

# Corn Growers Continue Commitment To Greater Profits

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Corn-based degradable products are supplying value-added markets from the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway to the U.S.

Value-added research, supported through corn checkoff efforts, is paving the way for U.S. corn farmers to market their product in unique applications.

One of the ways farmers foster this research is to provide a forum for scientists to gather from all over the world.

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) will host the Corn Utilization Conference V (CUC V), June 8-10 at the Hyatt Regency Union Station, St. Louis, Mo., where hundreds of scientists from the U.S. and foreign universities, companies, private research institutions and government laboratories will exchange the latest information on a full range of industrial uses for corn.

"This international scientific meeting shows that our farmer-leaders continue to set the pace as Agriculture's Innovators in developing new markets," said Pete Wenstrand, NCGA president and farmer from Essex, Iowa. "We know that research in industrial uses has a bright future for the nation's corn farmers."

Food, seed, and industrial (FSI) uses of corn in the U.S. have become a 1.6 billion bushel a year market for corn growers. Industrial use of corn has grown by 600 million bushels in the past 10 years. NCGA expects FSI to reach 2.4 billion bushels by 2001. Ethanol is a \$1 billion market, sweeteners a \$1.5 billion market,

and cornstarch accounts for \$500 million in corn sales.

"Value-added markets like these, which NCGA has been developing for years, are essential for future farm profits and rural development," Wenstrand said.

NCGA has targeted three areas having the greatest potential for short-term commercialization and high-volume usage: polylactic acid biodegradable materials, ethanol production and usage, and corn gluten feed products.

In particular, polylactic acid-based disposable plastics may become "the next premiere corn market," said Anthony Pometto, chair of a CUC V session.

"Polylactic acid biodegradable products have the potential to become a 300 million bushel per year market for corn," said Pometto, who is associate professor of Food Science at Iowa State University, Ames Iowa. "Because a polymer is made completely of lactic acid, it can be a totally degradable material. For example, polylactic acid has been used to make surgical sutures for many years. In that application, the material has proven to be 100 percent degradable. The potential for applications is tremendous."

Biodegradable products which incorporate cornstarch will be the subject of another CUC V session, chaired by J.L. Willett of the USDA-ARS research lab, Peoria, Ill.

"We will hear about major short-term developments since the last conference (1992)," said Willett. "foam articles made out of a combination of cornstarch, water

and a few minor ingredients have been developed by a European company. They have already been used at the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway."

One of the barriers that has hindered the development of corn use in biodegradable plastics has been resolved through standards and regulations. Another CUC V session will review the development of standards and regulations of biodegradable materials. According to Willett, industry has ratified

some testing methods and designations for biodegradability. This will allow development and marketing of these materials to move out of the holding pattern and into the marketplace. Corn growers will benefit as corn is used in many of these applications.

Other session topics include food ingredients, ethanol issues, processes in corn refining, developing information networks of new corn uses, and the future of bio-based products. A poster ses-

sion will allow researchers and entrepreneurs to bring details of everything from the newest scientific processes to the latest retail products to some of the most aggressive and innovative thinkers in the field.

"NCGA will push the outer limits of these markets in 1994," said Wenstrand. "Our utilization programs have been immensely successful to date, CUC V will be no exception."

## Pa. Farmers Urged To Sign Up For Soybean Contest

SALISBURY, Md. — Pennsylvania soybean growers are being encouraged to participate in the 1994 Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Soybean Promotion Board.

In 1993, the first year of the competition, Wilson Hoffman, a Berks County producer, won the first place trophy. His three-acre contest block, planted to DeKalb seed, produced 74.8 bushels an acre.

John Yocum, Penn State senior research associate stationed at the Lancaster research center, is contest coordinator.

Contest rules and entry forms may be obtained by writing him at P.O. Box 308, Landisville, PA 17538.

The purpose of the competition, according to Yocum, is "to emphasize and demonstrate the prac-

tices necessary to produce maximum economic yields and to encourage the production of high-quality soybeans."

The competition is open to any Pennsylvania farmer who grows five or more acres of soybeans within the state's boundaries. The contest will be restricted to nonirrigated soybeans but there will be no restrictions on varieties, fertilization, row spacing, or other cultural practices.

Farmers are asked to enlist the help of an independent "designated representative," such as their agent, to measure the contest block, supervise the harvest, and measure the yield.

Farmers are asked to file with Yocum a notice of intent to participate no later than Aug. 15.

In addition to the yield champion, farmers coming in second and third also will receive trophies

and all contestants who log yields of 60 bushels an acre or better will receive engraved plaques awarding them membership in the 60-Bushel Club.

In 1993, about 50 farmers requested entry forms but only 17 participated in the competition, probably because of the poor harvest conditions which developed during the summer and into the fall.

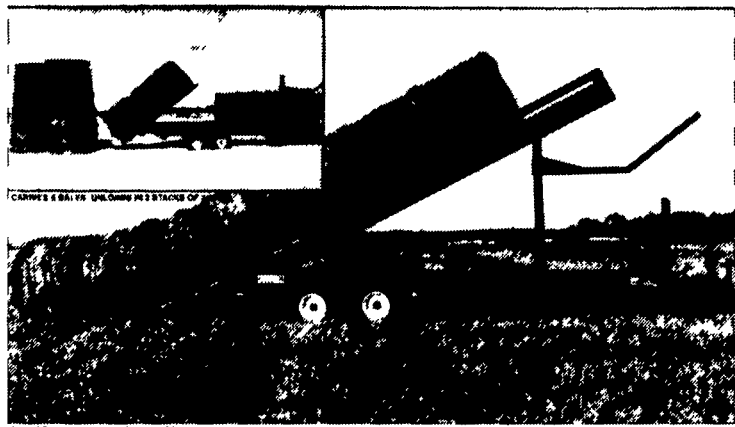
Yocum and the members of the Pennsylvania Soybean Promotion Board are hoping to expand participation this year.

Second place winner in 1993 was Samuel M. Conley of Lancaster County with a yield of 71.4 bushels an acre. Charles Chilcoat of York County was third with a yield of 69.4 bushels.

The average of the 17 entries was 58.4 bushels an acre.



### AUTO LOAD ROUND BALE HANDLER P-6800



Designed to answer today's needs and built to last.  
Awarded the most innovative product at  
"1990 AG PROGRESS DAYS," Pennsylvania



### SILATUBE



P-6200 Self-operating silage bale tubing-machine SilaTube with 48" to 58" hydraulically adjustable drum. B/S 9 HP gas engine, complete with pump and control valves. Front wheels (2) 8.5x8 and rear wheels (2) 5.9x15. Integrated oil reservoir. N.B. Requires no preparation.

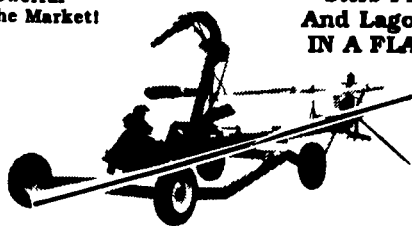


### Stirs Things Up!

P-308 Liquid Manure Pump

The Most Powerful On The Market!

Stirs Pits And Lagoons IN A FLASH



Powerful Auger That Brings Even The Biggest Solids Thru The Shredding Impeller

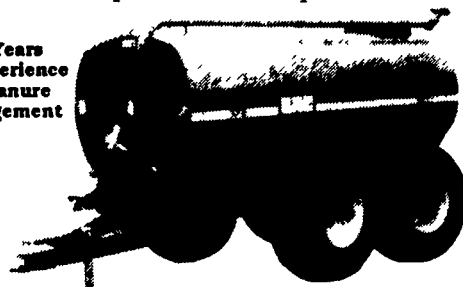
Various lengths available on a 2-wheel or 4-wheel frame and 3-point hitch on a tractor



### The Leader In The Field

WIC Liquid Manure Spreader

15 Years Experience In Manure Management



• Even spreading and great stability!  
• From 1950 to 6000 gallons!

• Quick-lock impeller door!  
• Standard frame or 2 steering wheels on the back.

### ENDLESS MOUNTAINS EQUIPMENT CO.

#### PRONOVOST

- Dumping trailer 1 1/2 ton, 5 ton, 8 ton, 12 ton
- Forage Box - 12 ton
- Autoload round bale handler
- Round bale rack
- Wagon 10 ton 4 wheels, 12 ton 6 wheels, 12 ton 4 wheels
- Hay rack for round bales mounted on 12 ton dump trailer (optional)
- Rotary cutter
- Rolling harrows
- Concrete mixer

#### WIC

- Liquid manure spreader
- Bedding chopper
- Strawberry mulcher
- Chopper blower "Blizzard"
- Motorized Silage feeder
- Motorized grain feeder
- Motorized round bale feeder
- Motorized baled hay wagon

- Manual silage feeder
- Manual baled hay wagon
- Manual grain feeder
- Sani-Cart
- Control feed wagon
- Roller mill
- Hammer mill
- Electronic Control for roller mill
- Electronic Control for hammer mill
- Computerized system WIC-100
- Grain augers
- Conveyor
- Hay dryer
- Barn ventilator
- Barn broom
- Electronic swing gate
- Motors - gas
- Motors - electric

#### OTHER

- 
- 
- 

For Further Information, Contact Your Nearest Dealer Or

**ENDLESS MOUNTAINS EQUIPMENT CO.**

Columbia Cross Road, PA.

(800) 227-3486

Check  Product(s) Interested In Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_