

National Ag Week In March

WASHINGTON D.C. — Across the United States of America, the more than 21 million men and women who provide the food and fiber that Americans depend on every day will be honored during the 20th anniversary of National Agriculture Week (March 14-20) and National Agriculture Day (March 20).

The theme, "American Agriculture — Growing Better Every Day", conveys the message that America's food and agriculture system is a progressive, forward-thinking industry that is continuously striving to improve its methods and better respond to consumer needs and trends.

National Agriculture Day and

National Agriculture Week coincide with the beginning of spring, when thousands of farmers across the country are preparing their fields for planting. The annual observance is designed to direct attention to the important contributions made by the food and agriculture industry.

"Without a national observance, it is too easy to forget the important role the American food and agriculture industry plays in our daily lives," said Keith Nelson, chairman of the Agriculture Council of America, coordinator of the nationwide celebration. "We tend to take for granted the very industry that puts food on our

table, clothes on our backs, and shelter over our heads each day. National Agriculture Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to take a moment and reflect upon the many ways agriculture touches their lives."

To mark the 20th Anniversary of National Agriculture Day and National Agriculture Week 1993, the Ag Council, through generous special funding from Deere and Company, has commissioned Bart Forbes to create an original oil painting. "The Faces of Agriculture" is the title of this year's painting, which illustrates the many people involved in America's food and agriculture industry. Posters of the painting will be produced and distributed by a number of agricultural groups and state departments of agriculture across the country. They will be available in mid-January for the cost of \$5, which includes shipping and handling.

Pennfield Manager Retires

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Earl Birk, who has served as purchasing manager for Pennfield Corporation, 711 Rohrerstown Road, for 19 years, will be retiring on March 1.

Birk has 47 years of experience in the purchasing of grains and ingredients used in manufacturing animal feeds. He has also been responsible for railroad transpor-

tation for the company.

Prior to joining Pennfield, Birk was associated with J.W. Eshelman and Sons, Lancaster, and Carnation Company of York.

Succeeding Birk as purchasing manager will be Andrew Graybill. Graybill has 18 years of experience in purchasing and grain merchandising with Pennfield, and is a graduate of Susquehanna University.

Huisman Appointed President

OMAHA, Neb.—Rod Huisman was recently named president of Kuker-Parker Industries, Inc., a major manufacturer of agricultural sprayers, grain handling equipment, and utility trailers.

A veteran in the agricultural industry, Huisman worked with Monsanto Company for 20 years before joining Kuker-Parker. During his tenure at Monsanto, he served in several sales and product management positions.

Most recently, Huisman was based in Singapore as area director for Monsanto in Southeast Asia. Prior experience includes agricultural equipment retailing.



Rod Huisman

ASCS: Report Operation Changes

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Richard Troutman, chairman of the Berks County Stabilization and Conservation Committee,

urged producers to report any changes in their farm operations which could affect farm program benefits during 1993.

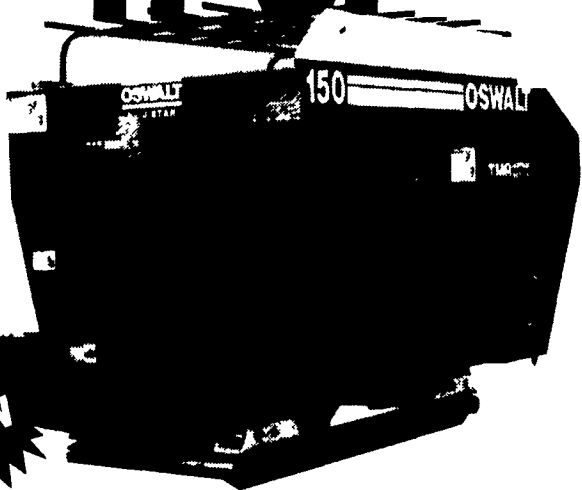
"Farm records must be up-to-date in order for us to help producers get full program benefits," said Troutman. "If a farm will have a new owner effective for 1993, or if a change is made in the operation of an existing farm unit, producers should contact our office."

The ASCS official said requests to combine farms or divide a farm should be made as early as possible because reconstitutions require special processing as well as county committee approval.

Any changes in land owned or operated should be reported to ASCS as soon as possible.



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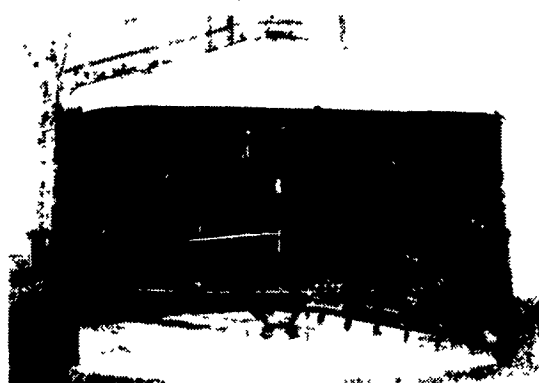
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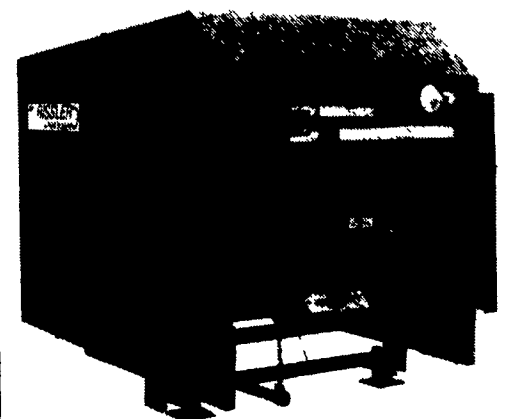
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