

# A-C planter gets high mark in Canadian study

LA PORTE, Ind. — Plateless planter metering and accuracy were the subject of recent independent research conducted by the University of Laval in Quebec, Canada, in which the air planter manufactured by Allis-Chalmers Corp., was proven to be the most accurate American planter for all tested conditions.

The report also noted that the Allis-Chalmers model was less sensitive to seeding rate and speed than the other American made planters and that it provides the best performance with round seed at high speeds.

The research aimed at determining the metering accuracy of plateless planters with respect to ground speed, seeding rate and shape of seed to provide farmers with a comparative evaluation of row crop planters. Six planters of 1977 model vintage were studied, including the International Harvester 400 Cyclo; John Deere 7000 Max-Emerge; White 5400 Air/Plant; the air planter from Allis-Chalmers; the Monosen, a French planter; and an Italian planter, the Gaspardo.

All of the planter utilized air pressure or vacuum to

control the seed except the John Deere unit, which uses mechanical fingers to meter the seed.

Metering accuracy was determined by measuring the theoretical versus the actual number of corn kernels metered by the planter. A percentage of difference between the two counts was then calculated, with metering accuracy being determined by the ratio of difference. Metering accuracy was measured for differing ground speeds, seed rates and grain shapes.

Basic conclusions revealed by the study indicated metering accuracy is generally affected by seed

shape, seeding rate and ground speed; that round corn seed should be used with all planters, especially American made planters, for the best seeding accuracy; and that the combination of 5 mph speed and medium round corn seed should deliver maximum seeding accuracy.

Comparing European to American planters, the study showed that the performance of the European planters largely exceed those of the American planters with vacuum metering units being superior to pressureized or mechanical metering units. Specifically

the Monosen unit proved to be the most accurate of the European units. However, the study also noted that while the European planters had very accurate metering device, they produced low germination rates compared to the American machines. Metering accuracy of the American units were generally affected by the size and shape of seeds, but provided higher germination

rates, thus contributing to higher yields.

The report pointed out that while the research was conducted to aid farmers in their planter selection process, selection of a plateless planter should not be made exclusively upon these test results and such factors as dealer service, reliability and convenience for the particular farm operation.

## Dauphin County DHIA

(Continued from Page 111)

Lytle Farms Inc.				
Lilly	4-11	15,006	4.0	595
Aquar	4-3	19,526	2.8	552
Belle	3-10	19,842	3.9	764
Nina	2-6	18,473	3.3	608
Leoda	2-4	15,444	3.5	546
Paul L. Crissinger				
Irma	7-4	17,235	3.2	560
Floyd Feidt				
Minnow	8-10	13,583	4.0	537
Wilmer Campbell				
Bonnie	6-6	12,174	4.4	534
Sonsie	6-2	12,578	5.2	649
Cindy E	6-8	20,202	4.0	809
Blossom	4-1	15,416	4.4	673
Sandra	6-8	13,420	4.2	557
Harold M. Nissley				
Ginger	5-7	16,069	3.9	624
Roy C. Wilbert				
Linda	5-5	19,911	3.7	730
R Own Dairy Inc.				
28	3-10	10,679	4.8	516
36	3-10	14,057	4.5	629
48	1-11	11,149	4.8	535
23	1-10	16,222	4.2	678
32	1-11	14,488	3.8	549
65	2-0	14,278	3.7	534
J. Richard Alwine				
Candy	4-4	18,577	3.8	714
Homer Campbell				
137	2-1	13,758	3.9	542
Catalpa Farms				
Jo	11-6	15,279	3.5	536
Georgia	4-3	14,269	4.7	670
Dorothy	3-1	14,167	3.9	559
Restful Acres				
Heather	2-8	18,474	3.9	720
Lauden Farms				
Vesta41	3-1	12,482	4.5	562
Franklin G. Wagner				
Vickie	5-5	12,968	4.1	534
Great View Farms				
Cleo	1-11	19,916	3.8	750
Debby	5-5	19,979	3.7	739
Frosty	4-3	22,490	3.5	777
Elwillo Farms				
80	3-4	18,897	4.0	757
106	3-5	16,494	3.7	617

## SMV emblems

### could save a life

NEWARK, Del. — As Spring farming activities commence this year, slow-moving farm equipment once again lumbers along our highways.

Farmers need protection from fast-approaching cars and trucks, says Delaware Extension safety specialist Ronald C. Jester. The mixing of fast and slow-moving vehicles on public roads has been the cause of many accidents. Delaware statistics for 1978 show that such accidents with farm tractors and equipment were up 50 per cent over the previous year.

Drivers have great difficulty judging the relative speed of vehicles traveling in the same direction, so rear-end collisions are numerous.

Statistics clearly demonstrate the problem:

The average farm tractor is on the road only one out of every 25 operating hours, and yet one-third of all tractor accidents occur on highways.

Two out of every three highway accidents involving slow-moving vehicles are rear-end collisions.

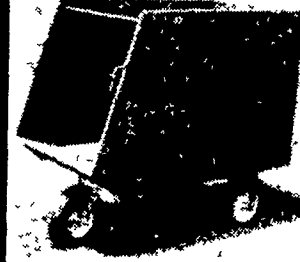
Nine out of every 10 accidents occur during daylight.

Slow-moving-vehicle emblems give motorists the advance warning they need to prevent such accidents. When Michigan passed

mandatory legislation requiring the SMV emblem to be displayed on slow-moving vehicles, there was a 47 per cent reduction in non-intersection rear-end collisions with slow-moving vehicles. That state also experienced significant reductions in fatalities, injuries, and property damage.

Farmers should be sure to display the SMV emblem on all slow-moving vehicles. Keep the emblem clean and remember to replace it when it becomes faded. It could save a life.

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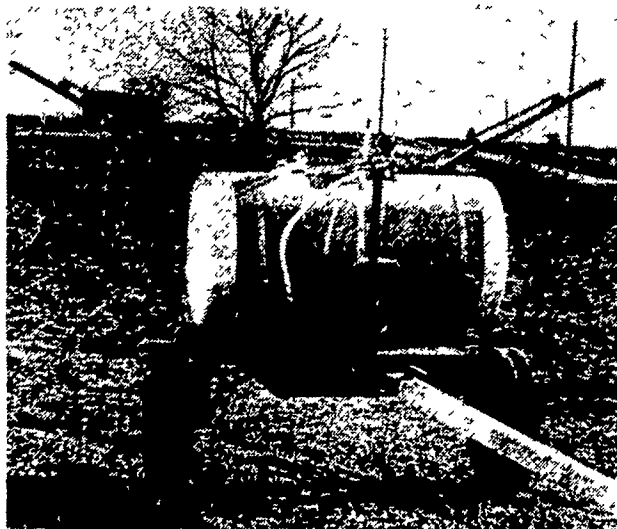
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