



CORN TALK

PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOC., INC.

Corn Talk, Lancaster Farming, Saturday, April 17, 1993—Page 1

Brothers Pay Attention To Kind Of Corn They Plant



Dave, Ralph, Richard, and Mike Glenn received their Five Acre Corn Club award for a yield of 213 bushels to the acre.

BONNIE BRECHBILL
Franklin Co. Correspondent
McCONNELLSBURG
(Fulton Co.) — A yield of 213 bushels of corn per acre made the Glenn brothers of McConnellsburg new members of the Five Acre Corn Club. Their farm is along Route 552 south, in one of Fulton County's scenic valleys.

"We didn't do anything special," to obtain that yield, Richard Glenn said. They chisel plowed and disked, then planted the seed with their four-row planter on 38-inch rows, using eight pounds of insecticide per acre. "We shoot for 22,000-23,000 population," Richard said.

The plot received 220 pounds of 10-30-10 fertilizer to the acre, and was sprayed with 145 units of nitrogen with herbicide at planting time. The brothers also spread manure from their 40 x 70 foot concrete block pit on it.

The three Glenn brothers — Richard, 43; Dave, 39; and Mike, 36 — farm in partnership about five miles south of McConnellsburg. They purchased the cows and machinery from their father, Ralph, in 1977, and rent 600 acres from him. They farm a total of 720 acres and milk 137 cows.

Their Crop Management Association technician, Troy Vanderau, said that when scouting for beetles on the corn silks, he couldn't reach the ears on some of the plants in that plot.

Besides their 238 acres of corn, the Glenns raise alfalfa, barley, wheat and oats. Some land is in timothy and pasture.

While not all their fields equalled the 213 bushel yield, 50 acres on the home farm averaged 185-195 bushels to the acre, while the rest of the

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Corn Becomes 'King' Of Marketplace

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

WEST MIDDLESEX (Mercer Co.)—Corn is king, not only of the fields, but corn will become king of the marketplace if corn growers have their way. From one pound of Hydro-Sorb, a new powder made from corn that can drink a ton of water in 60 seconds, to ethanol, the fuel that helps reduce pollution from engine exhaust, the potential to consume corn in non-farm uses is enormous.

That's the message Mike Wagner, executive director, Ohio Corn Growers Association, told the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers at their conference in February. Wagner reported that Ohio farmers have been working with a one-half cent per bushel check-off

program the past three years, and this gives them a million and a half dollars each year for research and advertising. A 15 member farmer board of directors governs the use of the funds. In 1987 Ohio had 500 corn grower members. Now they have 1300 members. Before they started their promotion efforts, 16 percent of the fuels used in Ohio were ethanol blends. Now 25 percent has the corn derivative in use.

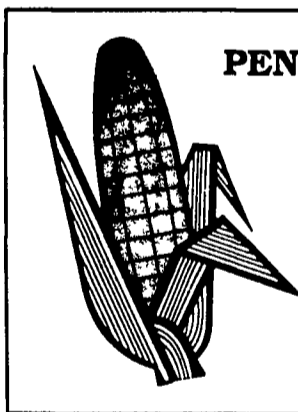
"Our number one priority was to increase the use of ethanol," Wagner said. "This was the quickest way to increase corn grind. It has been difficult because one professor at Ohio State continues to say ethanol will never be a factor. But we are grinding more than 400 million bushels of corn for ethanol each year. That is more than

Ohio raises in a year. I think that's important."

In Cleveland, a clean air act required an oxinated fuels program by last November. The Ohio check-off money was used in Cleveland to educate people about ethanol. Their

messages said ethanol will not hurt your car, it will not decrease gas mileage, and your

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PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

President's Message

H. Grant Troop
President, PMCGA



Here we stand at the edge of the field, ready to enter the establishment phase of the 1993 corn crop. Our land will be adequately protected by conducting our field operations

according to our soil management (conservation) plan, thus controlling soil and water losses during periods of rainfall runoff. To grow corn, we need the rain to enter our field soil, not the nearest stream.

We've tested our soils and arrived at our lime and fertilizer recommendations based on soil series production capabilities and expected yield levels. We adjusted (reduced) our nitrogen application rates to account for manure and legumes where applicable. Seed corn has been selected with the highest yield potential for the conditions under which we grow corn (high or low population, no-till or conventional, early or late planting, etc).

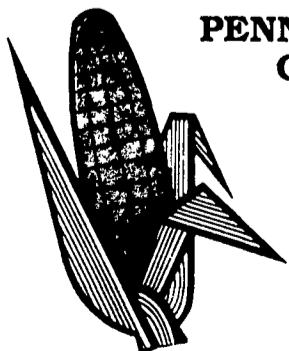
Pesticides have been chosen to target known weed and insect pests with an eye on costs. Their safe use is a top

priority. Application methods and timing for fertilizer and pesticides have once again been reviewed and possibly adjusted to gain efficiencies. Nutrient uptake efficiency is a must and weed and insect control at good to excellent levels the minimum for our success. The planter has been certified ready to go. We've checked it over meticulously and even done our homework by reviewing the operator's manual.

We contemplate that first pass through the field when once again we'll be on our knees to check that the seed is properly placed in the good soil. And while we are on our knees, let us not fail to beseech the Lord of the harvest for the increase as we are the stewards of what He has entrusted to us.

Don't forget to check with

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PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Between The Rows

Dr. Greg Roth
Penn State Agronomy
Assistant Professor



I often hear our football coach, Joé Paterno, say on TV "you never stay the same — you either get better or you get worse."

The same is likely true for corn growers, since we face fierce competition from our neighbors in the Corn Belt and other countries that continually

stresses our profitability.

Our challenge is to try to keep doing it a little better each year just to keep up with the

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