

Lycoming County Man Wins Third In National Corn Yield Contest

BY LISA RISSER
EPHRATA (Lancaster)—Most Pennsylvania farmers considered themselves lucky to harvest 80 bushels per acre of corn last year. One Lycoming County farmer fared better than most; in fact he was the top corn producer, on a 3-acre plot, in Pennsylvania with 198 bushels per acre!

Dick Snyder's 198.27 yield was high enough to place him third in the nation in the Class A non-irrigated division of the national corn yield contest. The contest, sponsored by DeKalb-Pfizer Genetics, American Cyanamid Co., and Monsanto Co., included a total of 2,312 corn growers from 46 states.

Snyder, a Montoursville man, has received a first-place state award on the national level three years out of the six that he has participated in the national contest. His six-year yield average for the national contest is 187 bushels per acre with five different hybrids.

On the state level, the 53-year-old farmer has won first place three times in the 3+ acre category out of the six years that the division has been in existence. In addition, he was won the three-year average for 3+ acre division every year since its inception in 1984.

Snyder attributes his success "to my two partners: Mother Nature and Lady Luck. I consider my role as being about 10 percent. They take care of it from there."

Another factor to his success is the rich soil of the 125-acre parcel he purchased from his father. The land is located in the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Area where the Loyalsock Creek flows into the Susquehanna River. It is classified Class I barber river-bottom soil.

"It's 15 to 20 feet deep and floods occasionally but doesn't wash," said Snyder. The river water deposits silt, which enriches the soil.

This year Snyder prepared the seed bed by first plowing down 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Sometimes he takes a pass with the disk. He planted with a 7000 John Deere in 30-inch rows and put down 200 pounds of 8-32-16 commercial starter fertilizer. When the corn was knee deep, he knifed in 180 pounds of Super N with an inhibitor.

Snyder also used Furadan at a rate of eight pounds per acre and Prozine (combination of Prowl and Atrazine), three pounds to the acre, to control pests. He doesn't often use pesticides in his normal cropping program. "I don't consider it to be cost effective," Snyder explained. "But it helps to get an extra three to four bushels (per acre) for the contest."

He plants as early as possible after April 15 and is done by the last week of April.

Snyder conducts test plots of hybrid corn for himself, trying to find what works best for his land and management practices. When choosing new hybrids, he studies the test results from Ohio University and Penn State research plots and consults with seed salesmen. "I make sure that I select a hybrid that has leaf-disease resistance, because fog rolls in during the fall causing a favorable environment for leaf disease," said Snyder. Last year he used Funks 4626.

Snyder grows field and sweet corn on much of his 250 acres; he uses rye and oats as a cover crop on land that isn't in continuous corn. He sells 90 percent of his field corn

as high moisture corn to dairymen within a 60- to 90-mile radius of his farm. The remaining 10 percent is sold as shelled corn to feed mills.

A partial list of the placings follows.

CLASS A NON-IRRIGATED National Winners
 1. Price Brothers Farm, MI, Great Lake GL 582; 2. Larry Richter, MI, Northrup King S 7751; 3. D. Richard Snyder, PA, Funk's 4626
Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners
 Haisdan Farm, CT, Stanford HT 650; Clifton C. Murray, DE, Pioneer 3378; Robert J. Bassett, MD, DeKalb DK 636; Stewart Smith, NJ, Pioneer 3295; Stone House Farm, NY, Stanford HT 650A; D. Richard Snyder, PA; Raymond Vander, VT, Cargill 6127; Robert L. Cochran, VA, Stanford HT 797; Kay Farms, WV, DeKalb DK 689.

CLASS AA NON-IRRIGATED National Winners
 1. Davis Brothers, MO, Northrup King S 7759; 2. Hinkelbein Farms, MO, DeKalb DK 636; 3. Calvin Hiatt, IN, Cargill 7993
Mid-Atlantic Winners
 Tony C. Lee, NC, DeKalb DK 689; Wesley H. Granger, OH, DeKalb DK 636

NO-TILL NON-IRRIGATED National Winners
 1. Fair Acres Stock Farms Inc., MN, Pioneer 3377; 2. Lin and Tim Heller, IA, Farm Service Growmark 6566; James C. Justice II, WV, Stanford HT 454
Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners

Snow Farms Inc, DE, Pioneer 3378; William Howard Marker, MD, DeKalb DK 636; Etsch Farms, NJ, DeKalb DK 636; Philip Davis, NC, Sigco 1793; Lynn J. Everhard, OH, Pioneer 3343; Vernon E. Balmer, PA, DeKalb DK 672; James C. Justice II, VA, Stanford HT 454; James C. Justice II, WV, Stanford HT 650

NO-TILL IRRIGATED National Winners
 1. Alvin Harris & Sons, WA, Pioneer 3475; 2. Jimmy Dixon, GA, DeKalb DK 711; 3. Joanne Dixon, GA, DeKalb 773
Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners

Carlisle Brothers, DE, DeKalb DK 636; Sherry Council, MD, Northrup King S 7751; Dwight Corriher, NC, DeKalb DK 711; M. Lamar Miller, PA, Cargill 7877; M.R. Fulks, VA, Pioneer 3140; Stanley Dunn Jr., WV, Pioneer 3352

RIDGE-TILL NON-IRRIGATED National Winners

1. Lin and Tim Heller, IA, Pioneer 3475; 2. Jim L. Veldkamp, MN, Pioneer 3569; 3. Jo Ann Veldkamp, MN, Pioneer 3585
Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners

J. Wilmer Drews, NJ, Northrup King NK 7751; William Lee Harrelson, NC, Pioneer 3185; Tony Boll, OH, DeKalb DK 789

RIDGE-TILL IRRIGATED National Winners

1. Matt Wilson, NE, DeKalb DK 636; 2. Rodney Rayburn, NE, DeKalb DK 636; 3. James Morbach, NE, Garat 8532
Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners

Billy Gillam, NC, Pioneer 3320

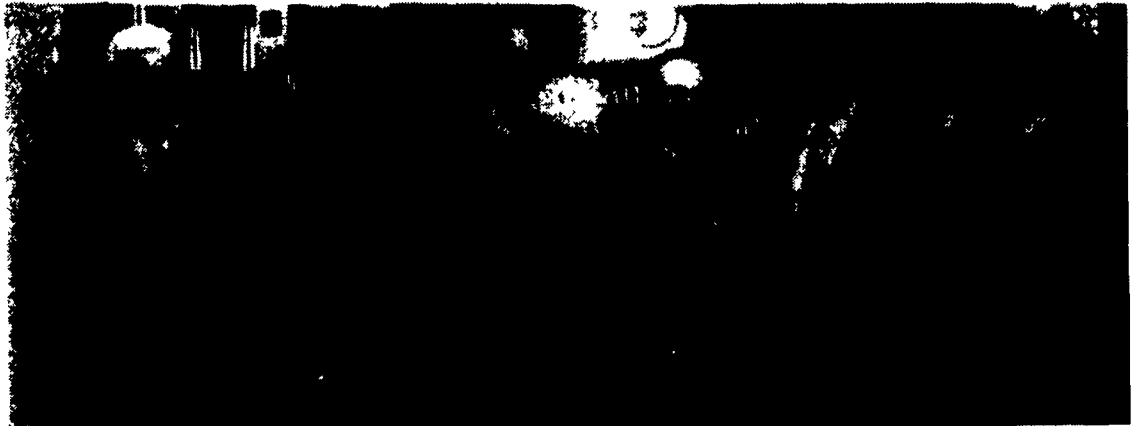
IRRIGATED National Winners

1. Ted Johnson, AZ, Pioneer 3183; 2. John W. Cover, TX, Garat 8388; 3. Tedd R. Haas, AZ, Garat 4445

Northeast, Mid-Atlantic State Winners

DC Farms, DE, DeKalb DK 636; Hutchinson Brothers, MD, Pioneer 3192; Danser & Bloom, NJ, Pioneer 3295; Sunrise Farm Inc., NY, Stanford HT 650A; Roy E. Shroyer, OH, Pioneer 3540 & 3324; John Johnson III, PA, DeKalb DK 524; Robert L. Newcomb, VA, Pioneer 3358; Island Creek Farms, WV, DeKalb T 1100

Farm Appreciation Day Dinner



More than 200 farmers and other agri-business people from Lancaster and Chester counties enjoyed the Bank of Lancaster County's Farm Appreciation Day Dinner held at the West Fallowfield Christian Day School on Monday evening. Neal R. Buss discussed the next 25 years of agriculture in the southern Lancaster County and Chester County. Pictured (from left) are Bob Badger, vice-president of ag lending; Dawn Stoltzfus, branch manager; John E. Stefan, president; Neal R. Buss, deputy secretary of agriculture; John Burkholder, chairman of the board; J. Roger Moyer, Jr., senior vice-president.

Before you turn out your heifers this spring, consider how you'll get them bred to the best bulls.

Here's why you should use AI on your heifers:

- ✓ Greater genetic improvement with each generation
- ✓ Higher value of calves for herd replacement or surplus sales
- ✓ Individual selection of service sires thru Atlantic's new Heifer-Mate recommendation program.
- ✓ Reliable calving ease and conception information
- ✓ Eliminate danger, disease, and expense factors associated with natural service from a bull on the farm
- ✓ Avoid possible injury to heifers caused by a bull
- ✓ AI service is economical and dependable
- ✓ Programmed breeding with prostaglandin treatment

Atlantic sires with both top genetics and calving ease:

8H1509 Likabul	+\$208	+2,082M	70%R	5% EDBH	8H1536 Trifecta	+\$182	+1,822M	78%R	6% EDBH
8H1626 Deputy	+\$183	+1,661M	68%R	5% EDBH	8H1640 Bell Boy	+\$171	+1,671M	78%R	6% EDBH
8H1661 Gilbert	+\$182	+2,086M	72%R	5% EDBH	8H1504 Abner	+\$153	+1,234M	78%R	6% EDBH
8H1608 Summit	+\$181	+1,634M	67%R	5% EDBH	8H1523 Belltone	+\$143	+1,307M	74%R	6% EDBH
8H1564 Panda	+\$164	+1,159M	67%R	5% EDBH	8H922 Troy	+\$199	+1,800M	99%R	7% EDBH
8H1581 Race	+\$164	+1,294M	69%R	5% EDBH	8H1663 Jonda	+\$186	+1,638M	64%R	7% EDBH
8H1622 Jamaica	+\$163	+1,665M	72%R	5% EDBH	8H1521 Nice	+\$159	+1,387M	83%R	7% EDBH
8H1624 Equity	+\$148	+1,275M	70%R	5% EDBH	8H1034 Bachelor	+\$146	+1,243M	99%R	7% EDBH
8H318 Rebel	+\$142	+2.27%F	98%R	5% EDBH	8H1540 Glade	+\$142	+1,230M	73%R	7% EDBH

(January/89 USDA production data; July/88 NAAB calving ease; EDBH = expected difficult births in heifers)



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