

Vegetable Growers News

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To quantify the economic advantage of disease tolerance in snap beans.

To identify the yield and pod quality improvements under conditions of high and low disease pressure of disease tolerant as compared to standard varieties.

To identify the economic importance of quantitative tolerance and how it will help growers and consumers.

• *The Ohio State University:*

• **Breeding, Development, and Machine Harvest Evaluation of Processing Tomato Cultivars and Hybrids.**

Stan Berry, (funded by Furman Foods' contribution), \$2,400.

To determine the climatic and edaphic adaptability of new processing tomato introductions from the Ohio State breeding program and from other breeding programs for the processing industry with special emphasis on yield and suitability for mechanical harvest.

To develop mechanically harvestable processing tomatoes adaptable to Pennsylvania which have greater yield potential; uniform fruit set and ripening; varying maturity dates; fruit resistant to cracking, jointless pedicel, free stemming characteristics, and small cores; and disease resistance to fusarium and verticillium wilts, early blight, anthracnose and bacterial speck.

Seven additional research proposals requesting \$39,000 in grants were submitted. Because there were insufficient funds to fund all the proposals received, these could not be funded.

Collection Regulations In Effect

New regulations for the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program are now effect. All growers should have received a letter outlining the new procedures for collecting the assessment. You can still use the production verification statement you received in the mail to pay your assessment through the mail or you can have your assessment deducted from your payment from a collecting sales agent (which are auctions, cooperatives, packing houses or processors) through whom you sell vegetables.

Because deducting the assessment from your payment is additional bookwork for collecting sales agents, some collecting sales agents are requiring growers to pay the assessment directly through the mail. Each collecting sales agent must, however, still have you fill out a production verification statement each season even if you have paid the assessment through the mail. When you fill out the form for the collecting sales agent, you must include the serial number of the form with which you paid the assessment through the mail or they will be required to deduct the assessment. You should have received a peach-colored card in the mail on which to record the serial number for your own reference.

For growers who deal with collecting sales agents, it will help us keep our records straight if you fill out the forms with the same name and address that is on the card you received in the mail earlier. Also, include your Program ID number as listed on the card. (This information is also on the address label on the envelope in which you received his newsletter.) Note that your Program ID number is not the same as the serial number of a production verification statement. Of course, if the name or address

we have in our records is wrong, let us know! And let the program know if the Post Office changes your address from the "RR 1 Box 123" format to a road name and number.

The new regulations will also allow the Program to initiate enforcement proceedings in the district justice's office against growers who are not paying the required assessment. The goal of these regulations is to increase the compliance rate so everyone is paying their fair share.

If you have any questions on how the new collection procedure works, please write or call us at (717) 473-8468.

Secretary Asks For Board Nominations

Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff is requesting nominations of growers to serve on the Vegetable Marketing and Research Board. The terms of Boyd Mertz (central region), William Rankin, Robert Trax, and Richard McCloskey (all from the western region) expire on June 30, 1994. Rankin is no longer eligible to serve and McCloskey has asked to be replaced. Mertz and Trax are both eligible to be reappointed.

The board membership includes 12 growers. Four members are appointed for three-year terms from each of three regions of the state. The eastern region contains Philadelphia, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, Chester, Lancaster, Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, Wyoming and Susquehanna Counties. The central region includes York, Adams, Franklin, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Juniata, Northumberland, Snyder, Union, Montour, Columbia, Lycoming, Sullivan, Tioga, and Bradford Counties. The western region is the remaining counties: Fulton, Bedford, Somerset, Fayette, Greene, Washington, Allegheny, Westmoreland, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield, Jefferson, Armstrong, Clarion, Indiana, Butler, Beaver, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Forest, Elk, Cameron, Clinton, Potter, McKean, Warren, Crawford, and Erie. The secretary of agriculture is also a member of the board. A representative of the collecting sales agents will also be reappointment from nominations submitted by the sales agents.

Nominations can be sent to Michael Varner, Bureau of Market Development, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9408.

What Growers Need to Know About the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing & Research Programs

The Vegetable Marketing and Research Program is a state marketing order established under the Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act of 1968. It includes all growers in Pennsylvania who grow one or more acres of vegetables for sale. Growers are required by law to pay an annual assessment of \$25.00 to the Program. In addition, growers with more than 10 acres of vegetables must pay \$1.50 for each acre over 10 acres. All crops commonly classified as vegetables including sweet corn, tomatoes, cantaloupes, watermelons and all ornamental vegetables like pumpkins, gourds, and decorative corn are considered vegetable crops under the Program. White potatoes are not included not are small fruits or

mushrooms.

Greenhouse vegetable growers are also required to pay the \$25.00 assessment if they use more than 1000 sq. ft. to produce vegetables. If they have more than 10,000 sq. ft., they pay \$1.50 per 1000 sq. ft. for each 1000 sq. ft. over 10,000 sq. ft. Greenhouse vegetables are those grown to maturity in the greenhouse. Greenhouse area used to produce vegetable transplants for the field or bedding plant sales is not counted.

This assessment is not a tax nor does the money go into the state treasury. The money collected from growers is deposited in a separate account. It is used to

promote Pennsylvania vegetables and to fund research that will benefit Pennsylvania growers as well as to administer the Program. Government support for agricultural research and marketing programs is continually being cut. Unless growers are willing to help fund these efforts themselves, they will eventually be eliminated. The Program's sole purpose for existing is to serve the vegetable industry of Pennsylvania in a cooperative manner. It is a self-help program based on the principle that all the growers in the state should help support the Program's promotion and research efforts that are designed to benefit all the

growers of the state.

The Marketing and Research Program was approved by a grower referendum, as provided by law, conducted in 1988 and again in 1993 by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture. While the Program has the force of law, it is not a government run program. It is controlled by a Board of 12 growers appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture from nominations submitted by growers. The Secretary of Agriculture and a representative of collecting sales agents also sit on the Board.

For further information, see the back of this sheet or call the Program at 717-473-8468.

Growers, Partners Can Capture Future With New Technology

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — A radical new corn processing technology which can increase the yield and lower the cost of ethanol while creating new, high-value food products is just one of the promising new developments featured at Corn Utilization Conference V (CUCV) here.

Called SEP (sequential extraction processing), the new wet milling technology is being developed at the Center for Crops Utilization Research at Iowa State University in Ames. It integrates well-established, existing technologies in a unique way.

"We want to reduce the stream of low-value feedstuffs, like corn gluten feed which is currently vulnerable to trade restrictions. Those products currently return as much as half the cost of the corn," said Larry Johnson of the Center, "but SEP can increase that value by creating a stream of high-value foods and industrial products."

SEP takes ethanol from the fermentation of corn starch and recycles it to upstream processing steps. There it not only extracts zein and a food-grade protein concentrate called glutelin, it removes water from the ethanol, eliminating a costly step in current wet milling, according to Johnson.

Zein, currently worth \$9 per pound is widely used in the confectionery and pharmaceutical industry. Glutelin, which is very wa-

ter soluble, could be used to produce high-protein beverages such as infant formulas as well as meat extenders, and cheeses. In addition, they could be used as adhesives and coatings.

SEP is just one of dozens of new technologies and processes highlighted at CUCV, noted Pete Wenstrand, a farmer from Essex, Iowa, and president of National Corn Growers Association (NCGA). "Our goal is to communicate, educate, and partner to make the research and commercialization of industrial uses of corn more efficient and profitable," he said in his opening remarks.

The conference, the fifth in seven years, is just one example of NCGA's long-standing commitment to "advance the cause," said Wenstrand. "It's time to help this domestic, renewable resource — corn — move full speed ahead. CUCV is just what we need to capture the future."

The strategy of partnering with experts was also highlighted in an update on the Crop Utilization Research Database (CURD). Donna Schenck-Hamlin, Kansas State University, noted that since NCGA initiated CURD in 1990, it has grown in scope and sophistication.

Designed to prevent redundancies in research in non-food, non-feed uses of corn, CURD was recently formed to accommodate

the participation of the National Association of Wheat Growers. In addition, the issues of categories of information, disclosure of proprietary information, and changes in subscribers' communication systems.

Next, the service may expand to become an intermediate information retrieval system which "pulls all needed data for a specific client from many databases," said Schenck-Hamlin.

Such NCGA efforts to advance new uses helped increase the industrial uses of corn to 1.6 billion bushels in 1993, the first year in which this category topped corn exports.

"We hold the world lead in this industry," said Wenstrand, "but we are still challenged to identify and overcome the constraints to speed commercialization of this sustainbale technology."

Added Wallie Hardie, chair of NCGA's research and commercialization committee, "We have the heart; we need the vision and the expertise of our allies to see beyond the horizon in order to develop a comprehensive research strategy. We need your skill to help corn improve the quality of life in a changing world," he told nearly 300 scientists from U.S. and foreign universities, corporations, research institutions, and government laboratories gathered at CUCV.

Soybean Association Names Director For Marketing

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The American Soybean Association (ASA) announced the hiring of Stephen L. Censky to lead the organization's international activities.

Censky will join ASA as executive director of international marketing in late July. Headquartered in St. Louis, he will be responsible for operations of 12 ASA overseas offices.

"We're excited to have Steve Censky join the American Soybean Association," said John Blaska, Wisconsin soybean farmer and ASA secretary in charge of international programs. "He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge that will be invaluable to the soybean industry. And as a farmer, I'm particularly pleased that he has a strong agricultural background. I believe he represents the best of both worlds — a good basic knowledge of agricul-

ture at the grassroots and strong insights into international markets."

ASA is primary contractor with the United Soybean Board (USB), and works cooperatively with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) in identifying and carrying out USB and FAS-funded market development programs overseas. As international marketing head, Censky will lead this joint effort to grow soybean demand internationally.

"Steve Censky will be a key player on ASA's top management team as we develop and implement strategies for the most effective and efficient use of U.S. farmers' checkoff dollars and federal funds," said Dennis Sharpe, ASA CEO.

Censky is a Minnesota native with a bachelor's in agriculture from South Dakota State Univer-

sity and a master's in agriculture studies from the University of Melbourne. He served U.S. Senator James Abdnor as legislative assistant, researching and advising on agricultural policy.

Censky joined USDA in 1986 in the Agricultural Marketing Service, where he was involved in overseeing the checkoffs for dairy and beef. In 1991, he joined FAS as associate administrator for international affairs and commodity programs. He was eventually named acting administrator, and was responsible for the general operation of the agency, including the oversight of \$7.5 billion in market development and export assistance programs.

