

Dept. Of Ag Revises Seed Regulations

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has revised its regulations on noxious weed seeds in seed wheat, the labeling of flower seed mixtures and the amount of inert matter allowed in Kentucky bluegrass seed.

Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Grubb said the changes will benefit farmers and millers in the production of flour and free the seed industry from unrealistic

labeling requirements.

The amendments, which were effective Nov. 8, will:

(1) Prohibit all wild onion or wild garlic bulbets in seed wheat. Previously, up to five bulbets per pound were permitted.

(2) Remove the requirement that packets of mixed flower seeds of three grams or less be labeled with the percentage of each kind of seed.

(3) Permit 15 percent inert

matter in certain Kentucky bluegrass seed, replacing the present 10 percent limit.

The ban on garlic bulbets was necessary, according to Richard Deppen, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry's seed division, because millers penalize wheat growers for their presence. The bulbets adhere to the milling machinery and could create an objectionable taste in the flour if not removed.

percent limit. Pennsylvania's adherence to the new standard will protect interstate uniformity while continuing to assure quality seed for consumers, Deppen said.

The revised regulations also give the Agriculture Department its first increase in seed laboratory analysis fees since 1980. The new rate schedule, which reflects increased costs, is available through county Extension Service offices or by contacting the Bureau of Plant Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, 2301 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg 17110-9408.

Potato Council Slates Annual Meeting

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Potato growers from across the country will meet to set policies on federal legislative and regulatory issues at the National Potato Council's 38th Annual Meeting in San Diego, Jan. 8-10.

The National Potato Council's Board of Directors, made up of representatives from every potato producing area, will vote on resolutions to guide the council in 1987. The Board will also elect the council's 1987 executive and steering committees.

"The Annual meeting gives growers the chance to voice their opinions to shape the National Potato Council's positions on key governmental issues," Ron Walker, executive director of the National Potato Council said. Key topics at this year's convention will be environmental issues and internal issues at the NPC office, Walker said.

On Jan. 9, the National Potato Council's affiliate, the Potato Political Action Committee, will sponsor its annual fund raising dinner featuring keynote speaker Boyd Bartlett, president of John Deere & Company. Donations

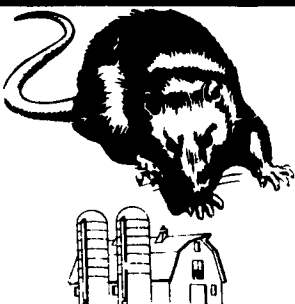


Boyd Bartlett

from the fund raising dinner will be used to support the campaigns of federal candidates who are friends of the potato industry.

For a registration packet or further information, contact the National Potato Council, 9085 E. Mineral Circle, Suite 155, Englewood, CO 80112. (303) 790-1141.

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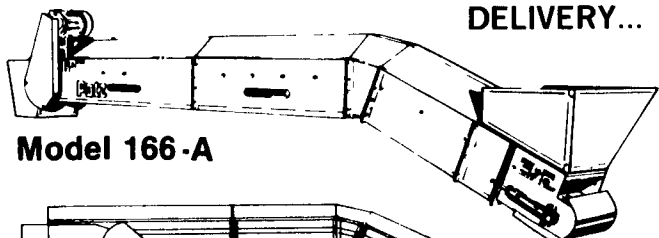
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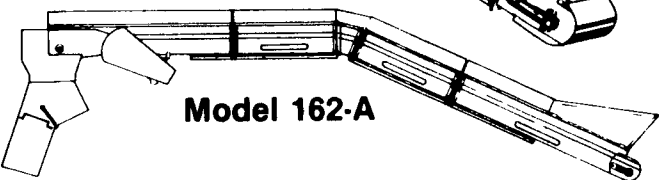
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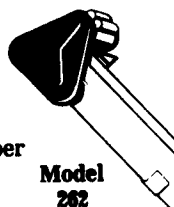


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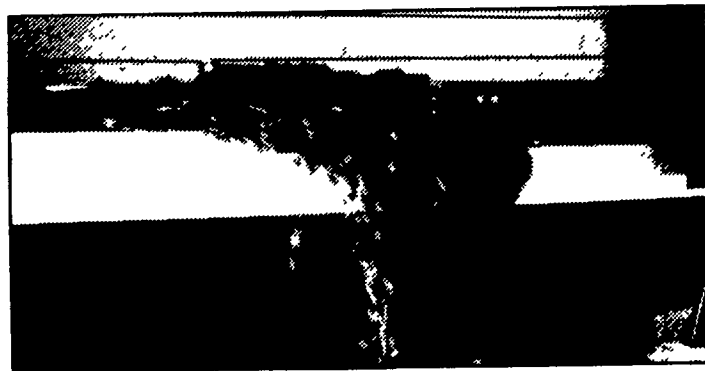


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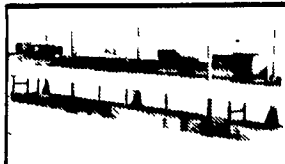
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