg, PA
717-359-4848 | LANCASTER CO.
ROY H. BUCH, INC.
Ephrata, RD 2
717-859-2441 |
| BERKS CO.
N.H. FLICKER & SONS, INC.
Maxatawny
215-683-7252 | A.B.C. GROFF, INC.
New Holland, PA
717-354 4191 |
| STANLEY A. KLOPP, INC.
Bernville, PA
215-488-1500 | A.L. HERR & BRO.
Quarryville, PA
717-786-3521 |
| MILLER EQUIPMENT
Bechtelsville, PA
215 845-2911 | LANDIS BROS., INC.
Lancaster, PA
717-393-3906 |
| SHARTELSVILLE FARM SERVICE
RD 1, Hamburg, PA
215-488-1025 | LONGENECKER FARM SUPPLY
Rheems, PA
717-367-3590 |
| H Daniel Wenger, Prop
ZIMMERMAN'S FARM SERVICE
Bethel, PA
717-933-4114 | N G. HERSHEY & SON
Manheim, PA
717-665 2271 |
| BRADFORD CO.
ALLIS HOLLOW EQUIP.
RD 1,
Rome, PA
717-247-2601 | LEHIGH CO.
C.J. WONSIDLER BROS
Jct. Rt. 309 and 100
Pleasant Corners, PA
215 767-7611 |
| CARL L. PIERCE
RD 2,
Columbia Cross Roads, PA
717 297-3513 | LYCOMING CO.
RICE FARM SUPPLY, INC
Jersey Shore, PA
717-398-1391 |
| WYNNE'S GARAGE
Canton, PA
717-673-8456 | MONTGOMERY CO.
WENTZ FARM SUPPLIES
Route 29
Palm, PA
215 679 7164 |
| BUCKS CO.
C.J. WONSIDLER BROS.
Trumbauersville Road
Quakertown, PA 18951
215-536-1935 | NORTHAMPTON CO.
GEORGE V SEIPLE & SON
Easton, PA
215-258 7146 |
| PAUL HISTAND CO., INC.
397 North Main Street
Doylestown, PA
215-348-9041 | NORTHUMBERLAND CO.
MECKLEY'S LIMESTONE PRODUCTS, INC.
Herndon, PA
717-758-3915 |
| CECIL CO.
AG INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT CO.
Rising Sun, MD
301-658-5568 | SCHUYLKILL CO.
L.L. ECKROTH FARM EQUIP., INC
New Ringgold, PA
717-943-2367 |
| CHESTER CO.
CHAS. J. MCCOMSEY & SONS
Hickory Hill, PA
215-932-2615 | STANLEY'S FARM SERVICE
RD, Klingerstown, PA
717-648-2088 |
| STOLTZFUS FARM SERVICE
Cochranville, PA
215-593 5280 | SNYDER CO.
ROYER'S FARM SERVICE
RD 1, Winfield
New Berlin-Middleburg Hwy
717 837-3201 |
| M.S. YEARSLEY & SONS
West Chester, PA
215-696-2990 | TIOGA CO.
CANYON IMPLEMENT, INC
Mansfield, PA
717 724-2731 |
| CLINTON CO.
DUNKLE & GRIEB
Mill Hall, PA
717-726 3115 | WAYNE CO.
MARSHALL MACHINERY
Honesdale, PA
717 729 7117 |
| COLUMBIA CO.
ORANGEVILLE FARM EQUIPMENT
Orangeville, PA
717-683-5311 | WYOMING CO.
ACE-JURISTA, INC.
Tunkhannock, PA
717 836-2610 |
| WILLIAM F. WELLIVER
Jerseytown, PA
717-437-2430 | YORK CO.
AIRVILLE FARM SERVICE
Airville, PA
717-862-3358 |
| CUMBERLAND CO.
ERNEST SHOVER FARM EQUIPMENT
19 West South St.
Carlisle, PA
717-249-2239 | GEORGE N. GROSS, INC
RD 2, Dover, PA
717-292-1673 |
| DAUPHIN CO.
SWEIGARD BROS
RD 3, Halifax, PA
717-896-3414 | M&R EQUIPMENT, INC
New Park, PA
717-993 2511 |
| FRANKLIN CO.
CHAMBERSBURG FARM SERVICE, INC
975 S Main St
Chambersburg, PA
717-264 3533 | CARROLL CO., MD
WERTZ GARAGE, INC
4132 E. Main St.
Linboro, MD
301-374 2672 |
| MEYERS IMPLEMENTS, INC
Greencastle, PA
717-597 2176 | FREDERICK CO., MD
KNOTT N GEISBERT, INC
RD 2, Frederick, MD
301-662-3800 |
| LEBANON CO.
A C HEISEY FARM EQUIP., INC
RD 1, Jonestown, PA
717-865 4526 | HARFORD CO., MD
WALTER G COALE, INC
Churchville, MD 21028
301-734-7722 |