

## \$1.4 Million Allocated For 'Big E' Improvements

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—The Eastern States Exposition has allocated close to \$1.4 million for capital improvements to the 175-acre fairgrounds.

The expenditures are part of an ongoing effort to keep the West Springfield, Mass. facility attractive and up-to-date for the one million-plus fairgoers who annually attend the 12-day "Big E." The grounds also serve as the home of many other events throughout the year, including the American Craft Council Craftfair, horse shows, car shows, camping exhibits and other attractions, all of which draw hundreds of thousands of visitors.

This year's capital improvements include such projects as: —Continued beautification of the grounds with additional landscaping.

—Upgraded sound systems in The Big E Coliseum, Court of Honor, Outdoor Ring, Moses Theatre and "A" Building.

—Ongoing improvements to The Big E Coliseum.

—Phase one of major renovations

to the Brooks Administration Building where Big E offices are located.

—Additional signs on major high-

ways directing travelers to The Big E, plus additional signs on the fairgrounds to guide visitors.

Other major projects include:

—Complete replacement of the bleachers in the Outdoor Arena.  
—A new electrical system in "A" Building.

—Upgraded electrical system and fire alarms on the grounds.

This year's Big E - "New England's Great State Fair" - is scheduled September 16-27.

## Deadline For National Corn Contest Is Aug. 1

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The August 1 deadline to enter the National Corn Growers Association's (NCGA) 1987 Corn Yield Contest is approaching fast.

Contest rules and entry forms are available to all interested corn growers by writing NCGA, 1000 Executive Parkway, Suite 224, St. Louis, MO 63141 or calling 314/275-9915.

A completed application and a contest entry form fee of \$50 for NCGA members and \$80 for non-NCGA members must be received by August 1, 1987 to qualify for the 1987 contest. Participants must enter a field of at least 10 acres. Once a field is entered into a contest class, it cannot be changed to a different classification.

Nearly 2,600 corn growers from 45 states entered the contest in

1986. A total of 1,666 growers completed the test by submitting accurate crop procedure records and harvest reports as required by contest rules.

"The National Corn Yield Contest was organized to encourage the development of new and innovative management techniques and to show the importance of using solid cultural practices in U.S. corn production," says Ken Stock, NCGA vice president of field services and a corn farmer from Levasy, MO. "The contest encompasses seven classes. They are: Class A Non-Irrigated, Class AA Non-Irrigated, No-Till Irrigated, No-Till Non-Irrigated, Irrigated, Ridge-Till Non-Irrigated and Ridge-Till Irrigated."

The Non-Irrigated Classes, excluding the No-Till and Ridge-

Till divisions, are Class A and Class AA. Class AA is for corn growers entering fields located in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin and Class A includes the remaining 39 continental states. The Irrigated, No-Till Non-Irrigated, No-Till

Irrigated, Ridge-Till Non-Irrigated and Ridge-Till Irrigated cover the entire 48 continental states.

State and national winners in the 1987 National Corn Yield Contest will be honored during NCGA's Corn Classic on February 24-26, 1988 at the Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis, MO.



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