

Comment on conservation through letter

HARRISBURG — Should agricultural producers be required to apply soil and water conservation measures on privately owned land to benefit the national objectives? Or should the use of conservation measures continue to be voluntary?

Who should pay for expensive conservation measures that provide some immediate benefits to the producer but have great benefits to the public such as improved water quality, cleaner air, or reduced sedimentation to streams and reservoirs?

These are some issues that will be discussed during a series of public meetings called by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to give the public a chance to help shape the future of USDA conservation programs.

Remaining Area meetings are scheduled as follows:
Berks County Wednesday March 19, 7:30 p.m., Agricultural Center

Dauphin County Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Lower Paxton Municipal Building

York County Tuesday, March 18, 7 p.m., Pleasant Acres
Montgomery County Thursday March 20, 7:30 p.m., Keystone Grange & Trap

If you missed the meeting in your area, you can complete the following questionnaire, developed by the Dauphin County Conservation District, and send it to RCA Response Analysis Center, Box 888, Athens GA 30603

USDA has identified seven separate problem areas (listed below). Please indicate which areas should be given which priority. Put a "1" by the one that you feel is the most important, a "2" by the second most important and so forth with a "7" by the one that you feel is the least important.

- Soil Resources
- Water Quality
- Water Supply & Conservation
- Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- Upstream Flood Damages
- Energy Conservation
- Related Resources

Considering the seven problem areas, list some specific areas you feel should receive special emphasis.

- will help to solve the problems
- will do very little to help solve the problems
- will be more harmful in the long run

Regulatory Emphasis

Conservation measures would be required.
An increasing amount of conservation assistance & cost sharing would be provided.

The program of regulation would be gradually introduced over a period of 20 years.

I believe that such a program (check one)
 is necessary to solve the problems

- will help to solve the problems
- will do very little to help solve the problems
- will be more harmful in the long run

Conservation Performance Bonus

Conservation measures would be voluntary.
Incentives for conservation would be in the form of cost sharing, more favorable loan rates, or commodity price supports.

The amount of the bonus will be affected by the cost of the conservation practice.

I believe that such a program (check one)
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Cross Compliance

Conservation measures would be voluntary.
Only those farmers who apply conservation measures will qualify for certain benefits such as low interest loans, cost-sharing, crop insurance and commodity price supports.

I believe that such a program (check one)
 is necessary to solve the problems

Natural Resource Contracts

Conservation measures would be voluntary.
A farmer who reduces soil erosion would be paid a flat price per ton of soil saved per year.

I believe that such a program (check one)
 is necessary to solve the problems

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Redirect Existing Programs

Conservation would continue to be mainly voluntary with technical assistance and cost sharing available.
Emphasis would be on the coordination of program planning and evaluation.

The farmer would continue to make decisions on specific practices that will go on the land.

I believe that such a program (check one)
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- will help to solve the problems
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State Leadership

Soil & water conservation programs would be developed by the state governments.

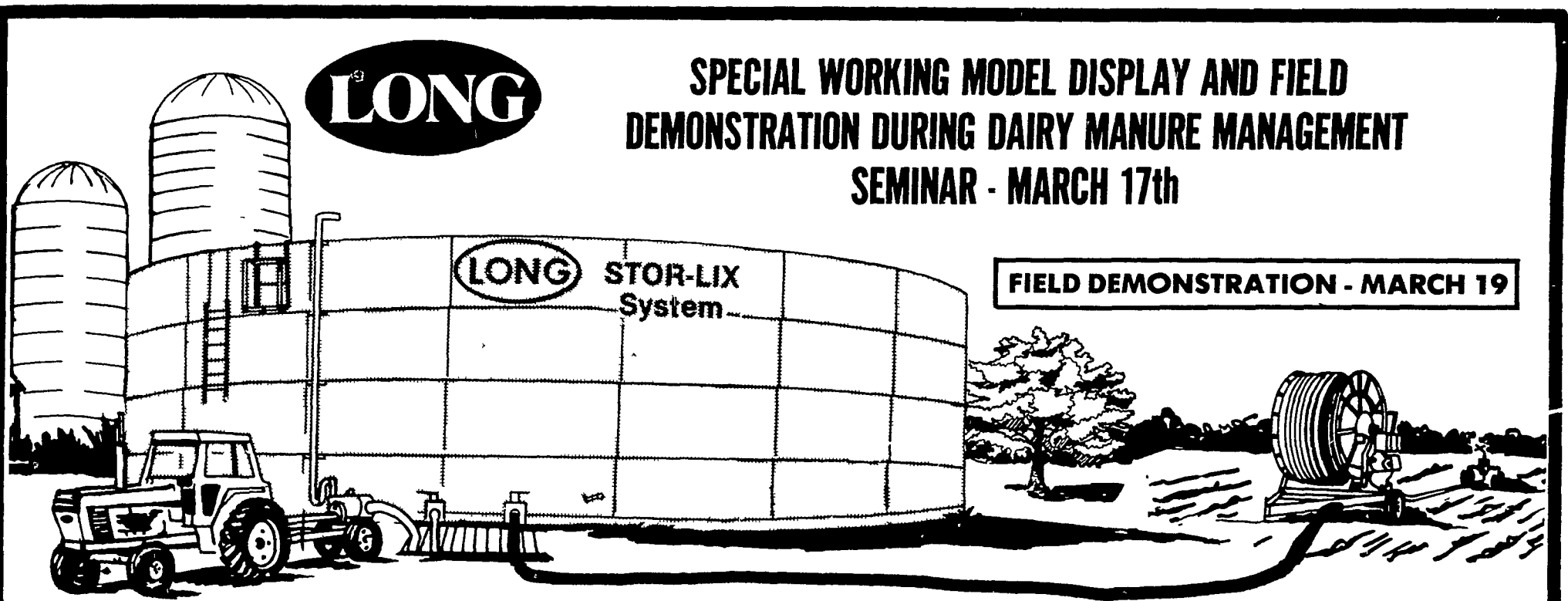
State governments would also provide technical assistance and funding for local and statewide concerns.

The Federal government would identify national priorities regarding soil and water conservation.

The Federal government would also provide grants to states for activities that further national goals.

I believe that such a program (check one)
 is necessary to solve the problems

(Turn to Page C17)



SPECIAL WORKING MODEL DISPLAY AND FIELD DEMONSTRATION DURING DAIRY MANURE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR - MARCH 17th

FIELD DEMONSTRATION - MARCH 19

See A Miniature Working Model Of The
LONG STOR-LIX LIQUID MANURE STORAGE TANK
Monday, March 17 8:30 AM to 3 PM
At The
Dairy Manure Management Seminar
FARM & HOME CENTER
1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pa.

Field Demonstration (Weather Permitting)
Of
NU-WAY SLURRIGATOR & STOR-LIX CHOPPER-PUMP
Wednesday, March 19 9 AM to 4 PM
At
MATT YOUNG'S RED KNOB FARM
Off Rt. 272, 2 Miles South Of Wakefield, Pa.,
Right Hand Side Near Grange Hall. Watch For Signs.

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