

## Brothers

prevent steam pollution and silting during the strip mining operation. These basins stay put when the top soil is put back in place. So the new farms they create are dotted with ponds already filled with water for future livestock or wildlife.

The first step in reclaiming soil banks is rough grading. Then when the top soil is spread back out, a soil sample goes to Penn State to determine the amount of lime and fertilizer it'll need to assure successful reseeding.

With the lime and fertilizer spread, seeding follows. But this can be tricky because the turmoil of digging out the coal mixes a lot of shale and rock into what would be the plow layer. Some strippers use a hydroseeder to spray a mix of seed and plant food out on the new land.

"This works," says Buck, "but it's expensive." It's the method used to sow crown vetch on the steep sides of highway cuts along our Interstates.

The alternative to hydroseeding has usually been to scarify with a ripper on the back of a crawler, followed by a field cultivator and disk. But the exercise is hard on the machinery.

The Spencers have found a third solution. Using a heavy-duty tillage disk they discovered they can get the surface tillage they need without churning up sub-surface stones and rocks. Seeding with their new method has been successful, according to Buck Spencer. He says you can put the land in shape for seeding at about half the cost of hydroseeding if it's not too steep to cross with a tractor.

The Sperry New Holland 0D100 disk is the same type farmers are using for minimum tillage. And the



Forage close-up shows vigorous mixture of trefoil, clover, grass and rye-oats mix used to revegetate the reclaimed spoil banks of the strip mined land.

characteristics that make it good for farming make it near ideal for strip mined land. One trip over usually gets the job done because it is heavy enough to penetrate and strong enough for the job. You save a lot of fuel and tractor time.

The seed mix includes legumes and grass as well as grain "nurse" crop to hold the soil in place while the grass and legumes are getting established. At the end of the first year, their new seedlings show a healthy stand of birdsfoot trefoil, red clover, some timothy and enough of oats and rye to reseed for an additional season of erosion protection.

### Allied offering sulfur booklet

HOPEWELL, VA. — "How Much Is Sulfur Deficiency Costing you?"

That's the title of a new brochure from Allied Corporation, the nation's largest producer of ammonium sulfate (21-0-0-24S).

The colorful brochure discusses sulfur's role in crop nutrition and offers tips on scouting for sulfur-

deficiency symptoms. A chart lists sulfur fertilizer requirements for various crops with respect to target yield.

For a free copy, farmers should send their name and address to "Sulfur Brochure," Allied Corporation, P. O. Box 1559, Hopewell, Va., 23860.

When you walk out over the reclaimed land a year later, you might have the feeling you're in Montana or Dakota ranch country because the hills are bald and treeless. But the forage tends to be thicker and more productive than the traditional western whiteface country.

The soil-building legumes and grasses do their work if given a little time, Spencer explains. Then, if you don't want to be a cowboy, you can farm. The land is probably better than when we started to strip it. Most of the land around here isn't very productive in its natural state. But, it's pretty good stuff by the time we're done with it.

## Prowl receives two-year approval

WAYNE, N.J. — Prowl herbicide has now been registered by the EPA for a two-year control program of rhizome Johnsongrass in cotton and soybeans. Previous registration covered only one year.

The herbicide, when applied preplant incorporated for two consecutive years at the recommended label rates, will control rhizome Johnsongrass in soybeans and cotton. Studies have shown that PROWL, at the 2x rate, is easier on seedling cotton and soybean plants than other preplant herbicides.

Uniformly apply Prowl in 10 or more gallons of water or in 20 or more gallons of liquid fertilizer per acre by ground equipment. Rates are higher for rhizome Johnsongrass control than for other annual weeds. Incorporate PROWL thoroughly for control of rhizome Johnsongrass.

Apply Prowl or similar im-

## ASCS to open cost-share sign-up

LANCASTER — The Lancaster County ASCS Office has announced the dates for sign-up for cost-sharing of conservation practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program. All requests for assistance will be accepted at the ASCS Office in the Farm and Home Center from Feb. 1 through Feb. 28.

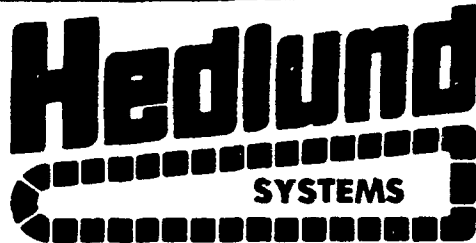
The County has recently received an allocation of \$123,000 for cost-sharing with farmers under the 1983 ACP Program. Funds are also available from the state ASCS Office for Long Term Agreements. These requests will be accepted during the same period at the local office.

Cost-share assistance is available only for agricultural land where erosion and sedimentation are a significant problem. The County ASC Committee emphasizes that all requests will be reviewed following the close of the sign-up period so that priorities

can be established. No application will be approved on a first-come first-serve basis.

The maximum anyone can receive is \$3,500 in one fiscal year. None of the eligible practices will be cost-shared at a rate of more than 75 percent. All high priority technical practices such as terraces, waterways, diversions, offer a rate of 75 percent of cost. Lower priority practices will be cost-shared at between 40 and 50 percent of cost.

No application can be approved when the work on the practice has already begun. However, approvals will be granted on each farm according to priorities, depending on the practice requested and on the conservation need. The program objectives are to improve water quality, conserve the soil and prevent soil erosion and sedimentation. Any interested agricultural producer should file their request by Feb. 28.

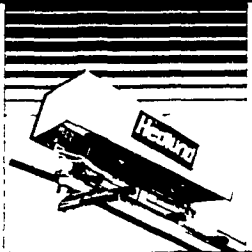

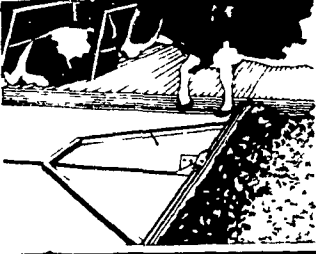



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## ALL MANURE MAY HAVE BEEN CREATED EQUAL...BUT THAT'S AS FAR AS THE SIMILARITY GOES

The Amount And Type Of Bedding - Temperature - Rainfall - Time Of Year - The Local Geography - All Affect How You "The Individual Farmer" Choose To Handle Your Manure. You May Choose To Handle Your Manure As A Liquid, Semi-Solid or Solid. There Are Advantages And Disadvantages To Each System.

The Point Is You Need A Choice of Equipment

<h1>1</h1>		<p><b>BARN CLEANER</b></p> <p>From the custom delivery chute to the welded reverse corners from the big 18" steel fabricated corner wheels to the most reliable power unit in the industry, it's Hedlund throughout. Fits any barn layout.</p>	<p><b>WE HAD THE BARN CLEANER PATENT IN 1922!</b></p> 
		<p><b>FREE-STALL CLEANER</b></p> <p>Dependable thorough automatic cleaning! The big high-carbon steel scraper blade is curved to keep manure rolling ahead of the scraper. The recessed chain keeps the blade to the floor and is out of the way of cattle. And more!</p>	<p><b>BEST IN THE INDUSTRY!</b></p>
		<p><b>CROSS-CONVEYOR</b></p> <p>Complete your scraper system with Hedlunds cross conveyor. Features similar to our proven gutter cleaner.</p>	<p><b>BUILT WITH THE SAME STRENGTH AS OUR GUTTER CLEANER!</b></p>
<h1>2</h1>	<p>FROM THE BARN</p>	<p>★ CHOPPER PUMPS ★ HOLLOW PISTON TRANSFER PUMPS ★ SOLID PISTON TRANSFER PUMPS</p>	

...HEDLUND GIVES YOU A CHOICE