

More Than 800 Attend No-Till Conference

BROOKFIELD, Wis. — The "sold-out" sign went up after 817 farmers registered for the mid-January National No-Tillage Conference in Indianapolis.

The three-day conference, hosted by No-Till Farmer magazine and five corporate cosponsors, drew international visitors from Brazil, Argentina, and Canada as well as growers from 27 states.

The cosponsors included American Cyanamid Co., DowE-lanco, Du Pont Agricultural Products, Monsanto and Zeneca, Ltd. Formerly known as ICI Agricultural Products, Zeneca has been operating under its new name since Jan. 1.

"Considering the fact that 200 farmers who wanted to attend were not able to, we're sure next year's conference will also be successful," said Frank Lessiter, No-Till Farmer editor/publisher. The 1994 conference will be held Jan. 11-13 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis. Some no-till growers have already signed up for it, Lessiter said.

The Indianapolis program was

heavily weighted with innovative yet practical advice from experienced no-till producers. Topics included the role of earthworms in improving soil filtration and fertility, new electronic monitoring technology, possible equipment modifications, environmental stewardship, and changing pesticide regulations.

High-profile speakers included Bill Richards, current Soil Conservation Service (SCS) chief in Washington, D.C. A pioneer in no-till farming himself, Richards said the next two years are critical to the future of a "voluntary, incentive-based approach" to soil conservation. However, no-till producers will be better able to adapt to stricter controls on the use of agricultural chemicals and fertilizer if public policy moves in that direction.

"You have already learned to rely on brainpower rather than horsepower," Richards said.

For more information on the 1994 National No-Tillage Conference, contact No-Till Farmer, P.O. Box 624, Brookfield, WI 53008, (414) 782-4480.

Piazzas Receive Grower Of Year Award

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Frank and Sam Piazza received the vegetable integrated pest management (IPM) Grower-of-the-Year Award from Rutgers Cooperative Extension at the annual Atlantic City meeting of the Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey.

The award is presented by Dr. Donald J. Prostak, extension specialist in pest management, in appreciation and recognition of the vegetable grower who best exemplifies the adoption, practice, and support of the vegetable IPM program.

On their Phillipsburg, Warren County, farm, the Piazzas have followed sweet corn IPM program recommendations for 20 years. IPM techniques and practices help growers maintain the quality of their produce while minimizing the economic and environmental impact of unnecessary pesticide use.

On their third-generation family farm, the Piazzas grow nearly 100 acres of vegetables, including tomatoes, peppers, sweet corn, and melons. Greenhouses, covering three quarters of an acre, are used to produce flowers, bedding plants, and vegetable transplants.

Frank was graduated from Rutgers University in 1968, and re-



Samuel A. Piazza, left, and Frank J. Piazza, center, of Phillipsburg, N.J., receive the Rutgers Cooperative Extension IPM Grower-of-the-Year Award from Dr. Donald J. Prostak, extension specialist in pest management. The Piazzas received this award in appreciation and recognition of their adoption, practice, and support of the Rutgers Vegetable IPM Program.

ceived a degree in plant science. College and was graduated in Sam attended Delaware Valley 1971 with a degree in horticulture.

Large Dairy Herd Conference Set

MERCER (Mercer Co.) — The four Pennsylvania Farm Credit Associations are sponsoring the 1993 Large Dairy Herd Conference, March 23-24 at the Embers Inn and Convention Center in Carlisle.

Keynote speaker Don R. Rogers is a nationally known farm

business consultant from the Springfield Farm Credit Banks. Ken Nobis of Nobis Farms, St. Johns, Mich., and Dale Van Erden of Eastview Farms, Fabius, N.Y., part of the management teams of two outstanding large dairy herds, will speak on their experiences as they enlarged their operations.

Discussing the use of consultants on dairy farms will be Charles Gardner, VMD; farmer Reid Hoover, Lebanon; John Simms, VMD; and farmer, Robert Keefer, Shippensburg.

Reservation deadline is March 10. Conference costs are \$110 for the first participant and \$95 for each additional participant from the same business.

For registration information, contact Annette Hillegass; Penn West Farm Credit, ACA; 9 Triplewood Drive; Mercer, PA 16137, (412) 662-3350.

New York Bull Test Update Released

EATON, N.Y. — It is now at mid-point of the New York Beef Cattlemen's bull test at Cornell University Beef Teaching and Research Center.

The bulls are beginning to develop their individual traits in eye appeal and, by what the scales tell us, at an exaggerated pace.

The following depicts the cumulative average daily gain leaders by breed as well as the leader of each breed.

Breed	Breed Cum. ADG	Tag No. Top Bull	Top Bull ADG	Consignor
Red Angus	4.51	2544	4.82	Ken Marquis, Ithaca, NY
Charolais	4.47	2547	4.89	Mary & Bob's Farm, Hannibal, NY
Simmental	4.41	2549	5.05	Forty Dollar Rd. Farm, Campbell, NY
Shorthorn	4.35	2527	4.98	Cloon Lara Farm, Youngstown, NY
Angus	4.29	2520	5.46	Shiraloken Farm, Deposit, NY
Salers	3.81	2524	4.11	New Age Cattle Co., New Berlin, NY
Polled Hereford	3.80	2554	5.50	Valley View Farm, Buckhannon, WV
RX-3	3.80	2513	4.50	West Creek Cattle Co., Victor, NY
Gelbvieh	3.31	2539	4.14	Brandywine Farm, Freeport, ME
Salorn	3.30	2521	3.30	New Age Cattle Co., New Berlin, NY
Hereford	3.23	2538	3.23	Serendipity Farm, E. Orland, ME
Blonde d'Aquit.	2.04	2508	2.04	Baker's Acres, Waddington, NY

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