

Peach convention

(Continued from Page A32)

investigative reporter for The Packer Asking piercing questions about the funding of farm worker programs, reclamation, trucking, farm structure, regulation in general, Waterfield is up-to-date on agricultural legislation, proposed legislation and personalities who make decisions in the nation's capitol.

His emphasis will be on current events in Washington as they relate to agriculture, the challenges and opportunities awaiting the new Reagan administration, and ways in which growers can bring about change through effective grassroots lobbying.

Representing the USDA, Science and Education Administration is Paul

Schwartz, National Research Program Leader Pest Control Materials, whose topic will touch on minor use pesticide program and how it impacts on the registration of pesticides.

This program was started several years ago with Federal funds when it became clear that chemical companies were attempting to get EPA registration of chemicals used on fruits, vegetables, and other minor crops. Schwartz as entomologist specialist will highlight the role of growers in accomplishing this important production program.

Dealing with the future will be the thrust of the final afternoon sessions entitled Projected Changes in Agriculture.

The first in an impressive

line up of scientists for this panel is Waldemar Klassen, who has authored more than 80 scientific publications. While "Integrated Pest Management Systems" is his main topic, Klassen's major responsibilities also include coordination of Science and Education in Administration-Agricultural Research's National Research Program.

The topic of pest management and its implications on future production will highlight Klassen's remarks.

Remote Sensing Techniques will be the thesis of Robert Reginato, Acting Research Leader, Science and Education Administration, USDA. His main research interests have led to the use of nuclear radiation techniques for measuring soil moisture and soil density.

The use of visible and

thermal infrared remote sensing techniques help to assess crop stress for application in scheduling irrigations and predicting crop yields. These methods, though not used specifically on peaches, will be of interest to NPC growers, according to Reginato.

Satellite photography is so sophisticated that it is now possible to conduct tree counts, monitor insect and disease infestations, and compute acreages planted to a given crop and predict freezes.

Freddi Hammerschlag delves into the Techniques of 'Tissue Culture' for fruit crops and suggests how such techniques would revolutionize fruit production practices. A Research Plant Physiologist, Cell Culture and Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory, USDA, SEA,

AR, Hammerschlag's research includes micropropagation of peach in two very recent publications.

More accurate analysis of weather is the heart of The Green Thumb Dissemination System designed to provide farmers with latest weather and weather-related agricultural information that they can use to make day-to-day decisions.

This minicomputer will be the topic of Howard F. Lehnert, USDA, who will have some computer models on hand for growers to view.

Maryland has been a pilot state for the Green Thumb Box which can be owned or leased by farmers, tuning their television receivers

into a computer terminal offering highly perishable information farmers need to operate.

In addition to weather forecasts, the system shows insect infestations, spray schedules, extension grower activities and more.

A look at these innovative production aids along with scrutiny of the regulatory system in which growers exist will provide NPC convention delegates with a well-rounded educational program in the Valley of the Sun," states Kemp enthusiastically.

Registration information is available from NPC, P O Box 1085 Martinsburg, WV, 25401 Call Lillie Hoover, 304/267-6024.

Top conservation teacher sought

WEST CHESTER — Nominations are being accepted for the seventh national "Conservation Teacher of the Year" awards program according to Pownall Jones, Chairman of the Chester County Conservation District.

The competition is open to all full time teachers working at the kindergarten through high school level who have developed an outstanding program of environmental education.

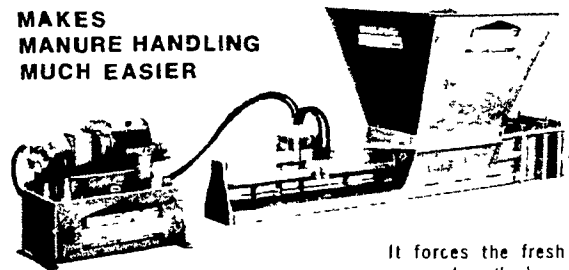
The National Conservation Teacher of the Year will receive \$1,000 in cash and an expense paid trip to Phoenix, Arizona for the 1982 annual convention of the National Association of Conservation Districts. The national second place winner receives a \$500 cash award and the first place regional winner will be given \$200.

Co-sponsored by NACD and the Allis Chalmers Corporation, the purpose of the awards program is to encourage the development of creative learning experiences in conservation for young people. "Any teacher in a public or private school in our conservation district who puts emphasis on environmental conservation as a regular part of the instructional program is eligible for nomination", said Marshall Haws, Executive Conservationist for the District.

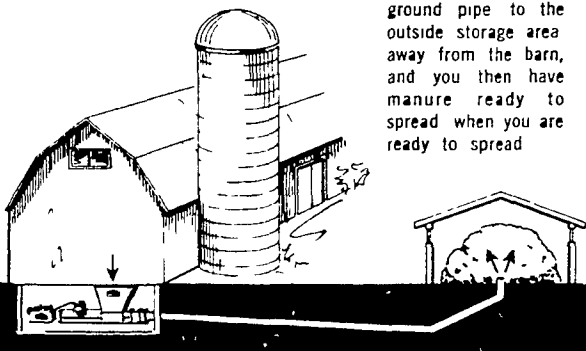
Interested teachers can obtain additional information and nomination forms from any County Conservation District. Nominations must be submitted by March 31, 1981.

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