

## Fall alfalfa fertilization meets nutrient needs

DEKALB, IL. — Fall fertilization of alfalfa after removing the final cutting of the season is a popular way to meet nutrient needs of the crop. This time of year is good for fertilizing because fields are generally drier, allowing for less compaction from equipment than in spring. In addition, many farmers find that fall fertilizer application fits their workload schedule well.

Alfalfa is sometimes considered a soil building crop because of its ability to leave residual nitrogen for succeeding crops. Certain bacteria, called "Rhizobia" live in a mutually supporting role with the alfalfa root. These bacteria are able to convert nitrogen from the air into a form usable by alfalfa and succeeding crops. Thus, nitrogen fertilization of alfalfa is not considered necessary except in a small number of cases when establishing a stand.

Other nutrients, including phosphorus, potassium, calcium and sulfur are used in ample amounts by alfalfa. Each ton of alfalfa hay harvested removes approximately 12 pounds of phosphate, 60 pounds of potash, 30 pounds of calcium and six pounds of sulfur.

Phosphorus is relatively immobile in the soil, however, top-dressing P for maintenance purposes has been found to be an effective method of placement. Recovery of fertilizer P by a crop immediately after application is low. Thus, rate of application of P for high yields is often greater than that which would appear necessary.

Potassium is present in alfalfa in a higher concentration than any other mineral element, with the possible exception of nitrogen. Thus, potash quite frequently is the key to high-yielding, high-quality alfalfa.

Adequate potash levels assist alfalfa in the development of maximum winter-hardiness. In addition, there is good evidence that potash acts in a combination of ways to reduce diseases. The improved alfalfa persistence which results from high potash levels may be due to a large extent to the effect of potash on diseases.

The percentage of potassium content in alfalfa declines as the plant matures from pre-bud to full bloom. Hence, as more intensive cutting management is practiced, more potash fertilizer is required.

As a rule, potassium concentration in grass is greater than that of alfalfa. Therefore, higher rates of potassium fertilizer are needed to maintain alfalfa in a mixture with grasses than for a pure stand of alfalfa.

Potassium is slightly more mobile in the soil than phosphorus, but much less mobile than nitrogen. Most studies indicate that K should be topdressed at least once a year to established alfalfa stands.

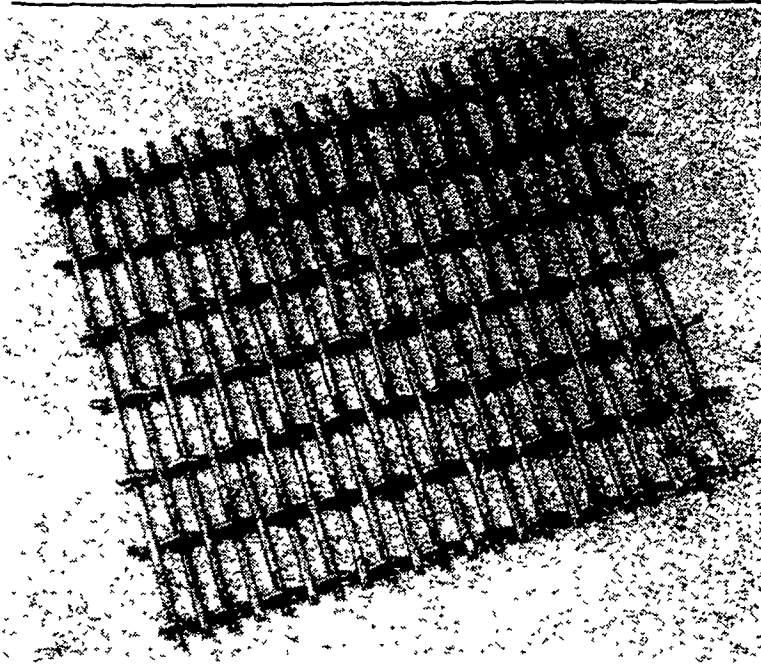
Alfalfa, while considered a soil building crop because of nitrogen residual left for succeeding crops, requires adequate fertilization on a timely basis. Fertilization of the established stand after the last cut of fall is a practice which works well.

### Funk lists bean variety

BLOOMINGTON, IL. — Funk Seeds International has G-numbered a new proprietary soybean variety for 1982 planting, according to Charles Brim, Funk manager of soybean research.

The new variety, Funk's G-3215, is tolerant to Phytophthora root rot. An outstanding performer with excellent emergence and maturity similar to Corsoy, G-3215 has led University of Illinois, Iowa State University, Funk and Canadian yield trials.

Seed supplies of G-3215 will be limited for 1982.



Lower carbon steels are being used in this confinement flooring to provide longer wear.

### Delphi develops flooring for confinement operations

DELPHI, IN. — A unique new method of weaving woven wire flooring for confinement buildings has just been developed by the Farmcraft Agri-Products division of Delphi Products Co., Road 421 North, Delphi, Ind.

The result is a top surface that is much smoother than any other woven wire flooring on the market, and consequently is easier on the feet of pigs of all sizes...from farrowing to finishing.

Instead of using the usual high carbon steel, Farmcraft is now employing lower carbon steels which give much longer wear, according to G.L. Underhill, President. As another method of giving the flooring longer life, heavier gauge wire is used for every purpose: 5-gauge (.207" dia.) is used for flooring for farrowing crates and nurseries; 3-gauge (.250" dia.) for breeding, gestation and finishing.

The wire is heavily galvanized before weaving, instead of after, to achieve complete surface protection. Galvanizing after weaving costs less, but it leaves unprotected spots where wires touch one another, Mr. Underhill said.

The new Farmcraft woven wire flooring stays drier and reduces animal stress, because there are no horizontal surfaces where moisture can collect.

### Look out Gloria & Calvin!

MILWAUKEE, WISC. — "A-C" stands for something besides Allis-Chalmers.

Now, it also might represent "Altogether Country."

Because that's exactly what A-C has done — they've gone altogether country.

The machinery manufacturer is now sponsoring a Western Clothing program, complete with the A-C logo on such things as shirts and jackets. And there are even embroidered company slogans on the back pockets of jeans in the same strategic spot in which famous

designers have been putting their names.

The handsome wearables have been carefully selected, according to the company, for their good looks and long-lasting quality.

"The Allis-Chalmers logo on each item is the assurance of superb craftsmanship and distinctive styling that is truly "Better by Design," according to a corporate news release.

The collection includes denim jackets and vests, straw and suede cowboy hats, blue jeans for men and women with the A-C logo and

slogan "Better by Design" embroidered on the back pocket, and chambray and white western-style shirts.

The shirts come complete with pearled snap closures and the jeans are triple-stitched.

"It is believed that when dealers, customers and employees wear these comfortable and durable clothes, they'll identify themselves with the progressive, positive Allis-Chalmers Corp. image, the news release states.

### 3 nominated to Agway terms

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Three Pennsylvania farmers have been nominated for reelection to the board of directors of Agway, Inc.

Donald E. Pease, of Susquehanna, who operates a 400-acre dairy farm in partnership with his cousin, Howard Pease, was selected last week at a district nominating meeting at the Shadow Brook Motel, Tunkhannock. He represents Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties.

Richard Croner, of Berlin, operator of a 1200-acre dairy farm in partnership with his son, Tom, was selected at a district nominating meeting at the Mountain View Inn, Greensburg. He represents southwestern Pennsylvania and western Maryland.

Benjamin Wineka, of Red Lion, who grows vegetables, grain and soybeans on his 93-acre farm, was



Jim Ulrich

### Select Sires names Ulrich to Pa. post

PLAIN CITY, OH. — Jim R. Ulrich of Oxford, Pa. has been named a Sales and Service Representative for Select Sires. Ulrich will be serving south central Pennsylvania, the area formerly served by Mark Hoelper.

Ulrich is well qualified to assist dairy and beef breeders in this area with their artificial insemination programs. Ulrich is a graduate of Penn State University and comes to Select Sires after five years as an A.I. technician with another bull stud. Prior to that, he worked at a food processing company.

Ulrich will serve the livestock breeders in south central Pennsylvania with semen and products from Select Sires. He is located at R2, Box 95, New Oxford, Pa.

## Farm Business News

### Paraquat gets alfalfa label

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. — Ortho Paraquat CL has received 24(c) registrations for use between alfalfa cuttings in 11 eastern states, announces Chevron Chemical Company.

The new registrations include the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. According to Bill Kirby, Market Support Specialist with Chevron, it is the only herbicide labeled for between cutting applications on alfalfa.

"An application of Paraquat

should effectively control the weeds that come up in the alfalfa fields during the summer," said Kirby. "It is especially good for controlling summer annual grasses such as foxtail, crabgrass and fall panicum."

"Growers can receive a premium price for clean, pure alfalfa, and an application of Paraquat after the second or third cutting can help a grower obtain that clean hay," added Kirby.

Paraquat may be applied one pint per acre in 20 to 60 gallons of water by ground of water by ground equipment as a broadcast application. It should control annual grasses and broadleaves as well as suppress perennial plants. The contact herbicide should only be applied to established alfalfa stands, at least one year old.

Applications should be made immediately after alfalfa has been removed for silage or hay. Fields should not be treated more than five days after cutting.

Growers should remember that alfalfa foliage present at the time of application will be burned; also that weeds germinating after the Paraquat application will not be controlled.

For further information, contact your local Ortho representative.



Allis-Chalmers vests and jackets have corporate logo on back, along with embroidered slogan on jean pocket.



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