

Field demonstrations draw crowds of farmers to Ag Showcase Day at Cecil County Fair. In the photo, various makes of tractors and equipment work in the hay field. Officials estimated the attendance at 400 for this 12th annual event.

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

Ag Showcase Again Draws Large Crowd With Equipment Working In Fields

FAIR HILL, MD—One of the fastest growing exhibitions of farm equipment was held this week as part of the 40th anniversary of the Cecil County Fair. Billed as Ag Showcase Day, the largest ever crowd of farmers attended to see the various brands of farm tractors and equipment compete with each other in field operating conditions.

But what really captured attention was the operation of half century-old antique equipment beside the big new equipment. For example, in the hay making demonstration, a 77 New Holland Baler from the early '50s pulled by a Fordson; a 1950 Allis Chalmers tractor and a 1955 Allis Chalmers tractor; and a 1963 John Deere baler pulled by a 1951 John Deere B were part of the show. You could almost feel the nostalgia creep

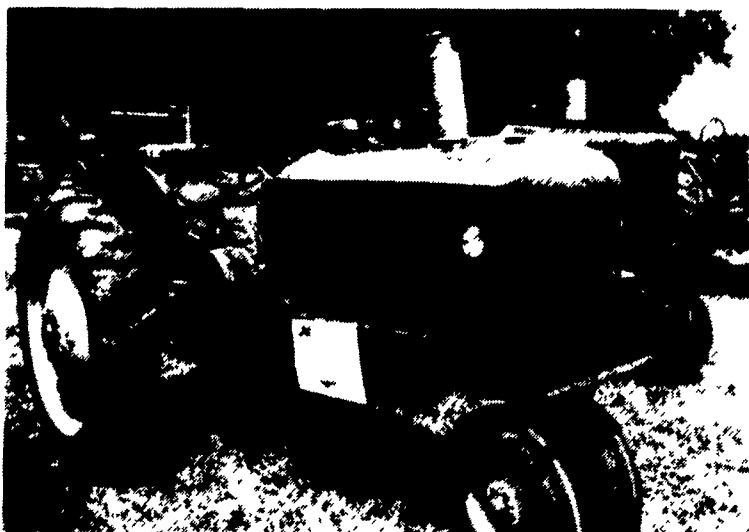
down the wind rows and up the spines of many of the men and women who had started farming with these antique machines. A real working comparison of the old versus the new.

Equipment sponsors for the showcase included Ag Industrial, Biggs, Inc., Cooper Ent., Benjamin Haines Equipment, C. B. Hooper & Sons, and Mid-Atlantic Agrisystems. Supporting sponsors included: Cecil County Fair Board; Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland; Cecil County Soil Conservation Service/District; Central Maryland Farm Credit; Maryland Department of Natural Resources; and Fair Hill Farms.

Officials estimated attendance at 400 during the day-long show. (Turn to Page A24)



A row of John Deere antiques.



Massey Harris up close.



They talk farming here.



Remember the Farmall F-12.



Crowd watching.