

Monsanto Aims Herbicide At Conservation-Tillage Corn

EPHRATA (Lancaster) — Monsanto will introduce Bullet^(R) herbicide, a specially formulated premix flowable, in 1989. Bullet is a pre-emergent surface-applied product for control of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in reduced or no-tillage corn production.

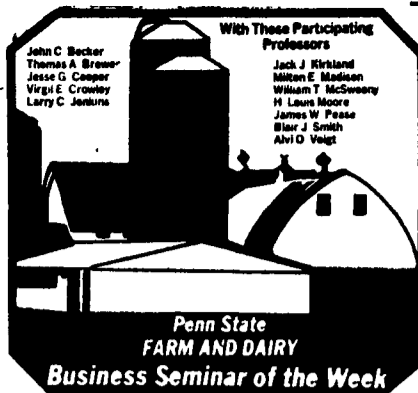
According to Vern Pond, Monsanto marketing manager for corn products, "Bullet contains timed-release capsules that gradually release the herbicide during the critical weed germination period. This timed-release action allows Bullet to provide season-long control of many problem weeds in both heavy and light residues."

Encapsulation protects Bullet from volatilization, movement in the soil and microbial breakdown. "Those are key factors that can influence herbicide performance where residue is present," Pond says.

Field tests with Bullet by Monsanto indicate a more vigorous start by corn seedlings. "When the herbicide is encapsulated and time-released, young corn seedlings don't have to compete with a full dose of herbicide," says Pond. "They just do better."

Bullet controls many tough grasses and broadleaf weeds including crabgrass, foxtails, fall panicum, velvetleaf, lambsquarters, marehail, common ragweed, triazine-resistant pigweed, nut-sedge and annual morningglory. In total, Bullet controls 32 grasses, sedges and broadleaves.

Initial marketing emphasis will be the Northeastern corn states and Nebraska and Kansas. Bullet will be available in bulk as well as the newly designed 100 and 200-gallon ShuttleTM system by Monsanto. It also will be available in limited quantities in 2½-gallon containers.



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be capitalized in the second tax year following her birth.

The provisions of the safe-harbor rules apply regardless of when during the tax year the cattle are actually born. Thus the requirement to capitalize \$85, with respect to a beef cow, for the year it is born applies regardless of whether that cow is born in the spring or fall of the year in question.

If cattle are purchased rather than raised, the safe-harbor rules

apply, but are slightly modified. In this case, the taxpayer will treat the date of each animal's purchase as the date of birth, and will capitalize the greater of the purchase price of the cattle or the safe-harbor amount. For example, if a taxpayer purchases a beef calf for \$40 in 1988, he may capitalize the greater of the purchase price (\$40) or the safe-harbor amount (\$85) with respect to the calf for 1988. In most cases, the higher figure would be chosen and the safe-harbor amount would be used. In contrast, if the

cost of the calf was \$95, the taxpayer could capitalize \$95 for the calf for the year, since the purchase price exceeded the safe-harbor amount. The additional amounts capitalized for subsequent years would follow the schedule previously described; that is, \$170 in the second year and \$85 in the third year.

The preproductive cost issue remains an important one for the 1988 tax filing year and should be considered as tax planning progresses during the final weeks of 1988. The decision made about preproductive cost may affect both the level of deductible farm expenses and the method used to depreciate new depreciable farm property. Farmers should discuss the issue with a competent tax accountant before making a final decision.

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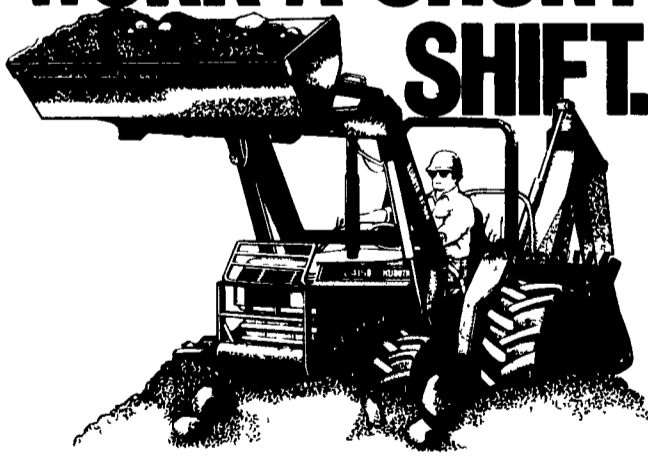
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