

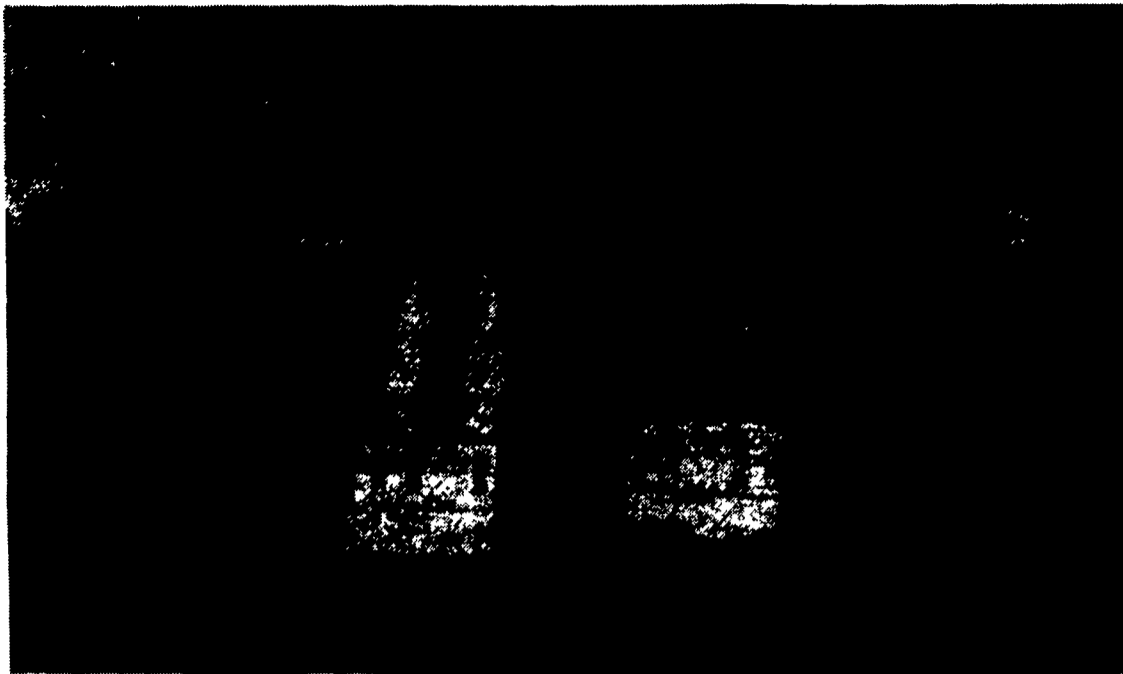
Ag Research Managers Honor Members

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)—Three charter members of the Northeastern Society of Agricultural Research Managers were honored Tuesday night at the annual meeting of the 20 year-old organization. The society started in a small schoolroom in Allentown with six members, and the three original members still part of the organization are Larry Thetford, Ciba-Geigy Corp.; Lynn Hoffman, Penn State University, and William Varano, Agro Systems, Inc.

Thetford said he has pride in the organization because of the scope of its development and the friendships, purpose and interchange of management concepts that the organization has promoted. The development of personal contacts at what he called "middle management" has allowed the organization to be at the forefront of significant safety, health and personnel issues.

Hoffman stressed the need for attention to the little things in management and called for these little things to be part of future programs of the society. The contacts at the meeting and the side issues dis-



At the Northeastern Society of Agricultural Research Managers are from left, Larry Jordon, president; Larry Thetford and Lynn Hoffman, charter member honorees, and Daniel Winch who made presentations.

cussed many times did more good than the main issues on the program.

Hoffman said that at the beginning he wrote letters to every experiment station and agronomy

department chairman, and coached them to send someone to the meetings. The people who came never went away with wasted time or money. People were sent home ready to do a good job.

Jennifer Yocum, Ciba Geigy, told what it was like growing up on a research farm. Yocum has firsthand information because she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Yocum, who head the Penn State

University Southeast Field Research farm at Landisville, Ms. Yocum said she wanted to be like her dad and followed him around the farm. "I learned things as a child that other students don't learn until later in their educational studies," she said. "The research farm is the best place for children to have show and tell."

Yocum also learned some of the drawbacks that included the tedious process of gathering data. But since she learned to do the monotonous jobs as a child, she is better able to accept this part of her work now.

"There is nothing like a research farm to gain practical experience you can't learn in a book," Yocum said. "You get introduced to all areas of agriculture. And this helps you to know what you want to do and what you do not want to do. You also appreciate the value of data and how you obtain it. Growing up on a research farm helps you adapt to different circumstances, and you get to meet many professional people."

Yocum concluded her slide presentation by thanking the research centers for the work they do with students and encouraged everyone to continue to provide this hands-on experience.

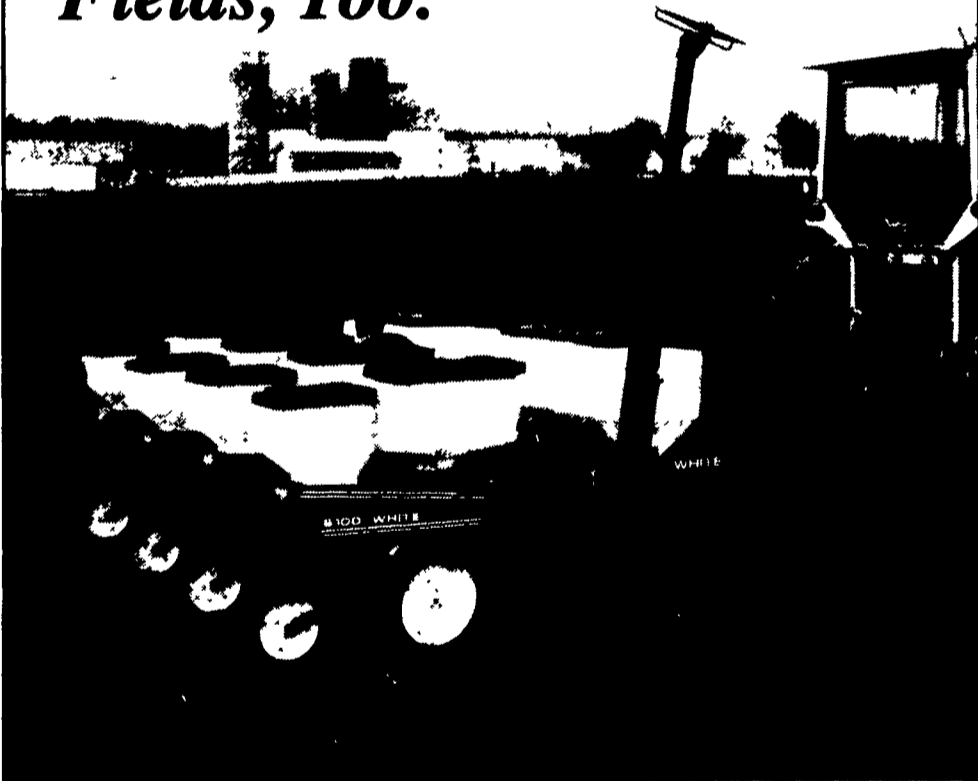
The three-day program included various topics of interest to research farm managers. The organization now includes 96 members.

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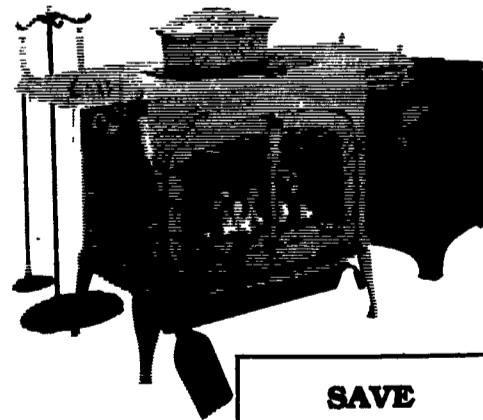
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