

Lancaster holds Crops and Soils Day

BY SHEILA MILLER
LANCASTER — A crowd of 200 farmers from Lancaster and surrounding counties gathered at the Farm and Home Center for the 20th Annual Crops and Soils Day Program on Tuesday.

Experts in grain production reviewed current recommendations on cultivation of small grains, soybeans and tobacco, weed control, crop rotations, and soil testing. Economists were on hand to predict the future price outlook for grain markets.

John Yocum, Penn State superintendent of the Southeast

Field Research Laboratory in Landisville informed tobacco growers of a new chemical available for control of blue mold. The product, Ridomil, can be applied to seedbeds before or right after seeding, he said. This application, at the present time, can be done only once in the growing season. However, progress is being made in getting a state label which would allow a second application after 70 days, he said.

The application rate for Ridomil is 2 ounces per 150 square yards. This would mean 2½ teaspoons in a 6x50 foot plot, or 3½ teaspoons in

an 8x50 foot plot. When applying Ridomil in a field, Yocum recommended 2 quarts per acre be broadcast prior to transplanting.

To control anthracnose, a fungus disease, in tobacco, Yocum cited several chemicals that can be used in control programs. Ferban, at 5 tablespoons per gallon, Zineb, at 2 tablespoons per gallon, and Maneb, at 1 tablespoon (heaping) per gallon can be sprayed on when the tobacco plants are the size of a dime and then every 5-7 days during the season. For varieties that are not anthracnose resistant, Yocum recommended Wildfire and

Streptomycin 21% be applied at the rate of 1 teaspoon per gallon.

For insect control in tobacco beds, Yocum suggested using Furadan. And, for weed control, the Penn State specialist said Prowl can be applied preplant and lightly incorporated within 8 days of application. Or, he stated, Devrinol plus Tillam could be used. However, he cautioned the growers there may be some residue from this combination that can kill barley if that crop follows the tobacco. He noted wheat may "get by" if the field is disced or plowed.

Double cropping soybeans is an excellent system for farmers in the Lancaster area, Yocum said. He noted he's changed his recommendations on planting short season varieties after July 1, and is now recommending longer season soybeans that will not flower as early and will produce a taller plant. These include: Amcor, Will, Woodworth, Agropro 25, Agropro 250, Agropro 2575, and Asgrow 3127.

One crop that farmers need to take a closer look at, said Yocum, is spring oats. "With the new stiff-

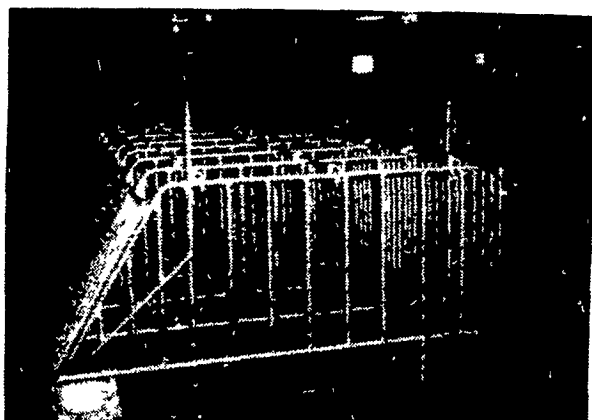
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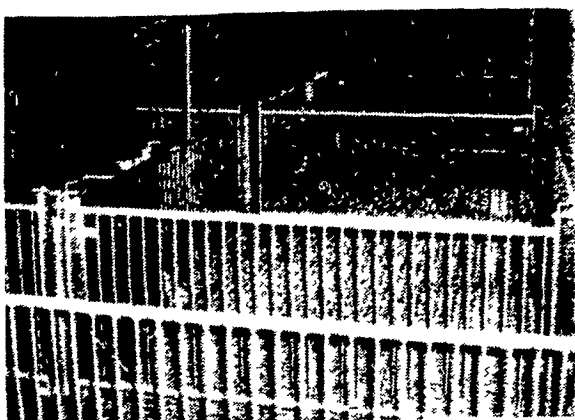
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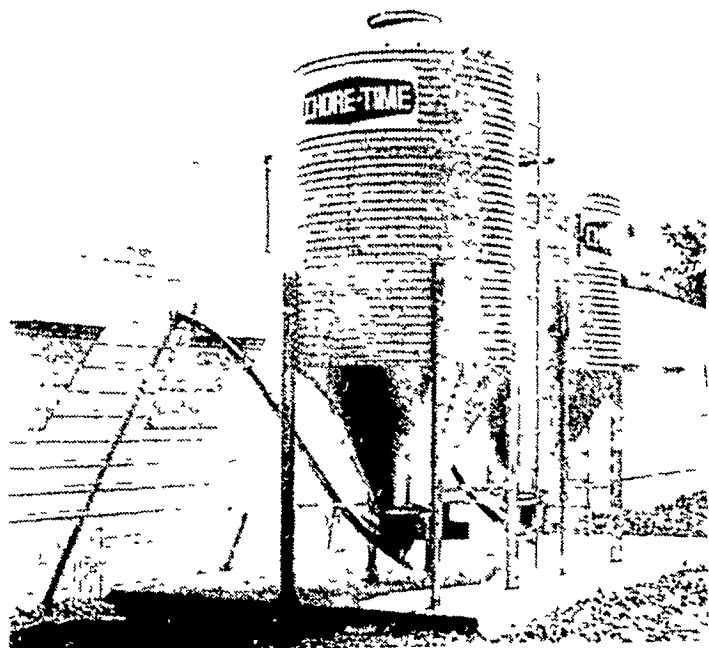


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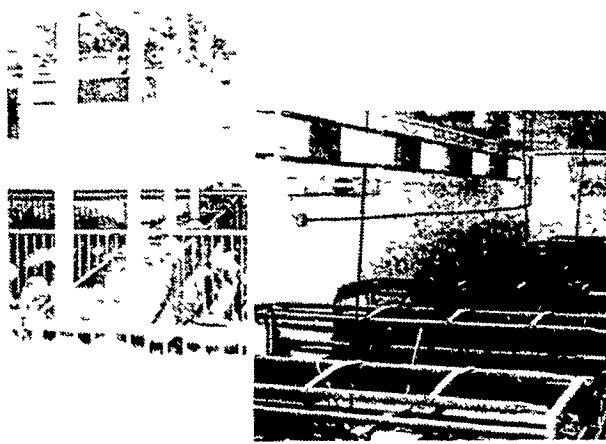


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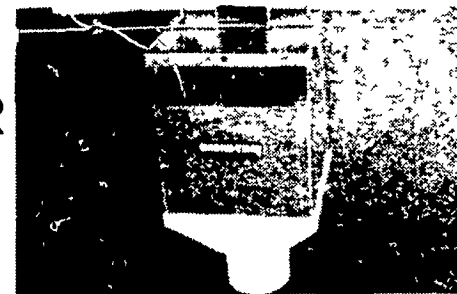


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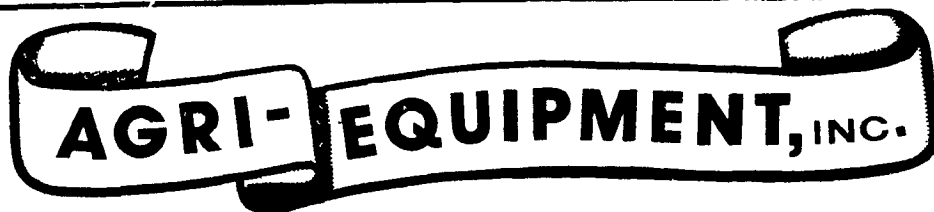
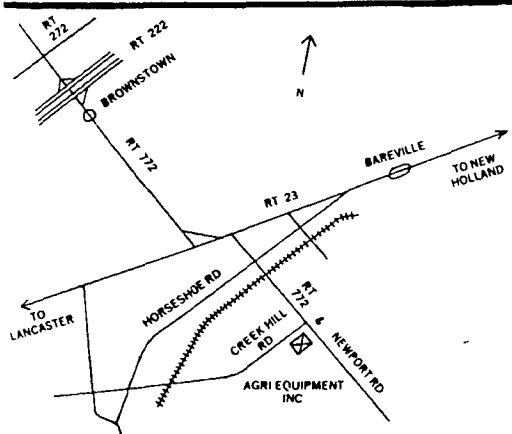
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