

200-bushel yield leads corn club plots

BY CURT HARLER

FARM SHOW — Top yields in both the ear corn and shelled grain class in the 1980 corn club awards program were made in relatively poor soil.

A 200 bushel yield of ear corn topped all entries in the five-acre corn club awards program.

Eugene Graham, R1 Evans City, made 200.8 bushels of Pioneer 3591, to lead all growers in the corn contest.

Graham made the yield in a Class III Gilpin soil by applying massive fertilization and planting close. His final fertilizer applied was 339-121-98. He planted 29,700 plants per acre.

Graham was one of several farmers honored at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers on Monday at Farm Show.

Second place in the ear corn class went to Ray Diebold, R3 Altoona. The Blair County farmer used DeKalb XL-55a to make 187.3 bushels.

Close behind was Lancaster County's James E. Kettering, R7 Manheim. He planted Pioneer 3184 at 25,600 plants per acre to make a yield of 185.6 bushels.

Yields in shelled grain generally were lower than in the ear corn class this year.

First place yield in shelled grain was made by brothers David and Richard Martin, R1 Volant.

They planted Pioneer 3747 in a Class IV Ravena soil. Martins, too, went heavy with the fertilizer. Total

fertilizer applied was 239-234-223.

They squeezed nearly 24,900 plants per acre in 38 inch rows.

Second place in shelled grain went to Harold Ealy, R2 Sharpsville. He planted P-A-G 397 in a Canfield Class IV soil, at a typical stand population of 20,345 to make a yield of 173.3 bushels.

Third place went to Peter Skopic, R1 Hunlack Creek. He planted Muncy Chief 776 and made 172.8 bushels per acre.

Of course, those who can make big yields consistently can prove their program is no fluke.

In the three-year ear corn class, Earl Gordon, R1 McConnellsburg, had a three year average of 186.5 bushels. The average includes one year's yield of over 208 bushels.

Gordon stuck with Pioneer hybrids, using 3184 the past two years of the three.

In the shelled grain class, Gerald Shoop, R1 Milton took top three year average with 171.4 bushels.

Shoop used DeKalb the first year and two Yield Warranty lines in the past two years to make his high three-year average.

For the first time there was an award presented for the Pennsylvania Youth Corn Club. This year's winner was Lynn Pettit.

She made 133.6 bushels to the acre on her Greene County plot. The hand checked figure, and the machine harvested figure of 129.1 bushels per acre, confirm the accuracy of the testing.



Ear corn champions were given their awards by State Representative Noah Wenger. From left they are: Eugene Graham, R1 Evans City, first with 200

bushels; Ray Diebold, R3 Altoona, second; and James E. Kettering, R7 Manheim, third.



Lancaster County's James E. Kettering, center, R7 Manheim, produced 185.6 bushels to finish third in the ear corn class. Noah Wenger, left, made the presentation while County Agent Arnold Lueck, right, looked on.



In the youth division Lynn Pettit, Holbrook, Greene County, took first place with a yield of 133.6 bushels. Making the presentation is State Representative Noah Wenger.

Lynn's cost to grow a bushel of corn was \$2.51. She follows the tradition of women winning corn contests. The first state corn contest also was won by a young lady from western Pennsylvania.

Awards were presented by Lancaster County State

Representative Noah Wenger Penn State Agronomist Joseph McGahen computed the yields.

There were a total of 270 entries in the 1980 five acre corn club. Average yield for all entries was 129.6 bushels per acre.

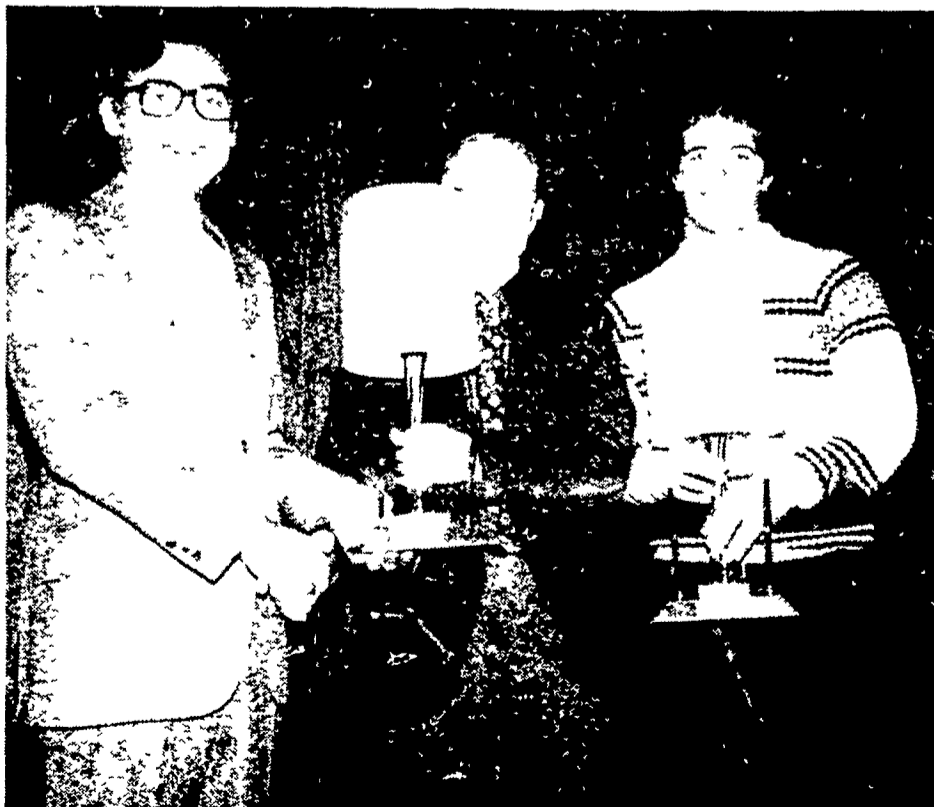


State Representative Noah Wenger, left, presents trophy lamp to David Martin, R1 Volant, who topped the shelled grain corn division with a yield of 180 bushels. Third place went to Peter Skopic, R1 Hunlack Creek. Not present was second place finisher Harold Ealy.

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Scott Shoop, right, accepted the three-year average shell grain award for his father, Gerald, R1 Milton. Kenneth Gordon, R1 McConnellsburg, accepted the ear corn three year award for his son, Earl. Making the presentation was State Representative Noah Wenger, left.