

## Test plots gauge sulfur need

LANCASTER — Putting out test plots may be the most practical way for farmers to assess local need for sulfur-containing fertilizers.

While soil and plant-tissue tests are also recommended, field testing under local conditions often provides the best indication of whether or not it is cost-effective to include sulfur in fertilizer programs, says Tom Hemphill, agronomist for Allied Corporation.

Test plots, he says, also help farmers determine the optimum rate, time and method of application, and type of sulfur fertilizer to use.

Sulfur deficiency is most common on well-drained, sandy soils that are low in organic matter. In recent years, however, applications of sulfur have paid off when used on silts and clays — especially in fields that are farmed intensively, Hemphill says.

For this reason, he advises

farmers to work with their fertilizer dealer and conduct field tests on a variety of local soil types. Adjusting time, rate and method of application also could provide valuable information.

"Results of one year's testing won't tell the whole story," says Hemphill. "But today, crop responses to applied sulfur are often quite dramatic."

"Crops tend to stay greener and the plants mature earlier," he adds. "In many cases, you can see the difference in test plots from the side of the road."

But visual differences between test plots do not determine a farmer's bottom line, Hemphill adds. The real test comes after harvest when the crop is weighed. The crop's protein content, moisture content and overall quality should also be evaluated, as sulfur can enhance these properties.

Observing livestock response to sulfur-fertilized forage crops also may be worthwhile. Like crops, livestock need ample doses of sulfur in their diet to meet expected levels of production.

"One of the best ways to make sure livestock are getting enough sulfur is to fertilize forage crops with a sulfur-containing fertilizer," says Hemphill. "Sulfur-treated forage crops, when fed to livestock, often increase production among ruminants. This has been particularly evident with dairy cows, beef cattle, lambs and sheep."

Farmers should also evaluate sulfur's effect on applied nitrogen. In order to make efficient use of nitrogen fertilizer, crops need to contain one unit of sulfur for every 10-12 units of nitrogen. A sulfur deficiency can therefore limit crop response to nitrogen fertilizer.

"A sulfur shortage can inhibit crop performance long before visual symptoms appear on the leaves," Hemphill warns.

To keep N:S ratios in line, he recommends using a narrower ratio of applied nitrogen and sulfur. One pound for every five to 10 pounds of nitrogen is generally recommended.

## Convention speaker listed

EPHRATA — George Herman, CBS TV news correspondent for over 20 years, will be the banquet speaker at Penn Ag Industries Association's 1984 Convention on Sept. 25 at the Host Corral in Lancaster.

assassination of John F. Kennedy are a few of his major journalistic activities. He will be discussing economic issues related to the 1984 Presidential campaign.

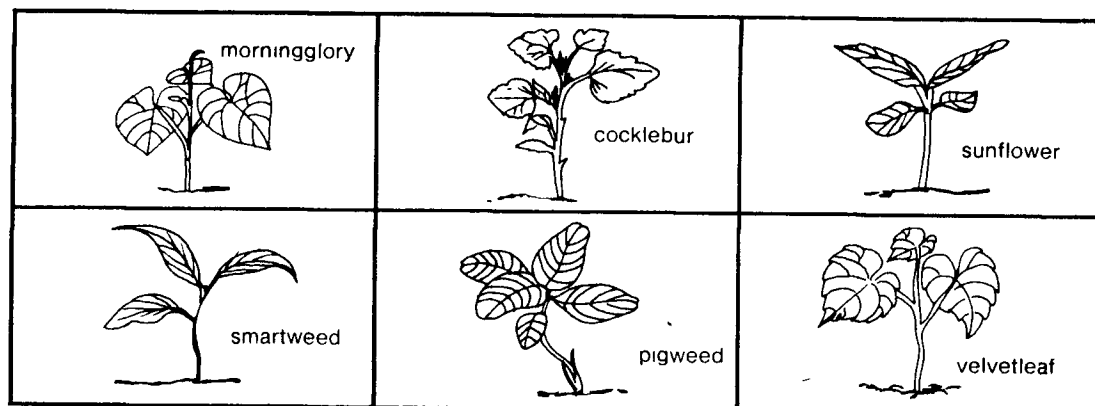
His journalism experience spans the era from the Japanese surrender to the Allies to the Watergate scandal. He served abroad as CBS string correspondent in Asia from 1949 to 1953. During that time he covered the Vietminh attacks on the French in Hanoi, the Communist uprising in Malaya, and he reported on the chain of events of the Korean War from the landing at Inchon to the truce-signing and prisoner exchanges.

He is best known for his moderating the CBS Sunday morning news feature, "Face the Nation." Also to his credit are his more than 20 years as White House correspondent. Reporting on the Army-McCarthy hearings, the American space race to challenge Russia's Sputnik project, and the inauguration and subsequent



Agronomics sampling, testing and training instrumentation for growers, consultants, researchers and educators are listed and described in a new catalog from Soiltest Agronomics, Division of Soiltest Inc., Evanston, Ill. 60204.

## Pick the weeds in your corn you'd like to get rid of...



## Then pick Banvel® herbicide... the Big Plus...to do the job.

**Pre-emergence:** Banvel tank-mixed with \*Lasso® to get broadleaf weeds along with grasses...ready and waiting when later weeds germinate.

**Early layby** (in corn up to five inches high): use Banvel at a one pint rate. Stop weeds before they've had a chance to develop. This Banvel overlay controls cocklebur, sunflower, annual morningglory, other troublemakers.

**Post-emergence** (corn up to 36 inches): Banvel herbicide controls the real problems—like smartweed, velvetleaf, bindweed, and seedling Canada thistle.

Before buying a less adaptable herbicide that may be short on performance, check out the Big Plus of Banvel...from Velsicol.

\*Lasso® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company. The Lasso + Banvel tank mix is cleared for use in Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, and Wisconsin.



Before using any pesticide, read the label

## P. L. ROHRER & BRO., INC.

Smoketown, PA

PH: 717-299-2571

## EAR CORN

**Paying Top Prices For  
Good Quality Ear Corn**

- Wet or Dry
- No Quantity too large or too small
- Fast Unloading - Dump on Pile & Go
- Easy access - 2.2 miles off 283 bypass-Manheim, Mt. Joy exit
- Daily Receiving 7:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. - unloading evenings & Saturdays by appt.
- Trucks available for pick up at your farm.

Call Anytime For Price  
717-665-4785

**JAMES E. NOLL GRAIN**