

## Du Pont Enters Agreement To Develop High-Oil Corn Hybrids

WILMINGTON, DE — The Du Pont Company, Pfister Hybrid Corn Company and the University of Illinois have entered into exclusive agreements for the development and commercialization of high-oil corn hybrids for improved animal feeds.

High-oil corn contains significantly more oil and protein than present commercial hybrids. Several studies indicate that livestock and poultry use high-oil corn feed more efficiently in weight gain, resulting in feed cost savings. This should benefit producers and consumers of corn by creating a higher value feed product, as well as help assure the global competitiveness of American farmers.

"The agreements outline responsibilities for the research necessary to improve the agronomic performance of the hybrids and the development of an effective system to produce and market the high-oil corn separately from the existing commodity system in America," said Daniel Hammes, Du Pont biotechnology product specialist, Agricultural Products

Department.

Du Pont and Pfister will create a joint program to develop improved lines of high-oil corn. They will combine the proprietary corn germplasm and breeding expertise of Pfister with Du Pont's broad base of corn research and development technology. The University of Illinois, in turn, will grant Du Pont and Pfister the right to further improve and commercialize high-oil corn lines discovered by the university.

Through a research grant, Du Pont will fund further high-oil corn research by the university. Royalties will be paid on hybrids that are commercialized by Pfister.

"Collaboration with Du Pont and Pfister will benefit the people of Illinois by ensuring the development and commercialization of high-oil corn hybrids with nutritional qualities superior to other feeds," said Donald Holt, director of the Illinois Agricultural Experimental Station.

University of Illinois researchers began working on high-oil

corn in 1896. Recent work by D.E. Alexander, professor of genetics in the department of agronomy, has led to development of experimental lines of corn with significantly higher oil and protein than standard hybrids.

Pfister breeders have worked with high-oil corn for more than

20 years. "Marketing under the 'Kern Oil' trademark, Pfister is the only commercial source of high-oil corn in the world," said Daniel Pfister, president. The 53-year-old company markets a full line of hybrid seed corn in 14 Midwestern states.

The agreements are consistent

with Du Pont's mission to create new business opportunities based on higher value products developed through agricultural biotechnology.

Du Pont is a diversified chemical, energy and specialty products company with 1988 sales of \$32.4 billion.

## Kuhn Offers New Mower, Rake

VERNON, NY — Believe it or not, but farmers may find it worth their while to oil up that decrepit old rake rusting away in their back field. The same goes for that dusty old disc mower squirreled away in their machinery shed. That's because Kuhn Farm Machinery has put out a "most wanted" bulletin for the oldest working rotary rake and disc mower found in the United States or Canada.

The 160-year-old company, the oldest existing manufacturer of rakes and mowers, wants the items for its historic archives. And in order to get them, Kuhn has offered a generous reward. The individual who owns the oldest

rake will be presented with a brand new Kuhn GA300GT Rotary Rake, while the owner of the oldest disc mower will receive a new Kuhn GMD66 Disc Mower. And even if a submitted rake or mower should turn out not to be the oldest, farmers still will receive a Kuhn sports cap by being one of the first 500 to enter.

Entrants must be 18 years of age or older, a resident of the United States or Canada, and willing to hand that old rake or mower over to Kuhn should it turn out to be the oldest one found. No purchase is required and Kuhn represen-

tatives will verify the authenticity of all entries. In the event of a tie, a drawing will determine the winner. Deadline for entries is September 30, 1989 and prizes will be awarded before January 1, 1990.

Kuhn will be advertising the promotion in June, July and August issues of U.S. and Canadian national and regional farm publications. Official entry blanks are also available through local Kuhn dealers or by writing to Kuhn at: Kuhn Farm Machinery, Old Rake and Mower Promotion, P.O. Box 224, Vernon, New York 13476.

## The Eaton Way

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he often depends on for herd replacements.

"I have to put the whole picture together every day," he said. "But without those specialists I'd be gone."

As might be expected, the summer of 1988 was especially hard on the dairyman who buys all the food he needs.

"This past year was a break-even year," he said, adding feed costs increased 40 percent in all areas. By September he knew it was going to be a try-for-survival year. "We tightened our belts, we did without things, with one less man labor," he said. "We squeezed the most out of everything. We even made things like grain scoops last a little longer."

Another cost-saving measure was to cut down on the embryo transplants. Eaton said he's a dairyman because he likes cows and he likes being his own boss. As for his unconventional methods, his Holsteins are beginning to provide the figures to prove many of them are sound.



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