

York field day

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soil test is the most important tool in deciding on a fertilizer program."

He also discussed the use of nitrogen fertilizers, manure, and starter fertilizers. Beagle stated, "starter fertilizers give the plant a 'kick in the rear, and get it going.' This prevents stunting if a dry spell should come along in the early life of the plant.

In the herbicide plot, weed killing efficiency of various chemicals was tested. According to George Williams of Cordorus Fertilizer Service, all the herbicides were working well.

This statement was easily verified by comparing the test plots to the check plots where no herbicide had been applied and an abundant number and variety of weeds grew.

On the farm of Charles Rauhauser, two plots of corn were observed. One plot tested insecticides for the control of corn borer, while the other plot tested corn varieties. The hybrids were tested for their durability, disease resistance and later will be tested for yields. In addition to the corn plots, the Rauhauser's dairy farm also featured an alfalfa-variety testing plot.

A no-till corn plot and a minimum-tillage corn plot were the sites of two herbicide testing fields on the farm of Michael Hoffman. In both plots, a variety of herbicides were tested. The minimum-tillage plot was relatively free from weeds and all the chemicals used had performed admirably.

In the no-till field, some problems were evident. According to James Haldeman, York County Extension agent, the field was

heavily covered with old grasses and weeds making weed control difficult. The amounts of each chemical placed on this particular field were not heavy enough to control the abundant weed-seed population, he explained. One of the chemicals used in this test plot (an Aatrex-Bladex combination), Haldeman noted, had a tendency to delay the maturity of the corn by several days.

Participants in the field day visited displays setup by a number of seed, chemical and machinery companies — LD

N.Y. to get grant

NEW YORK, N.Y. — New York will be one of four states to receive \$60,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help finance a planning and evaluating demonstration project aimed at improving rural and agricultural transportation, a USDA official said.

The state will use the funds to test the feasibility of providing transportation services for agricultural and other rural shippers through a short line railroad or trucking transportation cooperative or other non-profit organization.

If the study proves the project to be economically feasible, the state will then work with affected users to help develop cooperative or other non-profit organizations to provide needed services.

The grant will be matched by state funds, said Mildred Thymian, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service —

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division is judged on basically the same criteria; however, the plows must have less than 3 bottoms. Second place in this division went to Bradley Hess of York County, with Bradley Kerm of Somerset County taking third.

The contour division, which is judged on slightly different rules than the level land contests, finds each contestant staggering the furrow and plowing them in a curved pattern to match the hill. A thirty-foot waterway had to be skipped over by each contestant. To make sure the waterway was just the right width, contestants could be seen checking and double checking with tape measures.

It was a close race for first place in this division, with top honors going to Miller and second place going to Jay Stoner of Cumberland County. James Mowery of Somerset County ranked third while using a foreign made plow that gave a slightly different turn to the soil than its American counterparts.

the agency which administers the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program, under which the grant was made.

Similar grants will be made to Montana, North Dakota and Texas.

A USDA task force invited states to submit proposals for rural transportation cooperative projects earlier this year. Thymian said eight states applied and the USDA Task Force on Rural Transportation Cooperatives, headed by Martin Fitzpatrick, director of USDA's Office of Transportation, recommended six.

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State plowing contest

A rookie plowman award was presented to Glen Myers of York County for his excellent plowing performance during his first year in state competition.

According to Richard Pennay, contest chairman, each year the number of plowmen participating in the contest drops, but the plowing quality goes up.

One of the judges in the large plow division quipped, "It's tough to judge when you have two triple

crown winners and three people who really want to plow."

When asked if moldboard plowing and contests requiring these types of plows aren't going out of style with the large number of farmers today using no-till and chisel plowing, Pennay said, "This could be the last year for the contest, I just don't know. There are still farmers who enjoy these plowing contests and they may be able to keep them going."



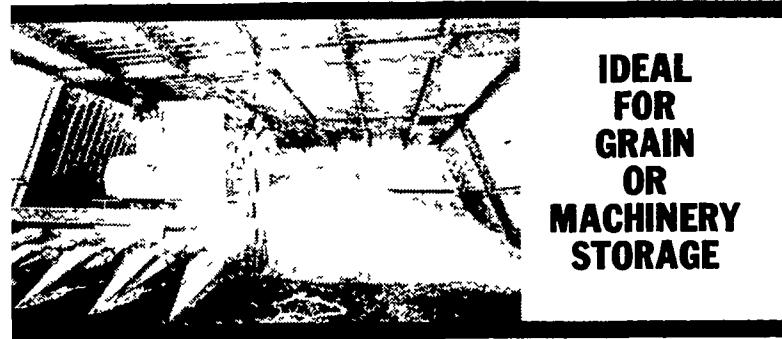
Brad Hess of Dallastown concentrates on turning a straight furrow while competing in the small plow contest. His performance earned a second-place ranking in close competition.

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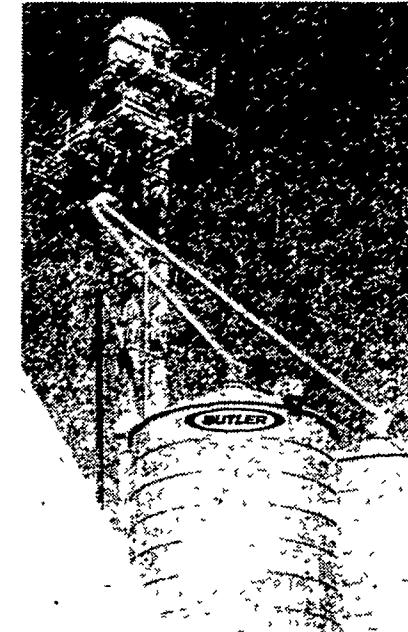
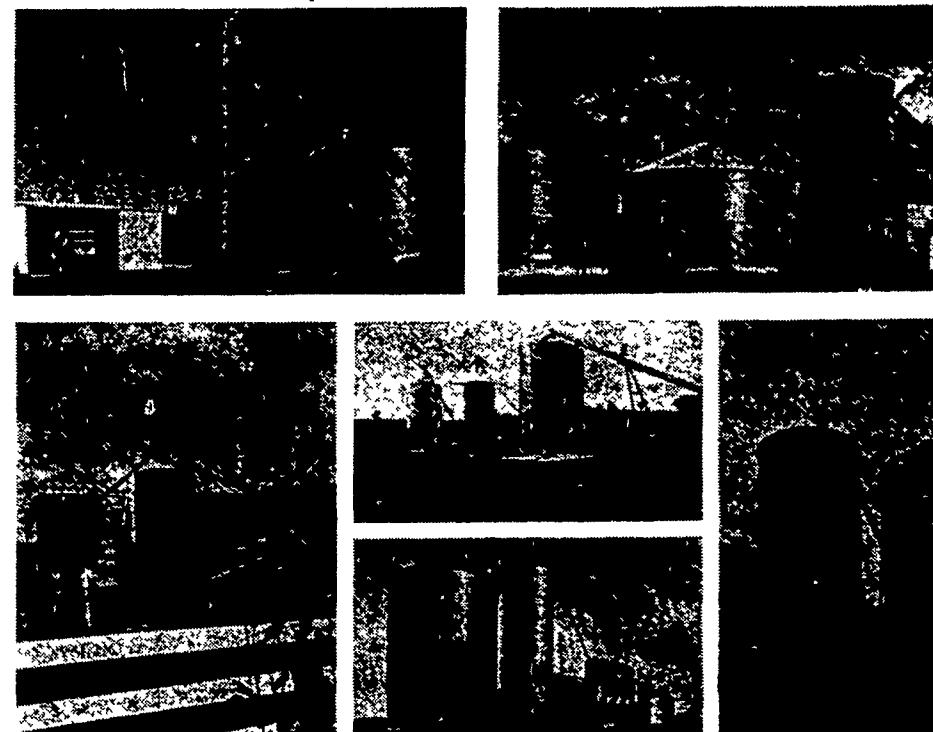
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