

PIK-idled acres

(Continued from Page D2)

Barley/oats

County	Acres	% of Enrolled Base
Allegheny	14	19.7
Beaver	22	20.0
Butler	85	20.1
Clarion	102	20.1
Crawford	10	21.3
Elk	54	19.8
Erie	180	20.0
Jefferson	170	20.0
Lawrence	126	20.0
McKean	8	20.0
Mercer	404	20.0
Potter	200	20.1
Venango	2	40.0
Warren		
Bradford	180	20.1

Centre	112	20.1
Clinton	8	20.0
Columbia	558	20.0
Luzerne	14	18.9
Lycoming	132	19.9
Montour	614	20.0
Northumberland	158	19.9
Snyder	40	20.4
Sullivan		
Tioga	96	19.9
Union	220	19.9
Wyoming	8	19.5
Berks	284	20.0
Bucks	30	20.1
Carbon	118	20.0
Lackawanna	26	20.2
Lehigh	110	20.1
Monroe	92	20.0
Montgomery	50	20.3
Northampton	90	19.8
Pike		
Schuylkill	438	20.0
Susquehanna	12	21.4
Wayne	2	28.8

Armstrong	798	20.0
Bedford	456	20.0
Blair	146	19.9
Cambria	430	20.0
Clearfield	178	19.9
Fayette	8	18.6
Fulton	282	20.1
Greene		
Indiana	200	20.1
Somerset	578	20.0
Washington	38	19.7
Westmoreland	482	20.0
Adams	176	20.0
Chester		
Cumberland	40	20.0
Dauphin	134	19.9
Delaware		
Franklin	228	20.0
Huntingdon	22	19.6
Juniata	510	20.0
Lancaster	22	19.8
Lebanon	28	20.4
Mifflin	52	20.1
Perry	504	20.0
York	240	20.0
State-Total	10,322	20.0

Planter fertilizer helps no-till corn

NEWARK, Del. — No Tillage has many advantages over farming with a moldboard plow, but warmer soil is not one of them. Early in the season soil in a no-till cornfield is often wet and cold. Ground covered with a crop residue or cover crop mulch may be even colder.

"It is well known that soil phosphorus is poorly absorbed from cold soils, so it's not surprising that corn makes a slow start in many no-tillage fields," says University of Delaware extension agronomist William Mitchell. "This has led to the general practice of delaying no-till plantings several days beyond the optimum planting date for plowed fields. The cost of this delay is usually several bushels of corn."

Tests conducted by Mitchell at the University of Delaware

Agricultural Experiment Station have shown that planter fertilizer—especially a nitrogen-phosphorus combination—can stimulate growth in cold soils and actually beat conventionally tilled corn in a race to the silking date.

A fast start also gives corn an advantage in its struggle against weeds, the agronomist says. Broadcast fertilizers serve weeds as well as corn. Banded fertilizers are less likely to do so.

The improved nutrition provided by a planter fertilizer may also help young corn seedlings through a heavy mulch cover. It may result in a better survival rate and produce a higher, more uniform plant population.

A sound fertility program for no-till corn also requires careful liming, Mitchell says. The top one or two inches of soil often becomes

quite acid under no-tillage. It may be considerably more acid than indicated by the pH of a soil sample taken to a 6-inch depth. An acid layer at the surface can interfere with herbicide activity and lead to weed control problems. For this reason, he recommends liming to achieve a pH of 6.0 or higher.

Broadcast potash during late winter or early spring if diagnostic tests indicate the need for more K than can be safely applied with the planter.

Use a planter fertilizer to supply about 20 pounds of nitrogen and the total phosphorus requirement. Ammonium sulfate can be mixed with DAP or MAP if the amount of phosphorus needs to be reduced. The phosphorus rate can also be reduced by adding 30% UAN solution to liquid 10-34-0. If manganese or zinc are required,

the agronomist recommends adding them to the planter fertilizer and considering the use of ammonium sulfate for pH adjustment, since this material reacts quickly and will acidify the soil more, in the short run, than other nitrogen sources.

As the corn develops, apply additional nitrogen in keeping with yield goals. Add at least 30 pounds more N to provide for a 10 percent increase in plant population and build-up of organic matter under no-till.

Grape Assn. to meet April 17

LANCASTER - The Southeast Grape Industry Assn. will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 17, at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

Among topics of discussion will be a news letter for growers and consideration of appropriate group naming to indicate the geographical limits of the

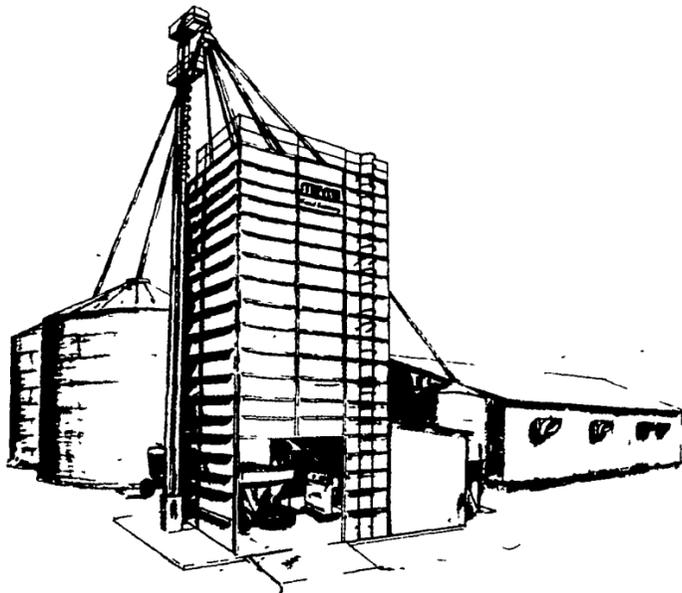
organization.

Officers of the Association include Lynn Hunter, Winwood, president; Stephen Bahn, Brogue, vice president; Alice Weygandt, Coatesville, secretary; Jouko Savolainen, Brogue, treasurer; and directors, Arthur K. Freas, York; Jack Kosko, Woodstock, Md.; and Jim Witmyer, Lititz.

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