Fultonway Tradition Pleasure.

Atlantic picks Fultonway bull

LANCASTER — Fultonway Farms of Willow Street is the breeder of a Holstein bull which is entering the young-sire sampling program at Atlantic Breeders Cooperative. He is Fultonway Traditions Pleasure, known as 15H525 Pleasure, a son of Sweet-Haven Tradition.

Director of Operations Harry Roth points out that Pleasure will be randomly mated by artificial insemination to approximately 600 Holstein cows on official test in the herds of Atlantic members. After entering the milking string, his daughters will be evaluated. Satisfactory results of these evaluations earns Pleasure a spot among the active sires at the Lancaster facilities.

Pleasure's sire's impressive July 1983 statistics include +2,354M at 92 percent repeatability and a PDT of +1.46. Tradition is a son of Elevation an out of a VG-89 dam with lifetime production credits of 231,150M 6,992F in 2,927 days. Wible Farm Glendell Mina, Pleasure's dam, is sired by Glendell Arlinda Chief and sports a July 1983 cow index of +1,912M and +44F. The maternal grandam in this pedigree is a daughter of a past popular sire at Atlantic, Penstate Ivanhoe Star.

Moderate fungicide doses help control disease

UNIVERSITY PARK — Spraying plants with moderate or sub-lethal dosages of fungicides that enter plant systems is a dramatic new concept being developed by College of Agriculture scientists at Penn State.

The research in Penn State's College of Agriculture is the first to study the effects of moderate dosages of systemic fungicides to restrict disease development, declared Richard R. Nelson, plant disease scientist. He said that systemic fungicides used at recommended lethal dosages replaced many dusts and sprays about ten years ago.

Systemic fungicides, he noted, are taken up by plant systems almost immediately after they penetrate leaf surfaces. Systemic fungicides move within plants for varying lengths of time, providing almost complete protection with much lower rates than chemicals applied to protect leaf surfaces.

He indicated that certain combinations of resistant genes can restrict disease development, keeping it at insignificant levels. Nelson and fellow scientist Richard D. Schein have found that mild or sub-lethal doses of systemic fungicides can mimic the effect of the resistant genes.

"We ask ourselves whether dosages of systemic fungicides could mimic the durable disease resistance built into plants by superior but costly plant genes. The answer is yes," Nelson affirmed.

Extensive experiments have been carried out on powdery mildew of winter wheat. The Penn Staters established the dosage range to be evaluated and the method and timing for applying the chemical.

"Significantly less diesease developed," Nelson reported, "using one-fifieth and less of the recommended field dosage. The amount of powdery mildew that developed on plants treated with moderate dosages was almost identical to the amount of disease developing on plants having moderate genetic resistance."

The first year's field trials with moderate (sub-lethal) dosages of systemic fungicides were inconclusive. A spring drought reduced the amount of mildew on wheat.

However, encouraging results were obtained when the extent of mildew was compared among several moderate dosages. Using a fraction of the recommended dosage, powdery mildew on wheat was reduced by one-half compared to untreated plots. This testing compared the number of leaves with and without mildew.

Similar results were obtained in experiments with stem rust of wheat and rice blast, the latter the most damaging disease of rice.

Nelson pointed out that most cultivated crops can "live with" a certain amount of foliar disease without heavy yield losses. It is also known he added, that combinations of resistant genes can manage, as opposed to control, plant disease to acceptable levels without severe crop losses.

"Most scientists agree," Nelson said, "that sub-lethal or moderate disease resistance lasts far longer than genetic resistance built into plants to give complete disease control. Moreover, new races of fungi arise to overcome genetic resistance. This sends scientists searching for another effective gene, a long and costly process," he added.

With moderate dosages of systemic fungicides, rate of development and spread of fungus is reduced enough to make a disease unimportant, Nelson claimed.

Recommended dosages of systemic fungicides have certain shortcomings. Nelson said several fungal parasites eventually resist the effects of systemic fungicides. When this occurs, scientists must find another effective compound. Using moderate dosages of systemic fungicides may prolong their effectiveness, he explained, by minimizing development of resistant strains of parasites.

Reserve V corn is released

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Corn placed in the farmer-owned reserve after June 30, 1982, was released for redemption, effective immediately, by Everett Rank, executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation.

Rank said this means farmers now may sell - but are not required to sell - their reserve V corn after repaying their CCC price support loan. This corn had been removed from release status Nov. 1 when the adjusted price had fallen 1 cent below the reserve release level.

The reason for today's action, he said, was that the national average price received by farmers for corn had reached $3.25 per bushel, the same as the $3.25 per bushel release level for reserve V corn.

USDA makes storage payments to farmers with grain in the reserve. Upon repayment of the loan, farmers can keep the storage payments earned through the date of repayment.

Release of reserve V corn will continue through Dec. 31, Rank said. If the five-day national average market price remains at or above $3.25 on Jan. 3, storage earnings will stop and interest on the price support loan will begin to accrue for corn that has been in reserve V for more than one year. Interest already is accruing on loans for corn that has been in reserve less than one year.

If the Jan. 3 price falls below $3.25, reserve V corn no longer will be in release status and farmers will continue earning storage payments.