



# Business News

## Local Organic Fertilizer Company Changes Hands

BAINBRIDGE (Lancaster Co.) — Rufus S. Miller, president of The Fertrell Company, has sold the controlling interest to the employees and stockholders.

Rufus Miller spent 40 years developing The Fertrell Company and its many products. He put his philosophy on farming practices to work on a run-down farm in 1950. Using organic plant food, he restored the productivity of this farm, which became a Show and Tell farm. Dealers and distributors from many states came to view the ongoing demonstration.

In 1973, Rufus Miller became president and chief executive officer of The Fertrell Company. Realizing the need for additional

nutrition in animal feeds, he began blending vitamin and mineral supplements, the response was very good.

On September 27, 1991, Rufus Miller sold his interest to the employees and shareholders. David Mattocks will assume the duties of president and sales manager, Dennis Nygaard, vice president and financial officer, and W. Reuben Gantz, secretary and production manager.

The products offered will be virtually the same, with some additions.

David Mattocks began with FERTRELL in 1980 as area salesman and moved to vice president, sales manager in 1983. He cur-

rently covers sales outlets in 28 states and two providences in Canada. This year he has opened negotiations in Taiwan and Puerto Rico for blended fertilizers.

Dennis Nygaard began with The Fertrell Company in 1989 and has been responsible for internal operations. His expertise in computers and finance has strengthened the overall position in the industry.

W. Reuben Gantz began with The Fertrell Company in 1960 and has been responsible for production and plant maintenance. Reuben also plays a large role in inventory control. His years of involvement qualify him to determine product components that work well for plant foods. Perhaps the most important aspect of any manufacturing facility is the product quality. Reuben's concern for customer satisfaction will continue as The Fertrell Company moves ahead.

## Gem Joins Accounting Staff

MERCER (Mercer Co.) — Paul G. Gem, West Middlesex, has joined the accounting staff of Penn West Farm Credit, ACA (Agricultural Credit Association). His appointment was announced recently by Jan Copeland, controller. He will be working in the Penn West administrative offices in Mercer.

Gem is a 1990 graduate of Youngstown State University, (Ohio), with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Prior to working for Farm Credit, he was employed in the New Castle office of Hill, Barth and King, an accounting firm.

Penn West Farm Credit ACA provide loans and financial services to farmer members in western Pennsylvania and the northern panhandle of West Virginia. The association is part of the Farm



Paul G. Gem  
Credit Bank of Baltimore and the Farm Credit System.

## Na-Churs Holds First National Convention

MARION, Ohio — Phares Auker recently attended the first Na-Churs Distributors National Convention held at Lake Geneva, Wis. Auker is the owner of Pars, Inc., Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania and a distributor for Na-Churs Plant Food Company.

The two-day convention, which was held at the Interlaken Resort

and Country Spa, attracted distributors from across the country. Activities included company updates, keynote addresses, and award presentations.

Pars, Inc. was highlighted, as one of the Na-Churs top 10 distributors for the 1990 - 1991 sales year. Auker was presented with a plaque for his outstanding year.

## District Has Slit-Tiller

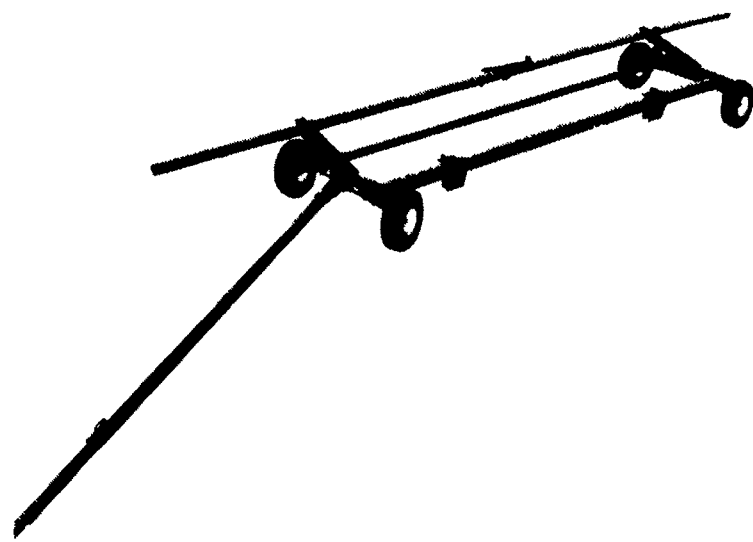
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The Lancaster County Conservation District, which promotes slit-tillage as a way to stop erosion, now has a 1 or 2 tooth slit-tiller available.

It can be horse drawn or converted to be pulled by a small trac-

tor. Anyone interested may use it on a free-trial basis.

The district's 5-tooth model is still available.

Contact Eric Ashley at the Lancaster County Conservation District at (717) 299-5361.



Transport or store corn heads or grain platforms measuring up to 30' wide with Unverferth's new HT-30 header transport.

## Header Transport Handles 30-Foot Wide Platforms

KALIDA, Ohio — Transport or store corn heads or grain platforms measuring up to 30' wide with the new HT-30 header transport manufactured by Unverferth Manufacturing Company, Inc.

The HT-30, along with the HT-25 for platforms up to 25' wide, is designed from the ground up as a true header transport, not just a running gear with rails.

With adjustable upper and lower rest bars and choice of left or right hand loading, Unverferth header transports provide a custom fit, allowing safe transport and storage of corn heads and grain platforms.

Unverferth's Turn-Rite® steering system permits full 180° steering, ensuring no more bent

tongues. Eight ton hubs and spindles together with grease fittings and bronze bushings give years of true, trouble-free trailing.

Options include a jack that allows convenient one man adjustment of upper bar height, an extended tongue that adds 4' to the standard tongue, and tie downs for securing the head to the transporter.

Unverferth's header transports come complete with tires and wheels and are available in red or green.

For free literature or more information, contact Unverferth Manufacturing Co., Inc., P.O. Box 357, State Road 224 West, Kalida, OH 45853, (800) 322-6301, (419) 532-3121.

## New Drills Feature In-Line Box Configurations

MOLINE, Ill. — John Deere has announced two new 455-Series folding grain drills for the '92 product year.

Available in a 25-foot and 30-foot model, the new drills feature in-line box configurations, an innovative adjustable, hydraulic, constant down-pressure system, an independent opener lift system, offset double-disk openers, a choice of several depth-gauging press wheels, and a 15-foot 2-inch transport width.

The 455-Series drills in-line box configurations make loading seed and fertilizer fast and easy. The in-line design also eliminates tire tracks for a uniform look to the field following drilling.

The 25-foot model consists of two 12-1/2-foot boxes and the 30-foot unit combines three 10-foot boxes. Both models are available with 6-, 7-1/2-, and 10-inch opener spacing. Each model provides a minimum of 15 degrees of wing flexibility for following ground contours and terraces.

A single adjustable down-pressure valve uses the tractor's SCV and hydraulics to apply constant force on the double-disk openers. This provides consistent opener penetration as the openers flex up or down across varying terrain. The valve permits the operator to adjust down-pressure from 500 - 1500 psi to match a range of soft-to-hard soil conditions. A pressure gauge is included in the system so the operator can conveniently adjust the pressure to the correct setting for conditions.

Each opener also has an adjustable spring for fine-tuning down-pressure, such as for openers that run in wheel tracks. These openers may need more penetration force when the wheels compact the soil. The opener raise-and-lower

hydraulic circuit is independent of the frame raise-and-lower circuit on the 455-Series drills. A small-diameter cylinder is used in the opener circuit because it lifts and lowers only the openers rather than the frame of the drill. The size of the cylinder enables it to lift and lower the openers rapidly for quick turns. Because the frame does not have to raise during a turn, the weight of the drill is distributed among six wheels rather than four, which helps reduce soil compaction.

Both drills feature double-disk openers with a 1/4-in. offset. The offset design provides a narrow initial furrow that requires less penetration force to create. The leading blade edge also cuts through trash for effective performance in various residue conditions.

The depth-gauging press wheels for these drills provide consistent depth control and seed-to-soil contact. Each press wheel has a convenient handle for quickly adjusting opener depth from 0 - 3-1/2 inches in 12 incremental settings all without tools. The adjustment is similar in design to the gauge-wheel adjustment on John Deere MaxEmerge two planters. The operator simply pulls out the spring-loaded adjustment handle

and repositions it in the desired incremental setting.

Optional press wheels are available in five size/configuration combinations to match operator preference and varying soil requirements.

Both the 25-foot and 30-foot model fold hydraulically into a narrow 15-foot 2-inch transport width. Clearance under the openers is 15 inches and tread width is only 90 inches.

A 2.8-bushel/foot grain box is standard on 455-Series drills. An optional 3.4-bushel/foot combination grain/fertilizer box is available. The combination box features a moveable partition which offers the operator the flexibility of three box configurations in one. The partition can be positioned to accommodate 100 percent, 60 percent, or 40 percent grain.

An optional grain agitator prevents grain from bridging and thus helps ensure a smooth, even flow of grain into the feed cups. Other options include single or dual wing wheels, single or dual markers, a half-speed drive kit to expand the capability of the meter to handle low-volume crops like canola, and a grass seeder.

Shipments of the 455-Series folding grain drills are scheduled to begin early next year.



The John Deere 25-foot and 30-foot 455-Series folding grain drills feature in-line box configurations that permit convenient loading of seed and fertilizer. The adjustable down-pressure system applies constant force on the openers for consistent penetration in varying soil conditions.