

Commitment To No-Till

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sure from environmental purists and that through education, coordination and cooperation, using no-till voluntarily can help prevent unnecessary and burdensome regulation.

Of the three breakout groups offered to conference participants, Fawcett continued discussing the changes in chemicals used for pesticides, and some of the labeling problems currently being encountered with the federal registration of chemicals.

Many new chemicals are being put out on the market that are to be used in low amounts, that break down quickly, are less water soluble, adhere better to soils, and are less toxic to animal life, Fawcett said.

According to Fawcett and others, the use of herbicides, pre- and/or post-emergence is neces-

sary to successful no-tilling, but with the right practices, the qualities of no-till soils, the reduced levels of chemicals, and good management, there is actually less use of chemicals with no-till than traditional farming.

Afternoon speaker John Haldeman, the owner of College Corner Implement Co., in West College Corner, Ind., talked about equipment used in no-till practices, especially the use of coulters and deep till devices.

Haldeman said he sells equipment to many people who no-till and he has experience with the practical aspects of the effects of equipment.

For example, he said that his preference for a 13-wave, 1-inch blade coulters in planting because it doesn't pack the sidewalls, and burries the seed under a layer of soil, instead of leaving it exposed

in a narrowly-cut furrow.

With other thin blade wave designs, he said that the walls can become packed and actually expose seed to air if the soil dries out substantially after planting.

General recommendations were to consider what functions an operator expects to do and then to get

the equipment that is designed to do that job.

For distributing ground cover at harvest, he said that there are some modifications that all should be using on combines that can help prevent spot buildup of residue, or the creation of windrows, which can cause damp, wet cold areas

and at the same time not really be helping to build the organic level of the field.

The conference is a joint venture between the cooperative extension system of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Eastern Milk, MMI Pursue Unification

SYRACUSE, N.Y. —

The boards of Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative, Syracuse, NY, and Milk Marketing Inc. (MMI), Strongsville, Ohio, have agreed to pursue unification talks.

Together the two dairy cooperatives would represent nearly 9,000 family farms in 11 Mid-

west and Northeast states. Jointly they would market nearly 7 billion pounds of milk annually.

Eastern Milk President Lewis Gardner and MMI President Herman Bruoaker said in a joint statement that the two cooperatives were "financially sound, philosophically aligned, and the time

is right for these kinds of discussions."

"We are looking to the future welfare of our dairy farm families and we think that together, we may be able to better meet the future needs of our members and the marketplace," they said.

A series of recent combinations among dairy

cooperatives across the United States point to the realization that dairy farmers cannot afford to compete against each other for markets, they said.

Gardner noted: "We as dairy farmers must evaluate our strengths and resources in order to position ourselves to be as competitive as possible in the dramatically changing marketplace."

Both presidents said there would be no additional information about the talks at this time.

Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative operates in the northeastern U.S. and has 3,200 member farm families in the following states: Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, Maryland, Delaware and Massachusetts. In fiscal year 1994 Eastern marketed nearly 2 billion pounds of milk and generated more than \$275 million in milk sales and other revenues.

Milk Marketing Inc. is the nation's 7th largest dairy cooperative and the 73rd largest U.S. food company manufacturing cheese. MMI is owned by 5,700 dairy farm families in Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New York and West Virginia.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

To Our Friends and Customers.

Christmas is a time to pause and reflect if we have truly maintained the spirit of Christmas throughout the year. Have we shared a kind word, a good deed, and remembered to encourage the distressed? All these things are very important to everyone.

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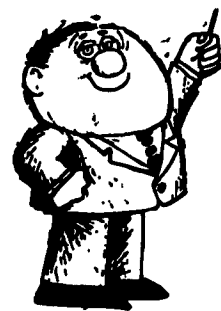
We wish to express our warmest wishes this Christmas season. May your Christmas truly be a joyous and happy season. God truly gave the best that heaven could give. Let us thank Him for this most precious gift.

We take this moment to say "Thank You". May God bless you all as we step forward into 1995. May health, prosperity, and peace be yours throughout the New Year.

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