

Get Ready For Silage Season

COLDWATER, Ohio — With silage chopping just around the corner, your UNI dealer suggests you check for worn parts on your self-propelled corn silage chopper so you're ready for the hectic chopping season.

Many service problems resulting from last year's severe conditions may show up this season unless they're corrected now. In addition, proper maintenance extends harvester life as well as improves chopping efficiency by reducing downtime.

If you don't want to perform this important preseason maintenance yourself, have your UNI dealer's authorized service professionals do it for you. Areas your UNI dealer believes may need attention include the following:

Power Unit

- Grease all points as recommended in operator's manual.
- Change air filters (cab, engine precleaner, engine air cleaner, etc.) as recommended. A clean air filter is essential for an efficient

power unit. In fact, if your power unit has a turbocharger, it's critical for optimum performance.

- Change fluids and fluid filters (primary and secondary fuel, engine oil, hydraulic, coolant and coolant filter) as specified.

- Check entire machine, interior and exterior, for loose hardware.

- Using a wire brush, shine up battery terminals (posts) and check the cable. Many starting problems can be attributed to corrosion buildup on the battery terminals.

- Check tire pressure to be sure tires are properly inflated.

- Check the entire machine to be sure all shields and warnings are in place and in good condition. Be sure operators are familiar with all warnings and shields.

- Wash windows and mirrors. Glare contributes to operator fatigue.

Chopping Area

- Check each cutterhead knife to be sure it's sharp. Sharpen as required. Replace damaged knives

in opposing pairs. Adjust knives to gauge bar so the recommended diameter is maintained. This is critical if a recutter screen is used.

- Check the reversible shear bar to make sure it has square corners. A rounded edge tears the silage instead of cutting it. This affects machine capacity, quality of cut and contributes to excessive fuel consumption.

- Inspect flighting on the auger between the cutterhead and the blower for sharp edges or bent areas. If flighting has sharp edges, it is worn and should be replaced. Bent areas can be straightened or replaced.

- Grease all points recommended in operator's manual.

- Check transmission(s) for proper oil level.

- Inspect entire area for loose hardware and material buildup. All loose or worn parts should be replaced or repaired. Remove any built up material.

- Inspect all belts for frayed edges, cracks or checks. Replace

worn belts.

- Lubricate all chains and check tension.

Blower Area

- Check wrapper for material buildup. Remove any built up material.

- Inspect condition of paddles. If corners are rounded; blower efficiency is reduced. The paddles on the blower should be adjusted to the wrapper (1/16 inches ± 1/32 inches) so the paddles will "carry a nickel, yet leave a dime."

- Check the spout liner for wear. If it is thin or a hole is evi-

dent, replace.

- Check the position and condition of drive belts for cracks, checks, frayed edges, etc. Replace as necessary. Realign belt pulleys as necessary.

Row Crop (Corn/Sorghum Silage) Head

- Inspect condition of knives and hold down clips. Sharpen or replace as necessary.

- Check condition and adjustment of gathering chains/belts.

- Inspect slip clutches for rust, corrosion, debris, etc. Recondition or replace as necessary.

District Promotes Scholarship

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— The Lancaster County Conservation District is cooperating with the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts Auxiliary in promoting a scholarship program in support of agriculture and environmental education.

Student eligibility includes Pennsylvania resident; attend a Pennsylvania college or university; major in agriculture, environ-

mental resource management, conservation; 4-year majors - junior or senior; and associate degrees - second year.

Student applicant must provide statement of scholarship need and a resume.

All interested students should call the conservation district office at (717) 299-5361 for an application before July 1.

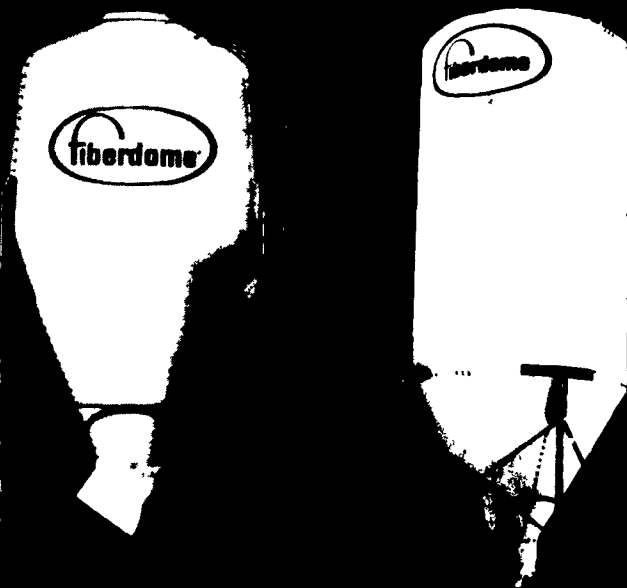


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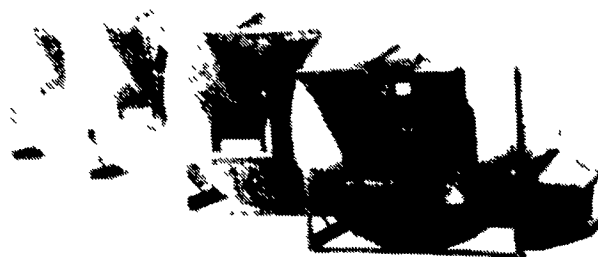
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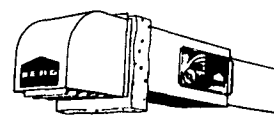
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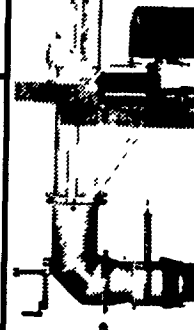
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