

**Delmarva Corn, Soybean conference**

# Here's an update on 1981 herbicide use

SALISBURY, Md. — Now is the time for crop farmers to take inventory in their agrichemical storage rooms, says Ronald L. Ritter, Extension weed control specialist and assistant professor of agronomy at the University of Maryland.

"You may not need to order as much herbicide this spring as you think," Dr. Ritter declares. "If properly stored and still in good condition, many partially empty containers can probably supply significant amounts of 'tried and true' chemical materials which will do an adequate job of weed control under normal circumstances."

"Plan to buy the newer, often more expensive herbicides only for fields where you have special problems, such as triazine-resistant pigweed."

Ritter spoke Wednesday during the first annual Delmarva Corn and Soybean Technology Conference at the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury.

He shared the platform with two professional colleagues from Delaware and Virginia on the topic, "Corn and Soybean Cultural Practice and Tillage Update."

An AAtrex (atrazine) and Princep combination still provides a good, economical pre-emergent treatment for broad spectrum weed control in most cornfields, Ritter said. However, if triazine-

resistant pigweed is a problem in a particular field, you may have to switch to a newer chemical like Dual for pre-emergent application and, possibly, Banvel for post-emergent treatment.

Likewise, the familiar Lasso and Lorox combination will do a good job of pre-emergent weed control in soybeans, if you still have some on hand. If post-emergence weed control becomes necessary, use one of the newer chemicals like Blazer.

The flood-jet nozzles often used with pre-emergent herbicides are not suitable for use with Blazer. Instead, use flat-fan nozzles for better spray distribution. And spray at a rate of 20 gallons of liquid per acre with a sprayer pressure of 40 pounds or more per square inch.

Still in the experimental stage is a program for applying Surflan in wheat fields to help control grassy weeds affecting double-cropped soybeans which follow in the same growing season.

Under the present system, Ritter explained, some grasses germinate before the small grain is harvested; and they get too tall for control by the chemical treatment normally applied just prior to stubble-planting of soybeans in early summer.

Hoelon is another new product for weed control in soybeans. It

does a good job of killing volunteer corn less than 10 inches in height, Ritter reported. And it is the first post-emergent grass-killer available for use in soybean fields.

The Maryland agronomist

warned that Hoelon should not be tank-mixed with other chemicals—especially Basagran, which causes a definite loss in grass-control effectiveness.

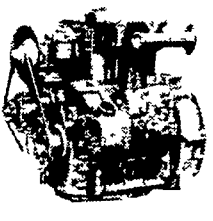
For more information on her-

bicides and other pesticides, Ritter suggested that Maryland farmers ask their county Extension agricultural agents for a free copy of "Pest Control Recommendations for Field Crops, 1981".

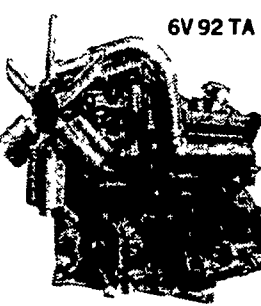
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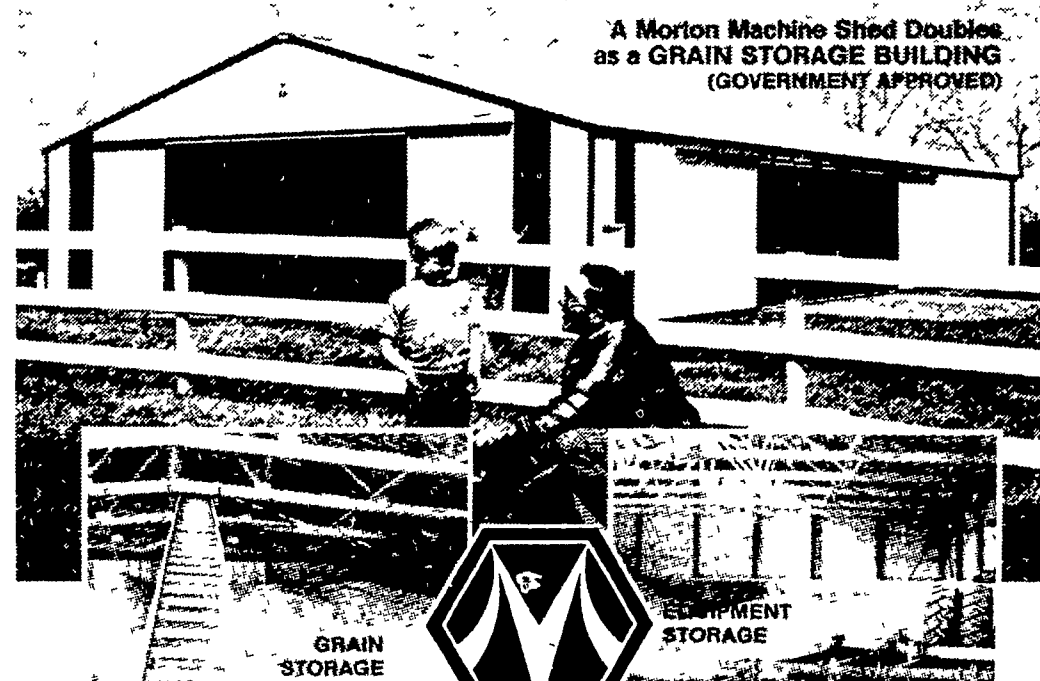
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