

Organic Plant Food Co. holds alfalfa talks

LANCASTER — Alfalfa management, from seeding to harvest and even beyond, was covered at a meeting for growers hosted by the Organic Plant Food Co., Lancaster, at the Leola Family Restaurant on Thursday.

Speakers included John Yocum, Penn State agronomist and manager of the Southeast Research Farm, Landisville, who outlined fertilization and other field management practices; and representatives of chemical companies, who explained the latest in herbicide and insecticide recommendations.

"Fertility is the most important management practice to keep a long stand," Yocum said.

The Penn State agronomist first recommended a soil test so that growers know where they stand.

If soils are in the medium fertility range, he recommended 700 lbs. of 0-10-30 at plowdown, a 20-60-20 analysis at seeding and a repeat maintenance application of the plowdown formulation with borax added.

Yocum recommended band seeding as the best way to establish a stand. The maintenance application can be made at any time if P and K are at the medium level, he said.

Concerning varieties, Yocum recommended the use of any seed with resistance to wilt and anthracnose if a stand of more than three years is desired.

Yocum said he preferred spring seeding and if using a herbicide, make certain that the soil is warm enough that it works adequately.

He also stressed firm seedbed preparation and checks during planting to determine if the proper depth of a quarter inch is being achieved.

Straight seeding of alfalfa was recommended if protein is the chief product desired. If an increase in overall tonnage is wanted, then a nurse crop can be utilized.

Yocum cautioned that the application of Furadan granules at seeding is only good for the first cutting.

"You better come back with a leaf hopper spray on the second cutting if it's needed," he said.

Yocum also outlined the latest in harvesting recommendations.

For new seedings, cutting should take place at least at early bloom, not the bud stage.

For established stands, the first cutting of alfalfa is now related to the last cutting. If the first cutting

is done at full bud or early bloom, then four weeks are needed from the last cutting to the first frost.

Each succeeding cutting should be done at 35 to 40-day intervals.

If the first cutting is done at full bloom, then the last cutting can be made up to Oct. 15 but not later.

Touching on clover, Yocum stressed the importance of not letting the plants go to full bloom in the first year. They should be clipped or cut at quarter to half-bloom.

"If allowed to go to full bloom, the plant's life cycle is finished," he explained.

The use of Furadan was outlined by Steve Fisher, of FMC, who first showed a film that has to be one of the few truly entertaining product

films ever produced by an agricultural company.

He explained that the use of Furadan 10 granules in the seeding acts as a foliar systemic and soil contact to combat the potato leaf hopper in the first cutting. This practice was originated in Pennsylvania field tests.

He also showed examples of no-till alfalfa practices and the use of Furadan.

Wayne Marz, of Stauffer, outlined the use of Eptam against grasses, annual broadleaves and nutsedge, along with the insecticides Imidan and Trithion.

The new formulation of Princep

Calber 90 of CIBA-Geigy was also explained as a control of fall and winter annuals.

The use of Paraquat in no-till alfalfa and the new registration for its use for weed control between cuttings was explained by Dave Cote, of Chevron.—DA

Schuylkill winter vegetable meeting Feb. 15

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN — The Schuylkill County Winter Vegetable meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 15, 1982 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ringtown Banquet Hall, Ringtown.

Speakers for the meeting will be Pete Ferretti, Extension vegetable specialist; Larry Yager, Ex-

tension marketing specialist and Alan MacNab, Extension plant pathologist.

The topics to be discussed will include: new varieties available for 1982 plantings and variety comparisons, plant diseases and disease control, plus pricing of vegetables on the retail and

wholesale markets.

All vegetable growers are invited to attend this meeting sponsored by the Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension Service. For additional information contact George P. Perry, Jr., County Agent - Horticulture, P.O. Box 250, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.

U. of Md. studies year-around grazing



University of Maryland agronomists and an agribusiness representative check condition of tall fescue-red clover winter pasture in year-around grazing experiment being

sponsored by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Holstein steers nearby are thriving on the pasture without any supplemental feeding. Pasture-checkers are: left to right, A. Morris Decker, who is conducting the research; Richard S. Witmer of Middletown, Md., regional sales representative for the Chevron Chemical Co., and Lester R. Vough, Extension forage crops specialist at the University of Maryland.

IT'S BARGAIN DAYS

AT BOYD'S SEED CENTER, INC.

FEBRUARY 8 to 13, 1982

We Bought
Out A
Hardware
Store

30% to 50% OFF

- Bolts
- Nails
- Tools
- Housewares
- Garden Supplies
- Anything From Scotch Tape To Ground Shovels!

- ★ GARDEN SEEDS - Bulk or Packet now in stock
- ★ FREE SEED CATALOG AVAILABLE - Call or Write

WHOLESALE & RETAIL
BOYD'S SEED CENTER, INC.

306 Iona Rd., Lebanon, Pa. 17042
Phone: 717-272-8943

Hours:
Monday Thru
Saturday
8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

YORK CALCIUM CHIPS

A SUPPLEMENTAL SOURCE OF DIETARY CALCIUM
39% Calcium Less Than 1% Magnesium



THE LOW COST ASSURANCE FOR FEWER CRAX

Cost...Less Than 2 Extra Marketable Eggs Per 1000 Birds Per Day!

Available in
Bulk or Bags

- Mixes uniformly with your feed
- Uniformly consumed by the birds
- Soft gray chips - look for them in your feed

CONTACT YOUR
Feed Dealer
Today



YORK STONE & SUPPLY CO.

Roosevelt Ave. Ext., York, PA 17405
717-843-0981