

# Organic farmers deserve help on non-synthetic methods

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Research and education programs should be developed to address the needs and problems of organic farmers, according

to a comprehensive report on organic farming in the United States and abroad issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In the report, a study team of government, industry, and university scientists urges that organic farming systems be investigated as a means to conserve both

energy and natural resources.

The report defines organic farming as "a production system which avoids or

largely excludes the use of synthetically-compounded fertilizers, pesticides, growth regulators, and livestock feed additives."

In calling for programs to study organic farming as an option in American agriculture, the study team said: "a holistic research approach, that may involve the development of new methodologies, is needed to thoroughly investigate organic farming practices and their relationship to organic waste recycling, nutrient availability, crop production, energy conservation and environmental quality."

The study team drew upon on-site case studies of 69 organic farms in 23 states, a Rodale Press survey of "The New Farm" magazine readership, two study tours of organic farms and research institutes in Europe and Japan, interviews and correspondence with knowledgeable organic farmers and an extensive review of the literature published on organic farming.

The experts concluded

that "many of the current methods of soil and crop management practiced by organic farmers are also those which have been cited as best management practices for controlling soil erosion, minimizing water pollution and conserving energy."

These benefits were not necessarily achieved at the expense of crop yields, the researchers found.

According to both USDA case studies and the Rodale study, "most of the farmers with well established organic systems reported that crop yields on a per acre basis were comparable to those obtained on near-by chemical-intensive farms."

The study team also expressed itself as "impressed by the ability of organic farmers to control weeds and pests without the use, or with minimal use, of chemicals."

Their success in controlling weeds in crops such as soybeans, corn and cereals was attributed, in the report, to timely tillage and cultivation, delayed planting, crop rotations.

## PCB-containing soil to be removed

YOUNGSVILLE — Cleanup of the warehouse site in Youngsville, Warren County, is nearing completion with the planned removal of the remaining soil containing trace amounts of PCBs

Representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources and the federal Environmental Protection Agency today announced

that the remaining soil containing low levels of polychlorinated biphenyls is to be removed from the site early in January

The announcement was made by James P. Snyder, assistant director of DER's Bureau of Solid Waste Management, and Michael Zickler, the EPA's on-scene coordinator at Youngsville

Removal of the soil will complete the cleanup operation at the warehouse

where 425 barrels of PCB-laced oil were discovered in August 1978 by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in connection with the North Carolina PCB dumping case involving the operators of a Jamestown, N.Y., transformer sales company

In July state funds were used to remove the barrels of PCB-laced oil from the warehouse located 150 yards

from the wells serving as Youngsville's water supply

The remaining soil is to be trucked to the Keystone Landfill in Dunmore Borough, Lackawanna County

The Keystone facility is a permitted municipal landfill which has been approved to receive the soil by DER

Representatives of DER and EPA will be at the landfill to monitor disposal of the soil

The soil will be transported by a private hauler under contract to the EPA

Soil removed from the Youngsville site has been tested by the EPA Soil with higher amounts of PCBs were taken to a secure out-of-state landfill

The EPA does not consider the remaining soil containing low levels of PCBs to represent a health hazard

## State ag businessmen predict higher 1981 prices

EPHRATA — "While the U.S. still has the lowest food prices in the world, I think the American consumer will have to get used to higher prices in 1981."

The New Year's prediction was expressed by Jay Wolgemuth, Wolgemuth Bros., Mt. Joy, as he prepared to relinquish the presidency of PennAg Industries Association on January 1, to Morris E. Brown, Jr., F.M. Brown's Sons, Fleetwood.

PennAg is a statewide trade association of over 500 agribusiness firms in Pennsylvania.

Wolgemuth cited rapidly escalating ingredient prices which translate into higher

feed prices, the largest single cost in animal agriculture, as one reason.

Others include the extensive drought which was experienced in many geographic areas of the U.S. in 1980, higher interest rates, increased energy costs, burdensome governmental regulation which has real economic impact and the disrupting effect on world markets caused by the imposition of the grain embargo.

While Wolgemuth focused on eggs and meat for his remarks, Brown discussed dairy.

"I agree with all the above cited by Wolgemuth, but dairy has the added problem

of overproduction of fluid milk. Farmers must either hold down production or cull cows. With increased costs, dairy farms cannot stand reduced price levels without courting disaster."

Brown, in looking forward to goals for PennAg Industries during his presidency hopes for some revision of Pennsylvania's costly fertilizer law, elimination of the duplication in inspections of medicated feed by both Federal and State personnel and some correction on Pennsylvania's rural bridge weight limits.

## LAST MINUTE BUYING POWER

CALL COLLECT - 717-626-1151

BRING THIS AD IN FOR A LARGE YEAR-END DISCOUNT ON THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:



- ★ Bucket Milker Units
- ★ Parlor Conversions
- ★ Parlors
  - Polygon
  - Herringbone
  - Trigon
- ★ Detachers
- ★ Vacuum Pumps
- ★ Around The Barn Pipeline



- ★ Therma•Stors
- ★ Bulk Milk Tanks
- ★ Compressors
- ★ Liquid Manure Equipment

### HUSKY LIQUID MANURE EQUIPMENT

- ★ Lagoon Pumps
- ★ Pit Pumps
- ★ Small To Large Spreaders



• PLANNING LAYOUTS • SALES  
• INSTALLATION • SERVICE

## SHENK'S FARM SERVICE

501 E. WOODS DRIVE, LITITZ, PA 17543

PHONE: 717-626-1151

Mervin Nissley - 717-872-4565

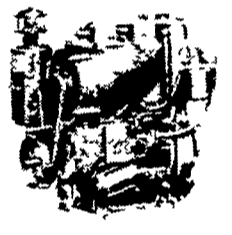
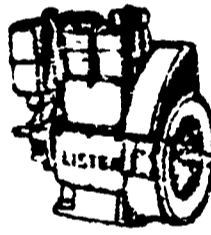
Our Service Trucks Are Radio Dispatched • Bulk Tanks • Therma•Stor  
24 Hr. Service Offered

## SMUCKER'S SALES & SERVICE

RD #2, BOX 21  
NEW HOLLAND, PA 17557

DISTRIBUTOR FOR:

LISTER, PERKINS &  
SLANZI DIESELS



The Deutz 912 series engines are different because they have direct fuel injection!

2 Cyl F2L-912

We Have SR2 12 h.p. Lister Diesels, as is or rebuilt.

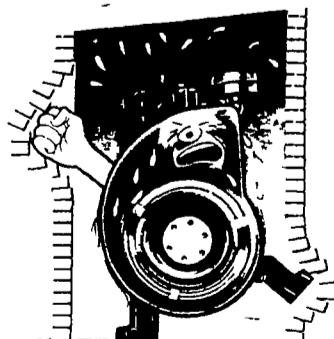
- Good used diesel engines
- New Sputnik wheels and parts

We mount diesels on balers, crimpers, cornpickers, etc.

Install a blower fan for better diesel & refrigeration cooling. Longer life on diesel.



LET ME BREATHE!



For lower cost per hour power, rely on



WE ARE NOW ALSO AN AUTHORIZED DEALER FOR DEUTZ DIESELS 3 h.p. to 450 h.p.

FOR PROMPT SERVICE CALL  
717-354-4158 OR IF NO ANSWER  
CALL 717-354-4374.