

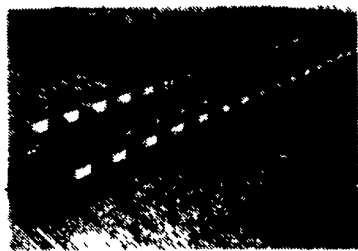


Business News

Binkley & Hurst Sizes Up Folding Planters

LITITZ (Lancaster Co.)—Donald Hoover and Mervin Nissly, Planting & Seeding Sales Technicians from Binkley & Hurst Bros., witnessed the unveiling of some innovative folding planters while attending an intensive, day-long national sales meeting at Kinze Manufacturing, Inc., in Williamsburg, Iowa.

Hoover and Nissly viewed several product introductions, including a new line of large, highly versatile 2600 Twin-Line® Planter, which are capable of folding (in-line) down to 11 feet 2 inches wide for transport, and Kinze's giant 25-row, center-flex 2700 Front Folding Planter (which transports at 14 feet wide). The sales technicians also participated in a series of workshops dealing with the latest trends, technologies and improvements in planting, mechanical



The new Kinze Model 2600 Twin Line Planters, shown above, were part of a major new equipment presentation during a national sales meeting conducted at Kinze's headquarter in Williamsburg Iowa. Don Hoover & Mervin Nissly, Kinze Sales Dept., Binkley & Hurst Bros. Inc. attended.

crop cultivation, and harvesting, and they toured Kinze's newly expanded manufacturing complex.

READING (Berks Co.) — A listening panel of top congressional staff and USDA officials listened recently as people from all sectors of the agricultural industry talked about problems they had had with the 1985 and 1990 Farm Bills and what they hope will be included or excluded from the 1995 Farm Bill being developed now.

The Food Security Act, more commonly known as the Farm Bill, is one of the most important pieces of legislation that affects all citizens of the United States. Farm Bills that were passed in 1985 and 1990 held conservation provisions that directly affected the way farmers farm and produce food. While many farmers are not opposed to land stewardship and protection of the natural resource on their property, implementation of the previous two Farm Bills left them with many problems and concerns not experienced before in other Farm Bills.

The forum, sponsored by USDA and the Soil and Water Conservation Society, was the fourth of eight forums that will be held around the United States to gain feedback toward development of the 1995 Farm Bill. There are also four urban focus groups that are also being held in an attempt to listen to the people working in these areas talk about the problems they are having getting conservation work such as urban forestry — also covered in the 1990 Farm Bill — accomplished.

Norm Berg, the Washington, D.C. representative of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, began the forum by telling the assembled group that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has been required by the provisions of the previous two Farm Bills to do

more with erosion control and protection of water quality, wildlife habitat, and other related natural resources. He explained that each participant in the forum had been asked to talk about the problems they were experiencing because of these provisions, to discuss briefly what the causes of the problems were, and then to address what Congress and government agencies could do to address these concerns in the next Farm Bill.

"USDA with their conservation and forestry programs are being asked to do more with conservation of our natural resources. We are being asked to do this while still maintaining what we do best: producing the best and safest food supply in the world," he said.

A listening panel had been set up and included Tim Smith representing Congressman Tim Holden of Pennsylvania; Tom Hebert, deputy assistant secretary of natural resources and environment

Selma, Ala.—Bush Hogs new 90-inch wide air tunnel finishing mower is designed to handle the large volume of material as well as dry and dew-covered grass that both commercial operators and property owners encounter frequently.

"High volume of material, dry, and dew-covered grass are a reality of lawn maintenance," said Robert O. Moore, Bush Hog vice president, sales. "The new ATH-900 air tunnel mower will increase productivity because it



The ATH-900 completes the Bush Hog air tunnel line with 60, 72, and 90-inch wide models.

provides a finished appearance in the heavy material and dew-covered grass conditions that are

often the reality of lawn maintenance at parks, commercial buildings, estates, public buildings, airports, and farms. It delivers a finished cut in these conditions while providing low, easy maintenance and long-term durability."

The ATH-900 completes the Bush Hog air tunnel line with 60, 72, and 90-inch wide models.

For more information, contact Bush Hog, Dept. NR-ATH, P. O. Box 1039, Selma, AL 36701, (205)872-6261.

Growers On Bandwagon To Attend Corn Classic

ST LOUIS, Mo. — More than 2,000 of the nation's top growers and industry leaders will take center stage in Nashville, Tenn., February 26-28, at the National Corn Growers Association's (NCGA) 1995 Corn Classic.

"This year's annual corn industry event is bound to be a charter-buster with the toe tappin' location, top-hit speakers and entertainers, profit-boosting seminars and 250+ exhibit trade show," said Glade Snoberger, Corn Classic chairman and corn grower from Aurora, Neb. "And if those aren't enough reasons to beat the band, many farmers and their families join the group each year primarily to share ideas with other successful growers."

NCGA's 37th annual conven-

tion and trade show is slated to be a hit from beginning to end. Legendary football star Terry Bradshaw will kick-off the opening general session, sponsored by DowElanco. The grand finale Tuesday Evening of Entertainment, sponsored by Monsanto Company, will feature Louise Mandrell and Lee Greenwood at the historic Ryman Auditorium. Recently reopened after a \$8.5 million renovation, Ryman Auditorium has earned its reputation as the "Carnegie Hall of the South."

In addition to music, Nashville offers many other treasures to discover — riverboat cruises, Civil War history, antebellum mansions, the famed Parthenon, President Andrew Jackson's home The Hermitage, factory outlet center

shopping, golf courses, lakes for boating, woods for hiking, and more. For Nashville information, call their tourism hotline at (615) 259-4700.

To register for Corn Classic, call NCGA at (314) 275-9915.

Strickland Appointed

LANDISVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — Hoffman Seeds, Inc. has appointed Steve Strickland, Bainbridge, as sales representative for Lancaster County.

Strickland will handle the full line of Hoffman products, including Funk's G® Brand hybrid corn.

Strickland has lived in the community 30 years and has been farming for 15 years. He is involved in crop farming, raising steers, and managing layer houses.

Farm Bill Forum Explores Future

in USDA; Pearlle Reed, associate chief of the Soil Conservation Service; Richard Duncan, Pennsylvania state conservationist through the Soil Conservation Service; Cheryl Cook from the Farmer's Home Administration; William Bamgartner, state executive director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; Dick Van Noy, Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission; and James Grace, Pennsylvania state forester.

The first panel of the day began with a farmer. Jane Seidel, a Berks County dairy producer, talked about the problems associated with animal waste and other waste management. She stated that with the overall management of waste, the farm was turning into one big landfill. Besides the management of their own animal waste, other waste, such as newspapers and tires, was being shredded and used on farms. Seidel stated problems with waste management are

nothing new and read a report of waste management from the days of Plato. The report stated that when the stables filled up to capacity with animal waste, the river was diverted to sweep through the stables and clean them out.

Seidel explained how waste management affected water quality downstream after heavy rainfall. While she agreed that management of animal waste had many benefits, she also cautioned that the management practices employed by farmers must be financially sound or they would not be adopted. She cautioned government officials on the listening panel that they had to set priorities too. If it was important to dictate the preservation and protection of agricultural land, they had to stand ready to help farmers explore opportunities to make it financially sound and easy for the farmer to adopt this attitude too.

The environmental community was also represented on the first panel through Lamonte Garber representing the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture. Garber talked about sustainable agriculture as farming for the long term that protects family farms. He said we need to look at farming the way we are doing it now and make more of an effort to promote agriculture that is sensitive to the degradation of soil and water.

Garber thought that agencies such as the Soil Conservation Service were being hindered by staffing cuts which would result in a reduction of conservation practices applied to the land. He said that these practices reduce the nonpoint source of pollution. He also said that many farming producers need more education with regard to water quality. He said

that when a farmer produces an acre of corn, he or she doesn't necessarily understand what leaches into the soil and/or water systems when it rains. They don't understand what it is that happens nor how it affects the overall environment.

Throughout the day, problems were also experienced by others directly and indirectly involved in the farming industry. For example, Robert Yunker, representing the New York Land Improvement Contractors, talked to the panel about his inability to help farmers in installing conservation practices that would aid in water quality management. He said it was a nightmare of regulatory abuse to wade through the paperwork, the permitting processes, the feeds, the overlapping or duplication of different agencies to try to get a single job done. He also felt owner's rights were being diminished by government action and regulation.

"Government authority needs to be through the people who are governed not through those who are so out of touch with real life situations," Yunker said.

Since the 1990 Farm Bill also included the Forestry Stewardship emphasis, there were several forum participants who talked about forestry. Nancy Wolf, representing the Environmental Action Coalition and Alliance for Community Trees, said her state of New York had experienced a wonderful surge in urban forestry management and appealed to the panel to maintain this program in the 1995 Farm Bill. She stated that all forestry, whether rural or urban is part of the overall eco-system and that without more of it, especially in urban and suburban areas, sprawl will continue everywhere.

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Co-Operative Feed Dealers Acquires Fox Company

CHENANGO BRIDGE, N.Y.—Co-operative Feed Dealers, Inc. (CFD) has purchased The Fox Co., of Newfield, N.J., a sales agency that markets animal health and specialty feed products throughout the Northeast and eastern Canada.

A joint statement issued by Lon Stephens, general manager of CFD, and Rex S. Fox, president of The Fox Co., said the sale which took place Sept. 1 includes The Fox Company's warehouses,

equipment, and inventory in Broadway, Va. and other assets. The sale was arranged by Hendrick Wentink of The Montgomery Group, Inc. According to the statement, The Fox Company will continue to operate as a sales agency, a separate division of Co-operative Feed Dealers. The Fox Company's main office will remain in Newfield, N.J. and serve as headquarters for sales and service personnel.