

Corn, Soy Producers Join Forces With Vegetable Growers

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Commercial vegetable growers in Maryland and Delaware are invited to join their corn and soybean counterparts on the Delmarva peninsula for the first-ever Delmarva Corn/Soybean and Vegetable Conference.

The two-day educational event is scheduled January 12 & 13 at the Sheraton Inn on U.S. Highway 13 north of Dover, Del. Sponsors include agribusiness organizations along with the cooperative extension service at land-grant universities in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Now in its 15th year, the Delmarva Corn and Soybean Conference will lead off the joint program with a general session carrying out the theme, "Ag Technology: New Horizons/Old Problems."

Topics will include predictions on the proposed 1995 Farm Bill, nitrogen fertility management of soybeans, crop insurance reform, and new products for fighting tough weeds.

The corn and soybean conference continues after lunch, but vegetable growers will have the opportunity to attend concurrent sessions on processing crops or direct marketing.

Corn and soybean conference afternoon topics will include pre-

sentations on micronutrients in crop production, slugs and bugs affecting corn and soybeans, precision farming, and the first Gary Smith Memorial lecture.

The latter presentation honors the memory of Gary L. Smith, former agricultural engineer and farm safety specialist for the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland at College Park. Smith died in 1991 from a form of blood cancer. He had requested that memorial donations be used for pesticide safety education.

Giving the memorial lecture will be Stanley H. Schuman, medical director of the Agromedicine Program, a joint project of the Medical University of South Carolina and Clemson University. Schuman will speak on "Cancer, Diet and Pesticides."

The Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association will hold its 25th anniversary meeting at the same location, from 3:15 to 5 p.m., following the corn and soybean educational session.

Delmarva Corn and Soybean Conference scholarships will be presented during a Thursday evening banquet, along with career recognition for industry leaders by the Maryland and Delaware vegetable growers associations.

Friday morning's program on Jan. 13 will start off with a plenary session on "The Coastal Zone Management Act and How It Can Affect Your Farming Business."

Following will be concurrent sessions on general vegetable crops, potatoes and fruit production. The vegetable session continues in the afternoon, along

with a separate series of reports on farm-oriented research projects related to Profitable Agriculture and a Clean Environment (PACE), a cooperative extension service sustainable agriculture program begun in 1991 for Maryland and Delaware farmers.

Admission on both days of the conference is free. Noon lunch is

available at moderate cost on an individual basis. Tickets to the Thursday night banquet are available in advance at \$20 each, or they may be purchased at the door for \$25. To order tickets in advance, call Ed Kee during weekday office hours at (302) 856-7303.

Somerset DHIA Achievements

GAY N. BROWNLEE
Somerset Co. Correspondent
BERLIN (Somerset Co.) — The Somerset County Dairy Herd Improvement Association held its annual meeting at the Berlin community building. About 120 persons attended.

Two men were elected to three-year terms as directors, Gary Lynch, Friedens, and Jeff Hille-gass, Berlin.

High individual cow for milk and protein production per cow was North View Farm (Berlin, RD1), Icon 3X 39,020m 1242p.

High individual cow for fat production per cow, George C. Stahl (Somerset, RD3), Pam 2X 1251f.

Low herd for somatic cell count, William Yoder (Meyersdale, RD1), 171,000.

High herd for milk, fat and protein, North View Farm, 3X 27,276m 9451f 896p.

The herd management award Lacings were first, North View Farm, operated by brothers Jim, John and Dan Will; second, Gerald and Judy Weigle, Friedens and third, Harry Rhoads, Berlin, RD1.

The average number of herds in Somerset County is 116 and the average number of cows, 7,918. Average number of cows per herd is 68.3 compared to the state average of 64.8 cows per herd.

The county milk per cow average was 18,687, with per-god, g 7 cent of fat at 3.71 or 694 pounds. Percent of protein was 3.24, or 605 pounds. Average days in milk per cow were 321.

Value for CWT milk, \$13.60; CWT grain, \$7.57; CWT hay,

\$3.95; CWT silage, \$1.36; milk per cow, \$2,542.

Pounds of grain consumed per cow was 8,153; pounds hay, 1,823; pounds silage consumed per cow, 15,471. Days on pasture per cow were 73.

Total feed costs, at \$921 per cow, were slightly lower than the state average of \$976. Grain costs are almost level with the state average, but the costs of hay per cow here are notably lower than the state average. So is the average cost of silage per cow, when compared to the average figure recorded for the state.

Income over feed costs here exceeds the state average by about \$150, according to official numbers. Feed costs per CWT milk are 4.93 percent while 5.34 percent is the state average according to DHIA year-end reports for Somerset County.



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Our other location is the Kirkwood Hay Auction Barn at the intersection of Noble Rd. and Rt. 472. We will be receiving tobacco Wednesday, December 28, 8-4.

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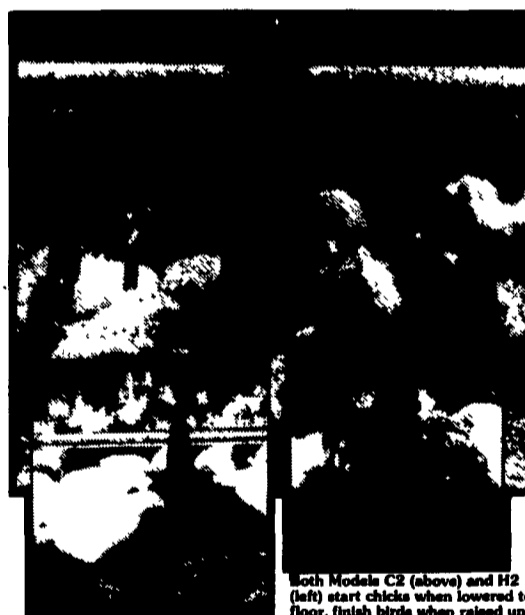
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