Conservationists Build On Team Staff Conference

CHAMBERSBURG (Franklin Co.) — Donna Hays, secretarytreasurer of the Franklin County Conservation District, attended the third annual Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts Employee Staff Conference held recently at State College.

More than 100 district employees participated in the two-day conference which featured workshops and seminars focusing on team building training methods. Team members included district managers, secretaries, and technical staff.

Paul Strizzi and Steve Figley of the Department of Environmental Resources (DER), Training and Development Division took participants through a series of workshops on interpersonal communications, conflict management, group dynamics and problem solving techniques.

"We became more aware of the need to look at the people side of services that DER provides," said Figley. "Conservation districts have excellent staff and we want to provide them with expertise in dealing with farmers, planners, and the general public.'

Conservation districts offer a variety of services in the areas of soil, water and natural resource management. These areas put district personnel in contact with

many diversified segments of the agricultural and urban communities.

"The trend is moving into using more customer service skills,³ commented Strizzi. "It's an area that we (DER) are focusing on more.'

In other events, staff members from eight conservation districts across the State presented programs from their districts in an idea exchange forum. Topics ranged from computer user groups to advancement within a district. Jeffrey TenEnyck, Executive Vice-President, New York Association of Conservation District Employees also gave a presentation on professional development in New York state. Other presenters included: luncheon remarks by Dr. James Grace, Department of Environmental Resources, Deputy Secretary of Resources Management; Margaret DelMonico, PA State Employees Credit Union; Patricia Calley, Department of General Services; and Edward Bechtel, PA Municipal Retirement System.

For more information on conservation district programs in Franklin County, contact; Franklin County Conservation District, 550 Cleveland Avenue, Chambersburg, PA 17201, (717) 264-8074.

secretary of the Northeast Texas Longhorn Association (NETLA), an affiliate of the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America (TLBAA). She has held that office for the past four years and was also treasurer for two.

Mummert and her husband Bill operate Cross M Stock Farms and have raised Texas Longhorns since 1977. Since they both work, the self-sufficiency of the Texas Longhorn breed appealed to them.

Mummert Re-Elected Texas Longhorn Officer

The Mummerts helped organize the Northeast Texas Longhorn Association four years ago, and Bill Mummert served two years as

president. In addition to the Northeast affiliate, they are members of the TLBAA.

Chris Mummert is the executive secretary of the U.S. Office of the Continental Christian Crusade at Gettysburg, and her husband is the minister of the Gettysburg Baptist Church.

American Cyanamid, Deere Announce **Closed Handling System**

WAYNE, N.J. — American Cyanamid Company and Deer & Company have announced that the new LOCK 'n LOAD" closed handling system for COUNTER® systemic insecticide-nematicide will be available across North America for the 1991 planting season.

FORT WORTH, Texas -

Chris Mummert, Spring Grove,

PA., was recently re-elected as

The "closed" granular-chemical handling system, which was developed over a three-year period in a cooperative effort between American Cyanamid Company and Deere & Company, significantly decreases grower exposure to the insecticide while improving handling convenience.

The system consists of a special COUNTER[®] package with a builtin dispensing valve and a special hopper lid and receiving valve assembly that fits John Deere Max-Emerge[®] and MaxEmerge[®] 2 planters. Locking the valves together causes them to open allowing the granular chemical to flow from the package to the hopper. The valves close tightly when they are disengaged.

During spring 1990, 500 corn growers in selected areas of the Midwest used the system, which greatly reduces the operator's exposure to the pesticide, its dust. and its odor while filling the planter hopper.

Development of the LOCK'n LOAD[™] closed handling system was, in part, a response to growing concerns regarding the burning of empty pesticide containers and other related environmental issues. The pesticide containers come on a special pallet, which makes it easy for growers to return them to local Cyanamid AgriCenter^w dealers, who in turn send them back to Cyanamid for refilling.

According to both companies, growers who used the system last spring liked the system because it minimizes contact with the chemical and provides a safer method for storing their pesticides. They also liked the fact that there is less dust and smell and no bag disposal as well as CHS being a faster method to load their insecticide boxes.

In response to feedback from these growers, American Cyanamid, and Deere & Company made design changes for the 1991 planting season. Parts of the receiving valve on the lid and the dispensing valve on the pesticide package were redesigned to increase the convenience of using the system and improve the smooth flow of the pesticide from the package into the hopper.

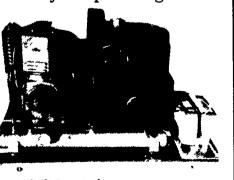
Also, an over-center latch was adopted to fasten the rear of the closed handling lid to the pesticide hopper. This provides easier serviceability and end-of-season cleanout, because no tools are required to remove the lid.



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