# New chemical process makes crop residues digestible Department of Commerce's National Technical Information

Service. It was invented by J.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Three wasted crop residues into high ompanies have been licensed by quality cattle feed. companies have been licensed by the federal government to use a

The process, in which crop new chemical process developed a residues are treated with a solution by a U.S. Department of of hydrogen peroxide so that cattle Agriculture researcher for con- can digest them, is being patented verting indigestible and often by USDA and licensed through the

Michael Gould, a biochemist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service at the Northern Research Center in Peoria, Ill. 'The leaves, stalks and stems of crops like corn, wheat, oats, rice,

and barley pack a lot of carbohydrate energy in the form of fibrous cellulose," said Gould.
"Normally," he explained, "the

cellulose can't be efficiently

digested by cattle. A plant substance called lignin glues cellulose fibers together and shields them from bacteria in the animal's digestive tract.

"But treating the residues with hydrogen peroxide dissolves the lignin so that the digestive bacteria can reach the fibers.'

Gould said that hydrogen peroxide can also be used on crop residues to facilitate the production of industrial-grade

Ann Whitehead, patent dinator for the agency, said rights to the commercial u Gould's invention have granted to Food and En Breakthru, Madison, Wis.; Agricultural Products, St. Minn.; and Interox Ame Houston, Tex. A fourth comp Southwest Bio-energy, C N.M., will probably be licen use the process in the near fu She said that the companie pay a royalty to the governme

### Franklin CIA elects officers



Newly-elected officers of the Franklin County Crop Improvement Association are (seated, I'to r): William Swailes, Willow Hill, president; Wayne Kuhns, Chambersburg, vicepresident; (standing I to r): Wayne Beidel, Newburg, secretary; Kenneth Schoenberg, Shippensburg, state director; and J. Nelson Wengert, Chambersburg, treasurer.

#### Wayne County Extension elects new officers

organizational meeting of the Wayne County Cooperative Extension Executive Committee was held at J and J Lounge, Hamlin, on

New officers elected for twoyear terms were as follows: Robert Muller Sr., president; Fred Nordenhold, first vice-president; Philip Gottschalk, second vicepresident; Marjorie Marshall, Rickard. secretary; Susan assistant secretary and Attorney Jeffrey Wander, treasurer.

New members of the committee who were elected at the annual meeting in September were introduced. They are: Marjorie Marshall, Shirley Reed, Betty Mang, Leon Reed, Debbie Bryant, Joseph Krompasky. and Louis

Mang. Catherine Johnson, Louis chief clerk, Wayne County ( Mang, and Joseph Krompasky missioners' Office, attended Mang, and Joseph Krompasky were honored for having served four years on the committee.

Jeffrey Wander and Louis Mang were appointed to represent the group on the Regional Extension Executive Committee. Dale Teeple and Lewis Locklin will serve as alternates. Jeffrey Wander was recently appointed by the Regional **Executive Committee to serve as** an alternate delegate to the Pennsylvania Council of Extension Cooperative Associations (state Executive Committee). Robert Muller was appointed a member of the annual meeting committee of the state association.

Earl Simons, Wayne County commissioner, and Reg Wayman,

meeting and spoke to the gr They reported on county gow ment activities including waste disposal, disas assistance, Delaware River & issues, storm water managen Lake Wallenpaupack Water Management District, gypsym revenue sharing and the co budget.

The next meeting of the tension Executive Committee be held Feb. 3 in the Exten Office. It will be the a planning meeting at which priority problem areas in county will be identified to pro a basis for the staff to us planning Extension activities programs.

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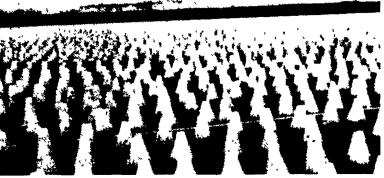


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