

Farmers Look At Soybean Trials At BACS Field Day

SPRINGVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — On Thursday morning, about 50 farmers and agri-industry representatives visited the Hibshman Homestead Research Farm as part of the annual Brubaker Agronomic Consulting Service (BACS) Field Day.

According to Mike Brubaker, the BACS Field Day is the first of three field days planned this year

to examine more than 40 one-acre plots to study herbicide-resistant corn and soybeans, varieties, row width studies, pesticides, planting dates, fertility, and tillage.

On Thursday, herbicide reaction rates in various crops, particularly Roundup Ready soybeans, were examined at the Hibshman Farm, according to Rob Kauffman, research farm manager for BACS.

The field days are set up to make the research "farmer friendly," said Kauffman. "Farmers can walk in the fields and see how the herbicides and varieties are performing."

In one trial, timely application of insecticide worked to control cutworm damage. In another, Roundup Ready soybeans were planted early in the month in a field



Those who attended the BACS Field Day had a chance to look at the New Holland 499 haybine.



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that was in corn for four years and in pasture before that. According to Dave Mayonado, product development representative for Monsanto, research indicated that narrow soybean rows reduced the need for additional spraying to control weeds.

Also, other trials looked into using various types of herbicides from a variety of other ag manufacturers. In addition, demonstrations were given on looking into

yield monitoring using the global positioning system (GPS). Also, those who attended had a chance to look at the New Holland 499 haybine.

Future field days, open to the public, are scheduled for July 19, to examine post-emergent herbicides, and variety performance on Sept 6. All meetings are to be held, rain or shine, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the Hibshman Farm.

Junior Livestock Shows, Sales

(Continued from Page A24)

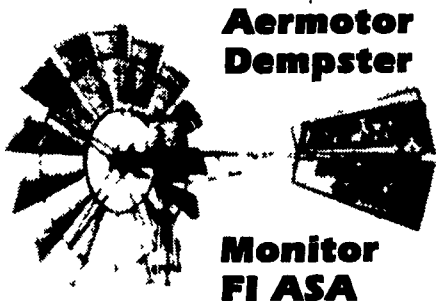
duction methods. Less than 2% of the public are involved in production agriculture, and just a slightly greater percent of the public has even a cursory knowledge about farming.

Anyone has the right to ask about animal production methods, the use of animals, and the safety and wholesomeness of animal products available to the public. Fairs and shows offer an excellent opportunity to inform and teach the public about the methods used in handling, caring for, and feeding of farm animals, and in the technological advances that have been made in producing higher-quality, safer products more

efficiently.

Public support of junior activities: For those who support junior activities through purchasing livestock in sales after the shows—this is not the time to decrease or withhold support. In fact, even more financial support should be available to provide training and educational materials or to support competition in which awards are based on total project activity rather than just the show or sale endpoint. The "bottom line" should be the educational and training programs for youth and the memorable experiences gained through interactions with

(Turn to Page A29)



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