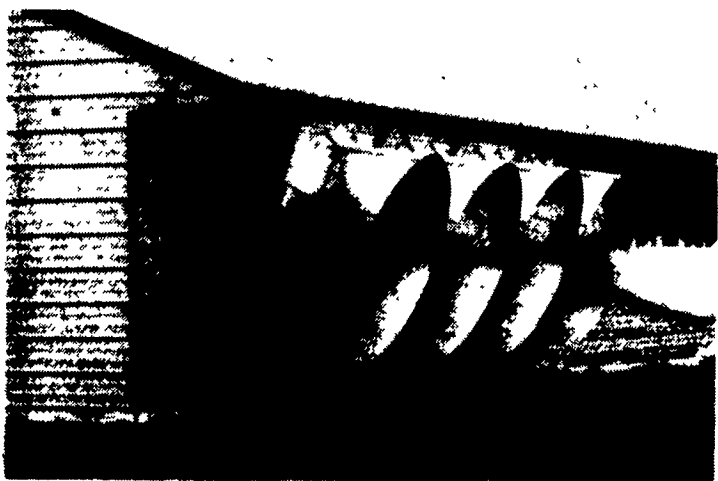


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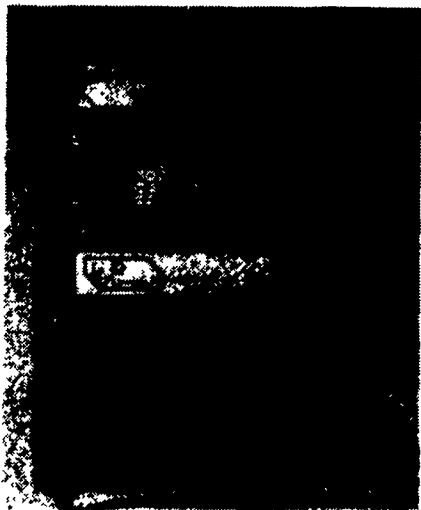
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Corn Borer Protected Plants Receive Extended Test Permit

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

TUNKHANNOCK (Wyoming Co.)—Corn plants that eat European corn borer. That's a switch, and not exactly what happens. But the new bio-tech corn plant does kill the borer when the borer eats the leaves of the *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (Bt) protected plant.

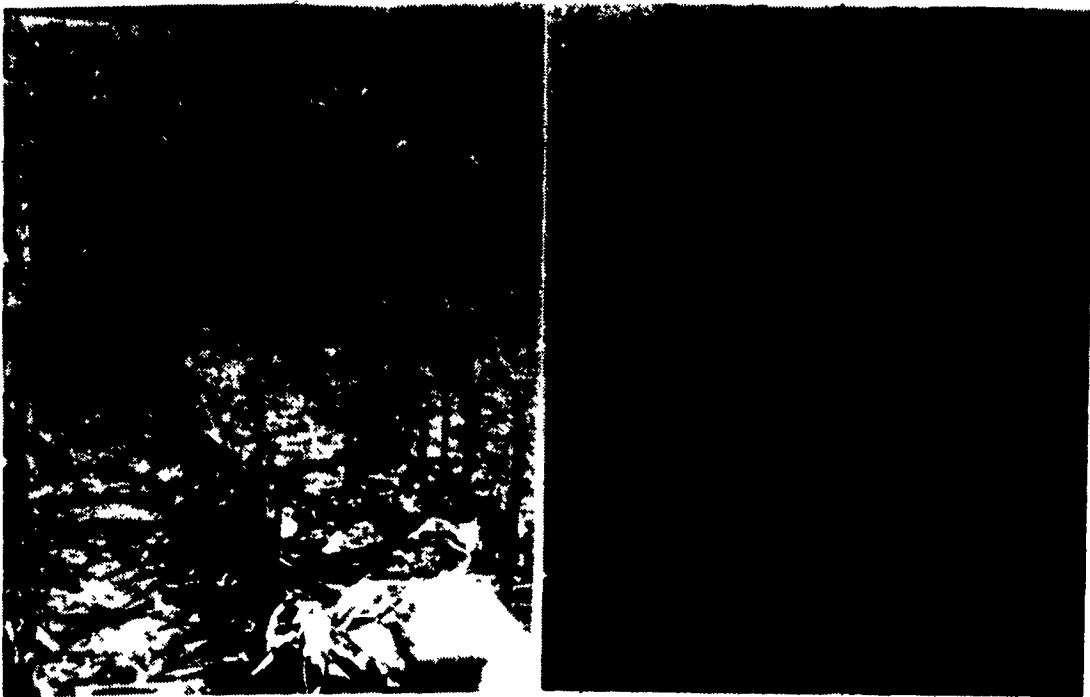
At a news conference last week, at the end of a Hoffman's Seeds regional dealer meeting, Ciba Seeds announced that the company had received the Experimental Use Permit (EUP) from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to extend testing of the new genetically engineered corn plant. While permits have been given for cotton and potatoes, this is the first (EPU) given for corn, according to company officials. The permit allows field testing beyond the 10 acre limits imposed on the company for initial testing. This means the borer protected corn plants can be

field tested in various hybrids and locations across the country to check yields and feed values.

The gene manipulation process includes extensive research and engineering. Bt, a common bacterium in the soil, is currently used in sprays for agriculture and gardens. An environmentally acceptable ingredient, the Bt gene was introduced into the corn plant with the resulting protection. Test plots to date have shown the Bt protected plants can stand side by side with non-protected plants and a clear difference can be seen. Actually, the damage to the protected plants was so minimal that the scale to measure damage had to be revised down to record a bite here and a bite there. The borer eats one bite of the plant and dies.

Dan Lehmann, vice president administration,

(Turn to Page A24)



These side by side fields were infested with European Corn Borer in test plots, but the bio-tech corn plants on the right are genetically protected so that if the borer takes a bite of these plants, the borer dies.

AUGUST 10, 11, & 12 • 1993

EMPIRE

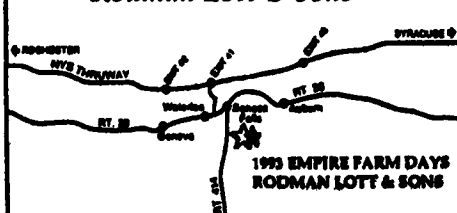
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