

Southeast field day

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...an we used to, but we have a lot to learn yet," he continued.

When asked what advice he had for farmers of corn, he said, "I tell them to monitor their fields carefully and to see what problems arise. Of course, leaf analysis is important."

This year the lab has started a five-year study on corn employing three farming practices — minimum tillage, no-till, and conventional. According to McGahen, superimposed over the tillage will be cover crops of rye, and sweet clover. Superimposed over this then will be several legumes of nitrogen, 0 to 100 pounds.

"We want to establish what the effects of tilling as opposed to no-till on soil will do. Some fellows say tillage makes it worse to work with while others say the opposite," he explained.

But he did go on to add, "The general comments from farmers seem to be that 'my corn looks good this year.'"

Not to take a back door in research was soybeans — weed control, commercial varieties and no-till soybeans.

In charge of soybean research is Lynn Hoffman, senior research associate, who, when asked what he was recommending, said, "Time of planting is important as is distribution of seeds within the rows. A systematic herbicide control program to control weeds is important. A farmer needs to learn what weed problems he has and then seek guidance as to what his weakness is."

According to Jim Dripps, graduate student, farmers concerned about potato research seem to be interested in what pesticides are working out the best.

"We found that if you control it at the right time, you can almost get away with twice as less pesticide control. We're trying to refine practices so that you only

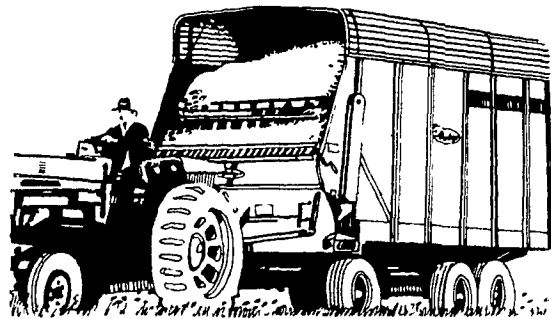
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John Yocum, right, discusses tobacco research and insect control with local farmer Gary Bender.



Lynn Hoffman, senior research associate, and soybean specialist jokes with Ray Layser, Asgrow Seed Co. Layser says he hopes to learn from the day, because, "We are asked many technical questions from farmers on planting." Behind them stretches the test plot of soybeans.



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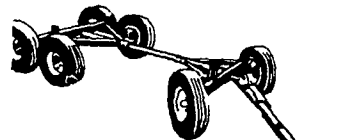
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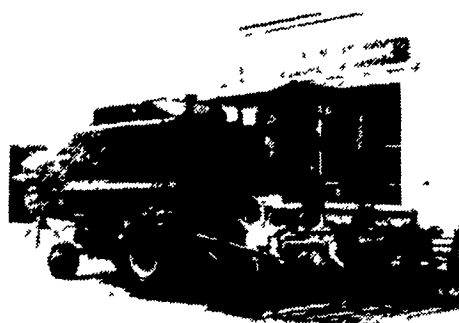
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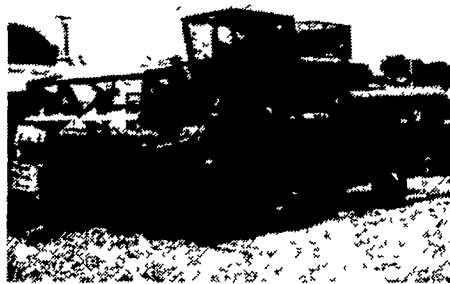
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