

Test Plots, New Methods Seen On Summer Tour

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
 Managing Editor
 NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster

Co.)—New techniques to handle pesticides and herbicides, quick tests to identify nitrogen needs,



Dr. Greg Roth uses a new hand-held chlorophyll tester to determine nitrogen needs in corn.



Part of the group of 200 persons who attended the FMC/Ceba Geigy summer plot tour from New Holland in Lancaster County, Tuesday morning.

field comparisons of product effectiveness and weed identification plots were all part of the FMC/Ciba-Geigy summer tour to the D. Martin Zimmerman family farm Tuesday morning. More than 200 dealer representatives, custom operators, extension agents, researchers, FFA advisors, and industry personnel filled four buses that transported the group from the park to the Zimmerman farm located along Route 23 just east of Blue Ball.

"While we will not likely see a total employment of all the principles of low input farming in this area, we will need to justify what we do in the way of nitrogen and nutrient management," said Bob Anderson, Lancaster County extension agent. Anderson demonstrated a fast soil test to check for nitrogen that can be done in the field.

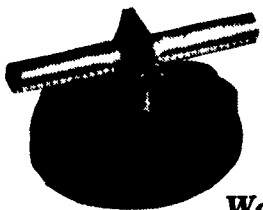
According to Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State agronomist, manured fields show a great variation in nit-

rogen levels. "The layman who reads the newspapers would think that every manured field would have soil tests that would go off the charts," Roth said. "This just isn't so. A lot of the manured fields we tested are low in nitrogen. In fact, out of about 1500 fields, only about 35 to 40 percent of them were above the critical level. This means 60 percent of manured fields need nitrogen."

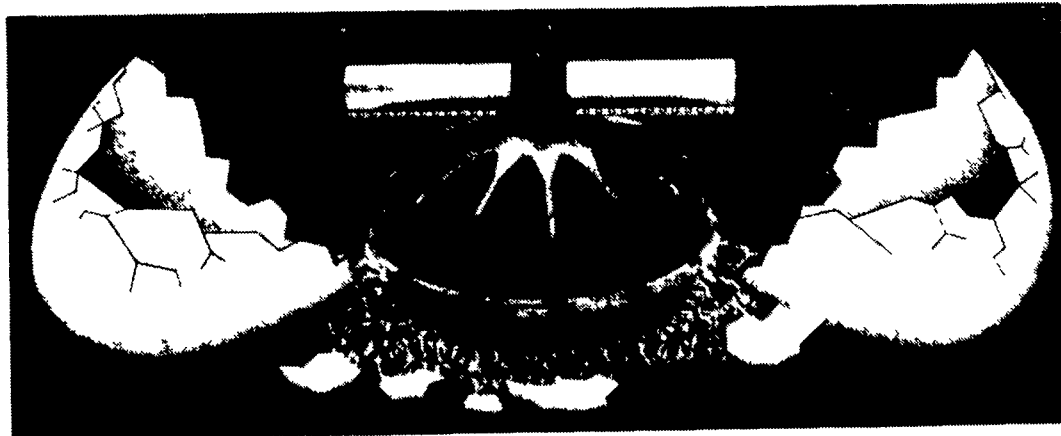
Roth also demonstrated the
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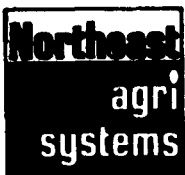
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