

For Best Results, Plant High-Profit Varieties

DEKALB, Ill. — Planting a high-yield soybean variety is one way to achieve profitable returns. But growers should also properly prepare for planting to guarantee success.

DEKALB Plant Genetics regional agronomist Jim Schwartz said growers should make man-

agement decisions such as setting yield goals for each field, determining tillage practices to avoid soil compaction, and planning timing and method of application of nutrient needs before planting.

He said that farmers should review their field notes from last year.

"It's important to select varieties by examining multiyear data," he said. "Use data that pertains to your area and contains varieties that are adapted to disease and insect problems common to your area."

Schwartz points out that by knowing which diseases and insect

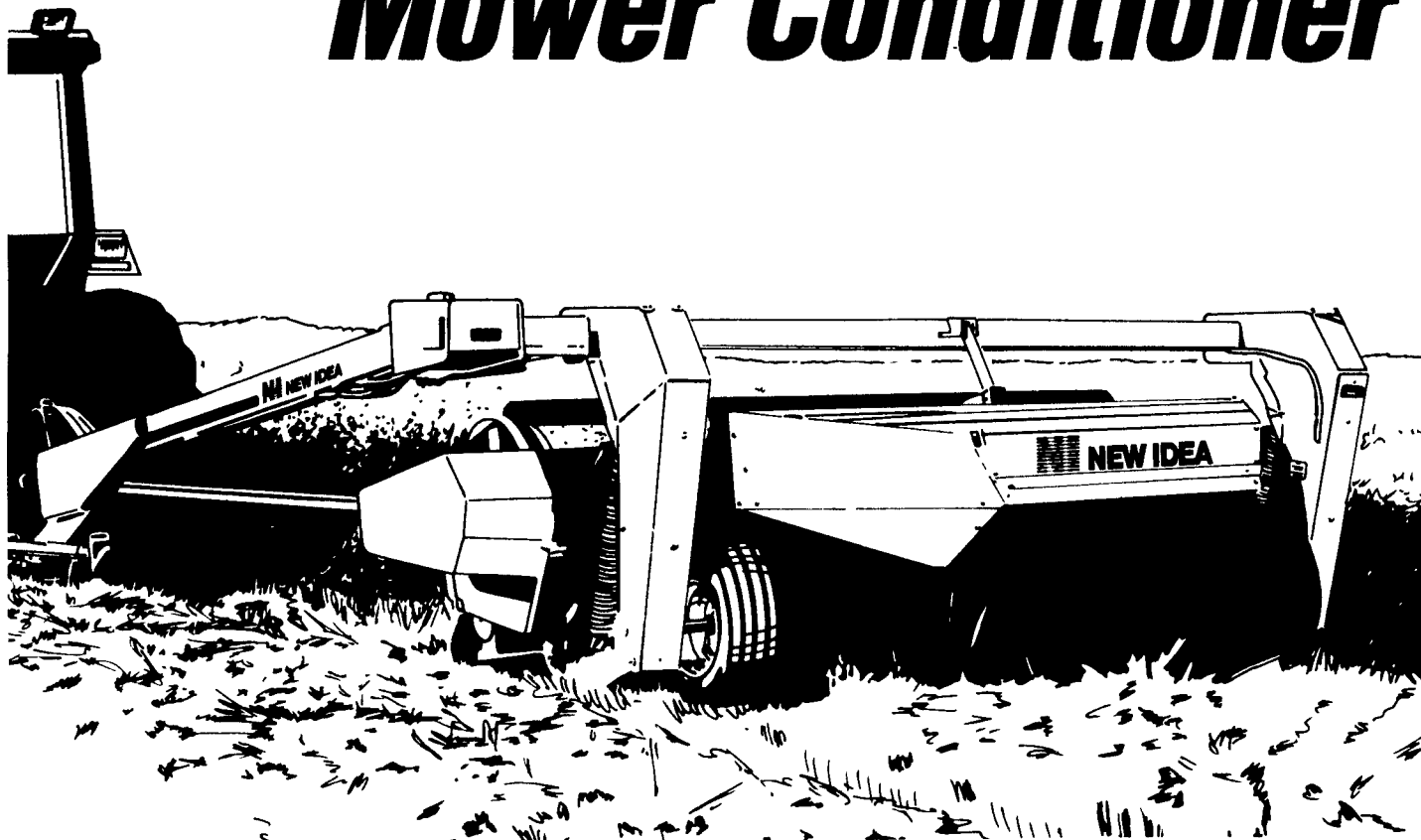
ts are likely to be a problem, growers can select a resistant or tolerant variety. Also, growers should select a soybean variety based on seed quality, yield, standability, and shattering resistance.

"When farmers have finalized their variety choices, they should buy new seed that is genetically

and mechanically pure," Schwartz said. "The added cost of trustworthy seed is insignificant when compared to potential yield and profit loss from planting bin-run seed."

He suggests growers with high pH soils compare variety iron deficiency chlorosis scores and choose the more tolerant high performing varieties.

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