

Experimental corn plots harvested, evaluated

By **NEWTON BAIR**
Lebanon County Agent
LEBANON - Good weather favored the job of harvesting the commercial corn hybrid variety plots in southeastern Pennsylvania this week. This year's official test plots in Lancaster, Lebanon, York and Dauphin Counties were among the first of the many

plantings throughout the state to be garnered for the annual yield checks.

Dr. Joseph McGahen, Penn State Extension agronomist and corn specialist, says that the long season, Zone III and IV, hybrids which are grown in this part of the state may produce some record yields

this year. Growing conditions were nearly ideal this past Summer and there were no major storms to cause excessive lodging of the stalks.

Some insect damage is evident in most of the corn harvested. European corn borer and corn stalk borers are present in all varieties, but breakage and lodging is noticeably variable, depending upon the resistance or tolerance of individual varieties to the borers. Each variety was evaluated for resistance to breakage before harvest. Some damage was noted also from Japanese Beetles and the adult corn rootworms. These insects chew the silks on the corn ear at pollination and can prevent some ears from developing grain at the ends of the cob.

The corn variety trials in Lebanon and surrounding counties are conducted on the standards of actual research plots. Each variety is replicated three times, at random through the plots. Thus, a 42 variety test will contain 126 separate plots of corn, 30 feet in length, each to be evaluated throughout the season, and checked for yields at harvest time. Replication of each variety in the plantings reduces the possibility of error due to chance in a single plot.

After all the plots through the state are harvested, the yields, moisture at harvest time, barren and broken stalks and other pertinent information is tabulated and published for use by commercial corn breeders and corn growers. The Pennsylvania State University Extension Service performs an unbiased screening and evaluation of all promising experimental and commercial hybrids used in Pennsylvania. The results of the 1978 tests will be available to farmers in time for the mid-winter corn and

Spattered paint removed easily

NEWARK, Del. - If paint has spattered on wooden furniture, try to get it off before it dries. If a wood finish has been protected by a good paste wax, the paint color may not have been absorbed by the clear finish. To remove paint spatters before they harden, dip fine steel wool into a liquid wax, says Maryetta Duffner, Delaware County Extension Home Economist. For dried paint stains, apply linseed oil, let it stand until

the paint softens then wipe with a cloth saturated with the oil. If any paint remains, use a treatment that combines rottenstone and oil. Get an ounce of rottenstone from a paint or hardware store and keep it in an old salt shaker. Place a few drops of lubricating or salad oil on the paint and shake on enough rottenstone to make a paste. Rub with the grain of the wood using a soft, clean cloth. As a final step, polish with a quality wax.

New name given to 4-H club

FLEMINGTON, N.J. - Udder-Joy Kids is the name of the dairy goat club led by Mrs. Joan Dinkelo, Stockton, and Mrs. Thelma Kostak, Flemington. The new officers are, Alan Dinkelo, president; Mike Kostak, vice president; Donald Moody, treasurer; Renee Kostak, secretary; and Steven Dinkelo, corresponding secretary.

Club members voted to enter three games for 4-H Carnival Night, at the Hunterdon County Extension Center. They entered an exhibit and had a bake sale at the Clinton Museum.

At the next meeting, club members will discuss fundraising, selling candles, and calendars.

4-H'ers give presentation

FLEMINGTON, N.J. - Members of the Hunterdon County 4-H Seeing Eye Club gave a presentation on September 20 to the Delaware Valley Weimaraner Club.

Gloria Jakubco, 13, Flemington, Barbara Hartsell, 13, Race Street, Pittstown, spoke about the Seeing Eye Dog program.

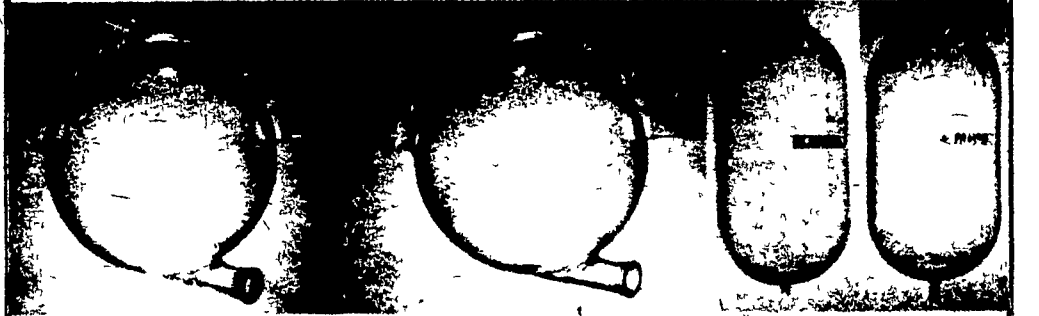
starting from the history of the program to what happens when 4-H Club members give the Seeing Eye dogs to professional dog trainers in Morristown. The discussion included what the club members have to teach the pups. Mrs. Elaine Jakubco, the leader of the club, took these girls to the Weimaraner Club meeting.



Denis Hoke, Lebanon County Extension agent, discusses the harvest of the corn variety plots on the Elam Zimmerman farm, Lebanon, with Dr. Joseph McGahen, Penn State agronomist. The plots are harvested with a single row sheller, specially adapted for small plot research.

Lebanon County tests were on the farm of Mr. Elam Zimmerman, Lebanon R7 on Duffield-Hagerstown soil. agronomy meetings. Local farmers in the various counties cooperate with the Extension Service in providing the land, preparing the soil and applying the fertilizer for the research plots. This year's

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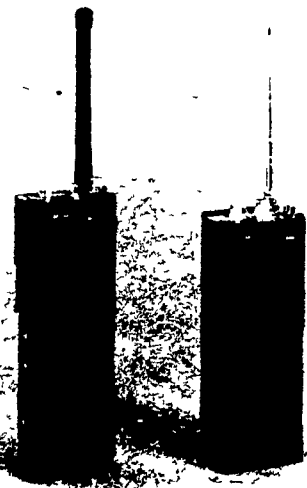
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Morris Ewing, Senior Sire Analyst at American Breeders Service, heads the program in a series of meetings sponsored by ABS and its local Representatives. Morris will discuss the Dairy bulls and programs at ABS. Morris brings extensive experience in the A.I. industry. He has a Masters Degree from Kansas State University, and was formerly in charge of the Dairy Progeny Testing Program involving 90,000 cows for ABS.

All ABS Customers and interested Dairymen are cordially invited to attend a meeting near you.

- ★ **NOVEMBER 8** at 7:15 P.M. York Co. Nashville Fire Hall.
- ★ **NOVEMBER 9** at 11:30 A.M. Lebanon Co. Treadway Inn.
- ★ **NOVEMBER 9** at 7:15 P.M. Berks Co. Berks Co. Ag. Center.
- ★ **NOVEMBER 10** at 11:30 A.M. Lancaster Co. Bird-in-Hand Restaurant.

A.I. Schools are coming up-remember the dates:
November 13th through the 17th - Russellville, Pa.
December 4th through the 8th - Mt. Airy, MD