



CORN TALK NEWS

PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOC., INC.

Stats Show 92 Percent Of Plans On Schedule

WASHINGTON, D.C. — USDA's Soil Conservation Service reports that approximately 92 percent of the compliance plans required on highly-erodible cropland are on schedule to be fully in place at the beginning of 1995.

As the nation's most intensive conservation effort heads into the homestretch, an overwhelming number of farmers are meeting the deadline for protecting highly erodible croplands. A U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS) survey shows 92 percent of conservation plans for highly erodible croplands are on schedule with 50 percent complete as of 1993.

SCS says the statistically reliable survey sample came from on-site reviews of 53,000 conservation plans covering 8 million acres.

In addition to the 92 percent of plans on schedule, another 4.7 percent of the plans reviewed had been granted one-year extensions, or variances. Extensions are granted when producers have made the best effort possible to keep on schedule but could not due to uncontrollable circumstances, such as hardship or weather, or factors which had minimal impact on accomplishing the erosion reduction goals.

SCS estimates that soil erosion on our most highly erodible lands will be less than half what it was in 1985 — reduced about 66 percent — if plans are fully implemented by the December 31, 1994 deadline. That estimate is based on estimated national erosion averages going from 17.5 tons of soil annually lost per acre in 1985 when compliance was mandated in the 1985 farm act to six tons per acre by the end of this year. In all, plans are required on about 144 million acres of highly-erodible cropland.

SCS Chief Paul Johnson says that agriculture is well on its way in carrying out "the most intensive conservation effort ever undertaken on private lands. Most farmers have made great progress in reduc-

ing soil erosion," he says. Ironically, Johnson's home state of Iowa had the lowest rate of plans on schedule, 78.6 percent. Iowa ranks fourth in the amount of highly-erodible land in the U.S., behind Montana, Texas and Kansas.

"The public wants good land stewardship," Johnson said, "Just as other businesses have had to change the way they operate to protect the environment, agriculture has also accepted the challenge."

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Corn Hybrid Selection Important

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grain and silage then you are concerned with both frost and green leaf and stalk growth. Select maturity according to your goal with the crop.

3. How many frost free days are available during the growing season? Generally speaking, Lebanon has a total of 130 days or range of 2400-2800 heat units (the accumulated units per day throughout a season). You should get in the habit of referring to hybrids by Growing Degree Days (GDD) which is nothing more than the average temperature (heat units) in a day minus 50. For

example, the weather forecaster says the high today was 80 degrees and the low was 58. Now, to get the average temperature simply add the high and low and divide by two. So, 80+58 = 138 divide by two = 69. Now that you have the average, subtract it from 50. 69 was the average and we subtract 50 and get 19. That's it! 19 is the amount of GDD for that day. You would do this everyday after you plant and add the days together. For example it takes corn 119 GDD to come out of the ground. So, after you plant you, note the days like this.

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WARNING, ALL SILO OWNERS

Check your silo now for rotten staves. If you have been using your silo for 10 to 15 years for either corn silage or haylage, it is time to SHOTCRETE.

RESURFACES INTERIORS:

- Coats the silo's interior
- Protects feed in storage
- Durable tough acid resistant
- Increases usefulness
- Economical

Before - The silo's interior with plaster damaged and stave exposed

After - The surface is reconditioned, and a new, thick tough surface will protect stored feed

REPAIRS HOLES:

- Repairs even large holes
- Up to twice the strength of the original stave
- Rapid application
- Durable surface

Before - A hole is worn completely through the silo wall

After - With the hole repaired by Shotcrete and a new surface applied, the silo is ready for years of use

EXTENDS USEFUL LIFE:

- Support for old foundations
- Special repairs can be made quickly and economically
- Little or no forming needed
- Stronger than the original

Before - The bottom part of the staves are completely worn away

After - The Shotcrete System repairs and replaces the missing structure

Shotcrete is also good for repairing stone walls

When you think your silo is beyond repair
THINK OF SHOTCRETE!

Lancaster Silo Co., Inc.

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