

Hereford cows achieve production recognition

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A listing of 1,331 registered Hereford cows has been afforded special recognition by the American Hereford Association. Cows in this elite group have combined the single most important economic trait of fertility, with the second most important trait of growth of her offspring.

To be a member of this elite group, a cow must meet high criteria in that she must be four years of age or older, must have had her first calf at 25 months of age or younger, have a calving interval of 370 days or less, and her calves must have weaned at least five percent above the average of her herd. In addition, the most probable producing ability, compares dams which do not have the same number of calf records in their average. It is most helpful in identifying the highest producing cows to be kept.

Only one-half of one percent of the nation's registered Hereford breeding cows can meet the rigid standards to attain listing. "Because of different management programs, many cows do not have the opportunity to be listed, however those making the list are efficient, productive cows and are deserving of the

special recognition" stated H.H. Dickenson, executive vice president of the AHA.

There are 1,331 cows representing 327 breeders from 30 states shown on the list. "This widespread distribution in numbers and areas further reflects the Hereford cow's ability to adjust to different climates and management programs," Dickenson added.

Montana Hereford breeders ranked first in the number of breeders with 49 breeders listing 208 cows. South Dakota ranked first in number of cows category with 306 cows from 46 breeders and Nebraska ranked third with 28 breeders and 118 cows.

Three cows listed are 14, 15 and 17 years of age, have weaned 13, 14 and 15 calves respectively, and still maintained the five percent above herd average for growth on their offspring. They are LH Miss Colo Dom F56, owned by Dan Landers, Wilsall, Mt.; Mischief Heiress 547, owned by Eugene Foster, Greycliff, Mt.; and RC Evan Heiress 53, owned by Ned Ray Purtle and Son, Hope, Ar.

A total of 79 cows have had nine calves or more with never skipping a year, and still sustaining the performance traits.

Sow cover crops soon

LEBANON — Give your cornland and soybean land a green blanket for Christmas suggests Karl Hellerick, Soil Conservation Service.

These crops need additional green cover over the winter to keep the soil in top condition.

Richard Elliot, South Annville Township, has been using aerial seeding to get the rye grain sown in his standing corn and soybeans in

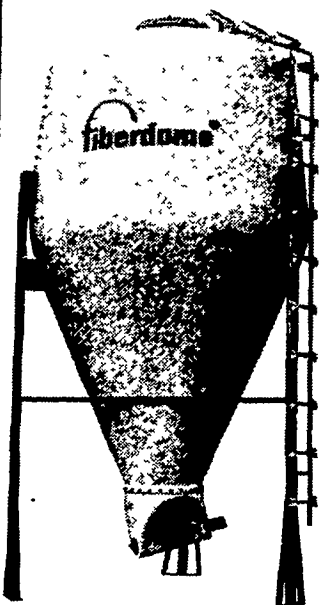
August. Elliot has had good results using 2 bushels of rye grain per acre.

Aerial applications in August get the job done quickly when farmers are "less" busy.

Another method is to disk in a bushel of rye grain after corn silage harvest.

Regardless of how you get the rye grain planted, it's worth the effort, advises Hellerick.

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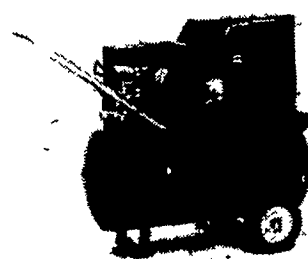
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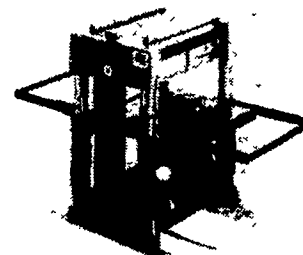
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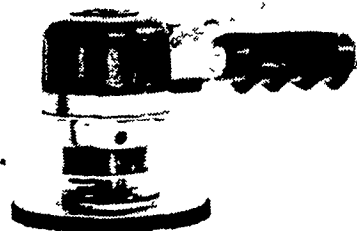
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