

## Evaluate fields

(Continued from Page D19)

ning noxious weeds through the combine.

Pesticides — Herbicides and insecticides work well when applied correctly and in the proper concentration. However, there are times when performance is not up to expectations. Again, use your rating system to evaluate each product used. Rate control as: 1-excellent; 2-good; 3-fair and 4-poor. Let the numbers aid you in selecting herbicides based on performance. Other factors that might have a bearing on performance are soil type, rainfall and drought.

Insecticides are important in controlling soil insects, especially in corn after corn rotations. Rootworm build-up should be monitored and kept under control for two reasons. One, rootworm larvae feed on the roots of corn plants and contribute to root

lodging. Two, rootworm beetles will feed on corn silks and, if concentration is dense before pollination is complete, they can impact seed set. Changing insecticides from time to time should be considered, since scientists are reporting rootworm resistance where the same product is used continuously for control.

Drainage — Poorly drained areas should be mapped and corrections made depending on the size of the general area. Sitting high atop a combine gives a fresh vantage point to the size of the affected area and the effect of those areas on yields.

Harvest is an excellent time to evaluate performance of all inputs used in a cropping enterprise. An unbiased systematic evaluation must be recorded, so that when the harvest season is completed the dust settles, you can objectively evaluate harvest performance.

NEWARK, Del. — University of Delaware extension horticulturist Charles W. Dunham retired Sept. 1 after 30 years of service as a teacher and researcher. For the last 10 of those years he also served as extension horticulturist.

Dunham, who joined the university in 1954, was largely responsible for developing the College of Agriculture Sciences' undergraduate program in ornamental horticulture — a major attraction for students majoring in plant science.

A specialist in plant nutrition, during his early years at the university Dunham conducted considerable research on greenhouse crops of the type then grown in commercial nurseries in Delaware. He also studied holly nutrition and culture with the partial assistance of grants from the Holly Society of America as well as federal McIntyre-Stennis forestry funds. Later, he studied



Charles Dunham

problems related to the production and propagation of rhododendrons, azaleas and dogwoods.

In cooperation with Richard W. Lighty, former coordinator of the Longwood graduate program in botanical garden management, Dunham helped plan and establish the college's Clark Garden. Made possible by a gift from Emily Clark Dieffenbach, this features an extensive collection of woody landscape plants well adapted to Delaware growing conditions. The garden was dedicated in 1973 and today is used primarily as a teaching tool for ornamental horticulture students.

## Del. continues ECB survey

NEWARK, Del. — Entomologists from the University of Delaware will be conducting a European corn borer (ECB) fall abundance survey throughout the month of September as part of their plant pest survey and detection program.

The ECB survey has been conducted in Delaware cornfields every fall since 1936. At that time

30 sites were selected, 10 in each county. Each year University entomologists examine the cornfield nearest each original site for borer infestation.

This survey is useful because it provides an estimate of the overwintering corn borer population. Growers can then use this information in planning the next year's cropping activities. Results of the 1984 survey will be available later this fall.

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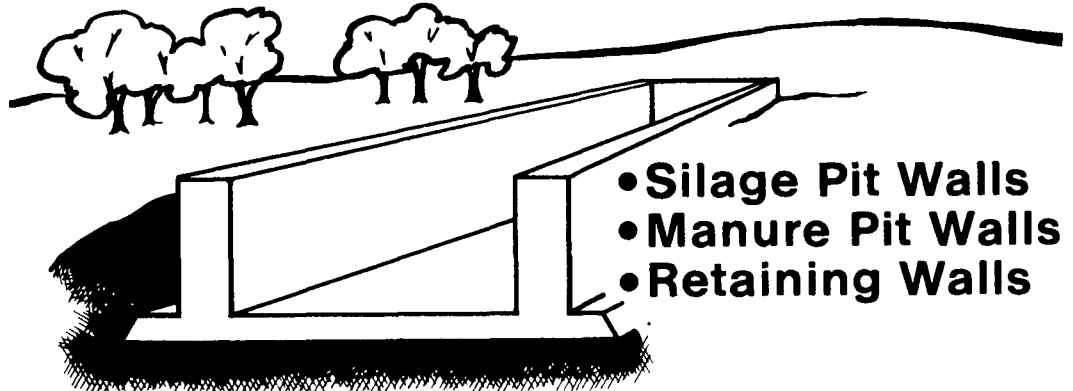
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