

# Get fall grains off to a good start

**BY DON WERTMAN**  
With the good wheat & barley harvest season, some area farmers may be eyeing their storage bins as a source of planting stock this fall.

This old practice still attracts cost conscious growers, but more progressive farmers have long discovered the merits of certified seed and go to all lengths to procure quality seed. Here are some of the advantages of Certified Seed.

**KNOWN PEDIGREE** — Today's big machinery is a major source of contamination. Unless special care is given, seed lots are easily contaminated with other varieties or other crops such as Rye.

Certified Seed on the other hand must be virtually free of all contaminants of this nature. We also recognize that planting stock which is genetically pure will perform as the variety is described, while successive generations which are not maintained will lose the true performance potential of the variety.

**PURE SEED** — Seed which is free of weed, seeds such as garlic, quackgrass, thistle, cockle and mustard. Any beginning seedsmen can verify how many acres are

lost in certification due to these weeds.

Certified Seed is field inspected to determine the presence of weeds before the crop is harvested. If certain noxious weeds are present the field is rejected. If other weeds are present the field may pass conditionally but the crop is not certified until the laboratory reports that the cleaned sample is free of noxious weeds.

Home grown seed offers none of these guarantees.

Some years ago, we saw some lots of "re-cleaned" home grown seed contain over 100 quackgrass seed per pound. With the cost of herbicides it would be better to plant weed free seed than to try to get rid of the weeds the following year.

**PROPER SEED TREATMENT** — This is one of the most important aspects of good seed. Although seed doesn't have to be treated to be certified, most companies offer treated seed.

It has become apparent that since the environmentalists have succeeded in banning Mercury seed treatments, the incidence of disease in small grain has increased. We are now forced to use an expensive product called "Vita Vax" to control loose smut in

barley. Any grower who does not want smut in barley should insist on Vita Vax treatment. This treatment needs to be applied properly.

Again certified seed, Vita Vax treated, is the best insurance in controlling smut, bunt and several other problems. Seed treatment of wheat is also important.

Vita Vax, Terra Coat and Protector 3L are also good protectant fungicides. Seed treatment is only as good as the way its applied. Proper dosage and uniform distribution are important. Seedsmen selling Certified seed are equipped and knowledgeable in this important area. Thus, buying certified seed helps guarantee proper seed treatment.

**DISEASE CONTROL** — Certified seed is inspected for disease especially loose smut. Since the organism is seed borne it can be spread if present in the seed field. If found in excess of certified standards the field are rejected.

Scab can also be a problem. Planting clean seed provides extra insurance.

**GUARANTEED GERMINATION** — All Penna. Certified wheat and barley seed must germinate 90 percent in 1980. We say in

1980 because the standard may be lowered, in an adverse year if permitted by the Department of Agriculture.

All seed is tested before sale and the analysis tag is your guarantee of quality. Much home grown seed is never tested and although the seed looks good there could be a germination problem.

These are but a few of the pluses for Certified Seed. Farmers should realize that Seedsmen and the Department of Agriculture spend many dollars in funding our Certification program. It is a benefit to growers only when they take advantage of it through the purchase of Certified Seed.

**VARIETIES TO PLANT?** — Plant several varieties if this is practical. Penn State recommends Hart, Abe and Redcoat for Pennsylvania. This season most varieties did well, however Hart appears to have the best record across the state.

Many new varieties have been grown with varying degrees of success. Several are Logan, Ruler, Potomac, and Titan. Each has performed well in 1980. Titan, an Ohio release, appears promising but has some susceptibility to scab according to Elwood Hatley of Penn State. He also says Potomac does not always

stand as well as it should but displays outstanding mildew resistance.

Potomac will be recommended in 1981 for Southeastern Pennsylvania. Winter hardiness is a concern in other parts of the state.

A new Illinois variety, Roland, shows promise and will be tried as soon as seed is available.

Certified Pennoll is still available from most seed companies. The variety is the tallest on the market and is still regarded as having the plumpest grain. Standability can be a problem with this variety although modern combines have overcome this obstacle.

Planting two varieties of different maturities can be beneficial. Abe and Hart will mature early while Redcoat is later Pennoll is the latest

maturing with other new varieties falling in between Hart and Redcoat.

What's down the road in cereal grain production?

Pennsylvania Seedsmen are excited about the future for grain production in our state. A Cereals Research project has been instituted at Penn State to research all aspects of production including varietal testing and development, pest management, cultural practices and energy efficient establishment. This is a tremendous undertaking and will require the support of many individuals and agencies.

Planting certified seed in 1980 of a proven variety that fits your program will put you on your way toward harvesting a profitable crop next summer.

## HIGH PRESSURE WASHING

OF POULTRY HOUSES AND VEAL PENS

**BARRY L. HERR**  
1744 Pioneer Road, Lancaster, Pa.  
Phone: 717-464-2044

### MGS TRAILERS

(Over 59 Models and Types)  
R.D. 3 (At Exit 21 Pa. TrnPk. & Rt. 272)  
Denver, PA (17517)



215 / 267-7528



VARIATIONS OF HANDYMAN 72 AND 96



ADAPTABILITY OF HANDYMAN 101



BIN TRAILER (FOR FRUIT AND PRODUCE)



TRUCKMATE, MODELS GN or AF  
(For Pick-ups)

## UNDERGROUND LIQUID MANURE SYSTEMS



- \* Eliminate manure stacks for cleaner and neater appearance
- \* Eliminates breeding places for flies and insects
- \* Eliminates odor with underground manure storage

Above ground systems also available    **ASCS APPROVED**

### MAR-ALLEN CONCRETE PRODUCTS INC.

RD1, EPHRATA, PA 17522

PHONE: 717-733-9404

# SUPER DOERS OF AMERICA™

## GET YOUR NFL JUG 'N' MUGS.

Get officially licensed NFL Jug 'N' Mugs (Thermos brand, value priced). Look for rugged, reliable Stanley tools tagged with this Super Bowl warmup offer. Choose jug, mug, set of 4 mugs. Winning souvenirs with NFL emblem.








## SEPTEMBER SPECIALS on these STANLEY TOOLS

SAVE to 25% on these & other Super Doers Specials Available Now

# LEROY B. ESH HARDWARE

3453 Old Phila. Pike, Ronks, PA  
Across From C.B. Hooper & Son

Located on Rt. 340 Intercourse, PA  
PH: 768-3681