

Fruit Showcase Emphasizes Varieties

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — What fruit varieties will be popular in the 1990s? How should commercial growers choose from the many promising new selections and crosses?

The 1990 Mid-Atlantic Fruit Variety Showcase scheduled for Sept. 6, can help growers and others find answers to these questions. The September exhibition also will provide a firsthand look at new fruit varieties on the horizon.

The showcase will be presented at the Pennsylvania State University Fruit Research Laboratory in Biglerville. Growers, fruit breeders, nursery operators, researchers, extension professionals, and orchard support industry representatives have been invited to participate.

The showcase will feature apple, pear, peach, nectarine, and some small fruit varieties that have potential for future fresh or processing markets. The program is coordinated by the cooperative extension of the Penn State University, University of Maryland, Rutgers University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and the USDA-Appalachian Fruit Research Station.

Registration and fruit display set-up will be from 9 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. The schedule includes a tour of the apple variety and rootstock trial plots, a picnic lunch, a variety forum, and a complete exhibition of fruit varieties. The variety forum is a new addition to the showcase this year. During this forum, the main varieties

will be discussed in detail by exhibitors, extension professionals, nurserymen, and growers.

The tour will be offered in the morning from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Penn State University pomologists Dr. George Greene and Dr. Rob Crassweller will show the apple variety and rootstock plots located on the Fruit Research Laboratory. Fuji, Mutzu,

Nittany, and various other varieties will be observed in the plots.

Anyone wishing to participate in the showcase should collect 20 high-quality specimens of each variety. An "88 tray" will be provided for each entry, plus each exhibitor will be asked to complete a brief information form on each variety. Although most fall apple varieties will not be ready to harvest, the sponsors encourage

participants to bring these selections as well.

In conjunction with the 1990 Mid-Atlantic Fruit Variety Showcase, a Mid-Atlantic Fruit Variety Testing Program is being organized, and all growers, nurserymen, and extension professionals are invited to participate. The primary benefit individuals will receive by participating in the variety testing program is the exchange of infor-

mation important to the future of the orchard industry. Variety testing participant application forms will be available at your local county extension office.

The Penn State University Fruit Research Laboratory is located on University Drive, about 1 mile west of the center of Biglerville. For more information, contact William Kleiner, PSU extension fruit agent, at (717) 334-6271.

Number Of Corn-Based Products Grows

ST. LOUIS, MO — A number of new, corn-based industrial products are about to make their commercial debut, spokesmen for half a dozen firms told attendees at Corn Utilization Conference (CUC) III, co-sponsored by Ciba-Geigy seed division and the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA).

Seeds of research sown at two previous conferences could result in demand for up to 10 billion bushels of corn per year, said Don Johnson, vice president of development at Grain Processing Corp. and moderator of the industrial showcase sessions.

He said the fledgling industrial uses of the corn industry are ready to take off. "The key issue is maintaining an adequate supply of this renewable resource at a reasonable price while still giving the producer a profit," he said.

Session attendees found out some of the following:

- Detroit Diesel Corp. (DDC), which claims 90 percent of the U.S. heavy-duty diesel engine market, will have an alcohol-

fueled engine ready for the urban transit bus market in 1991, reported Richard Winsor, technology manager. Most of DDC's research has been with methanol, he said, but he noted that neat and 190-proof ethanol outperform methanol. Ethanol provides lower volatility, lower toxicity, less corrosiveness, and better lubrication. "Ethanol's only known disadvantage is that it costs roughly twice as much as methanol, which costs roughly twice as much as a diesel per unit of energy," he said. An optional catalytic converter would make DDC's direct-injection engines, when fueled with ethanol, the cleanest heavy-duty engines in the world.

- Henkel Corp., the U.S. leading producer of chemicals from carbohydrates, already sells 10 million pounds of corn-based surfactants to the laundry, personal care, and industrial markets. Henkel already is expanding to further penetrate the multi-billion pound U.S. surfactant market, reported Steve Rogers, product manager. Not only is the corn-based surfactant

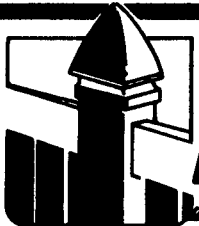
alkylpolyglycoside (APG) price-competitive, it is low in toxicity, is biodegradable, skin safe, and it enhances the effectiveness of traditional surfactants when used as an additive.

- Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) will open a new \$150 million fermentation plant in Decatur, Illinois, for the manufacture of a variety of amino acids, enzymes, antibiotics, lactic acid, and other specialty chemicals in the next several months.

- Southern plywood mills have demonstrated the superior strength and cost competitiveness of a corn-based additive to plywood glue mixes and resins, according to Larson Dunn of the University of Illinois. Use of methylglucoside

can shorten the manufacturing process, improve plywood strength, and enhance worker safety, he said. Future potential can be expected in the resin-intensive and the growing particle and fiberboard markets.

- If ethanol captures 35 percent of the oxygenated fuel and 30 percent of the reformulated gasoline markets, the U.S. demand for ethanol could double to 2.2 billion gallons by 1994 and climb to 3.3 billion gallons by the year 2000, according to Linden Shepard, vice president of sweetener marketing for A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. Market potential depends on OPEC strategy as well as U.S. tax policy, clean air, and alternative fuels legislation, he said.



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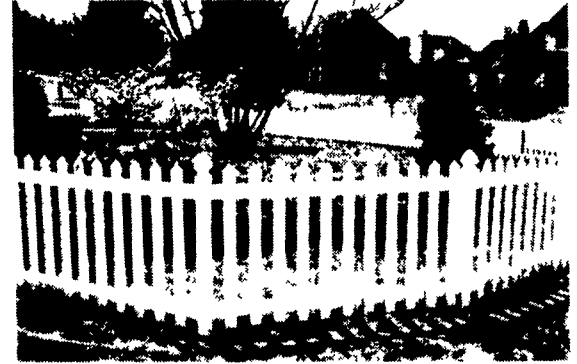
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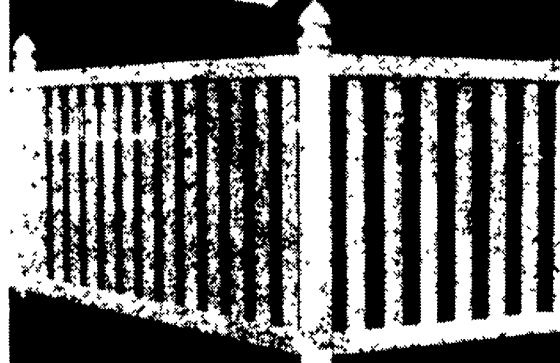
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