

Cargill seeks consistency in its new corn hybrids

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — Consistent hybrid performance probably is the most important factor when deciding what hybrids to plant next season, according to Dr. Jack Carlson, agronomy services manager for Cargill Seeds.

He said consistency also is key to a successful research program.

"Consistent yield is the most important factor, but we look for consistency at all levels," said Carlson. "That means we take detailed notes on plant emergence, population density, ear height,

plant height, appearance, stalk quality, moisture, lodging and broken stalks. We evaluate over 6,000 experimental hybrids at 10 U.S. research stations and at 104 on-farm company test sites every year. Less than one percent of the hybrids that we evaluate are released for farmers to plant."

After each growing season, statistics on each experimental hybrid are carefully analyzed with the assistance of computers. This allows Cargill researchers to combine and evaluate hundreds of performance ratings from a large number of test sites.

"Hybrids must prove themselves for at least three years before they are considered for broad-scale use," says Carlson. "As farmers are well aware, hybrids that appear as yield leaders one year may not be in the top position the next year. Such hybrids are selected out and may eventually be dropped from the program," Carlson said.

A system called PEP or Product Evaluation Program is used to evaluate hybrids on farms, said Carlson. The system adjusts for field variability and compares Cargill hybrids with other hybrids. About 250 PEP plots were planted throughout the country in 1985.

"PEP allows farmers to determine how our hybrids perform in relation to competitive hybrids across different soil types, moisture, temperature and stress conditions. Performance can be evaluated at various population and fertility levels and factors like drydown and standability can be recorded," Carlson said.

Surflan addition aids weed control

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. — New herbicide tank mix combinations of Surflan plus Lasso Micro-Tech have been registered with the EPA for more effective weed control in soybeans. Sencor or Lexone also may be added for a three-way combination.

Combining Surflan, Lasso and Sencor/Lexone not only provides a broader weed control spectrum than any of the products alone, it also allows using reduced rates of each of the products, which can lower costs. Weed control with the combinations may be sufficiently improved to reduce or eliminate the need for expensive

postemergence treatments.

When liquid Surflan AS is used with Lasso, only the Lasso Micro-Tech formulation must be used. Sencor or Lexone may be added to any registered Surflan/Lasso mixture.

In addition to the annual grass and broadleaf weeds on the Surflan label, combinations with Lasso also suppress or partially control velvetleaf, smartweed, nightshade, morningglory and other problem weeds. Adding Sencor or Lexone extends this list to include cocklebur and giant ragweed.

Broadcast rates per acre are as follows:

Soil Texture	SURFLAN AS		LASSO MICRO TECH	
	Liquid			
Coarse	1 qt		1 2 qts	
Medium	1 qt		2 2 qts	
Fine	1 3/4 qt		2 3 qts	

Do not use Lasso 4EC with Surflan AS

Sencor 4 or Lexone 4L may be added to Surflan/Lasso combinations at the following rates:

Soil Texture	Lexone 4L or Sencor 4		Lexone Dry Flowable or Sencor Dry Flowable	
Coarse	1 pt		1 lb	
Medium	1 3/4 pt		1 lb	
Fine	2 1 pt		1 lb	

Check the label for complete directions and precautions.



GIGANTIC SELECTION IN Lancaster Farming's CLASSIFIEDS

HAVING SOIL PROBLEMS?

Here's A Timely Tip...

Apply lime on frozen ground

Lime can be applied almost anytime, however winter months are ideal, because the ground is firm and the freezing and thawing action helps to disseminate the lime in the soil

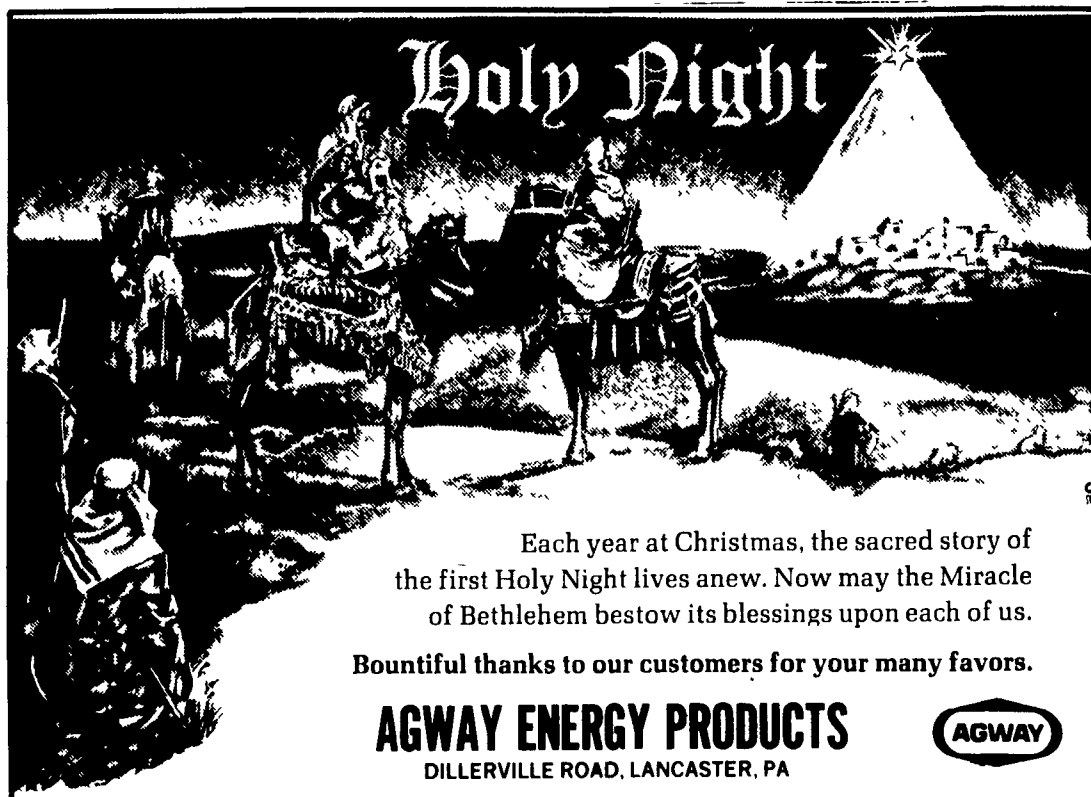


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New bumper for pickups

M & W Gear Company, Gibson City, IL introduces the new M & W Doubl'-Cush'n Econo-Bumper for pickup trucks. Two spring-cushioned cylinders mount the bumper to the truck frame so the under-bed mounted spare tire can remain in place. Each cylinder uses two different sizes of springs. Two light duty springs dampen shocks from light loads while two larger springs absorb jolts when heavier loads compress the smaller springs. This results in a more comfortable ride for the truck passengers whether the wagon or trailer being pulled is empty or loaded. The M & W Doubl'-Cush'n Econo-Bumper features a built-in mud shield, non-skid strips on the top surface, license plate mounting holes and a license plate lamp which also illuminates the hitch at night.




Holy Night

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