



CORN TALK

Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 1)

Restaurant, Intercourse.

Wednesday, December 6
Mid-Atlantic Tillage Conference, extension offices, conference downlink, 7 p.m., also Dec. 13.

Wednesday, December 13
Mid-Atlantic Tillage Conference, extension offices, conference downlink, 7 p.m.

1996 Events

Tuesday, January 16
Lime, Fertilizer, and Pesticide Conference, State College, thru Jan. 18.

Friday, January 19
Centre/Clinton Crops Day, Pleasant Gap, 9:30 a.m.
Lycoming Crop and Dairy Day, Pennsdale, 9:30 a.m.

Monday, January 22
Adams County Corn Clinic, York Springs, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 23
Franklin County Corn Clinic, Kauffman Community Center, 9:30 a.m.

Berks County Crops Day, Berks County Ag Center, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 24
York County Corn Clinic, York, 9:30 a.m.

Lehigh/Northampton County

Crops Day, call extension office.

Thursday, January 25
Cumberland County Corn Clinic, 9:30 a.m., call extension office.

Bucks/Montgomery County Crops Day, Family Heritage Restaurant, Franconia.

Friday, January 26
Perry County Corn Clinic.
Chester County Crops Day, East Brandywine Fire Hall, Guthriesville.

Tuesday, January 30
Pa. Crops Conference, Embers Inn, Carlisle, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 6
Blair County Crops Day.
Beaver County Crops Day, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 7
Butler County Crops Day, Butler.

Thursday, February 8
Lawrence County Crops Day, New Castle, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Armstrong County Crops Day, Kittanning, 7 p.m.-10 p.m.
Huntingdon County Crops Day, Alexandria.

Friday, February 9
Indiana County Crops Day, Indiana.

Clinton Administration Reaffirms Commitment To Ethanol

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman voiced the Clinton Administration's strong opposition to a House Ways and Means Committee proposal to end the excise tax exemption for ethanol. According to National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) President Rod Gangwish, this proposal is the biggest threat the ethanol industry has ever seen.

The proposal as outlined by Committee Chairman Bill Archer (R-TX) in the Committee's budget reconciliation package would "cap ethanol production at current levels and would virtually guarantee that there would be no new investments in ethanol production," Glickman said. The provisions also would reverse a recent Department of the Treasury rule, which has facilitated the use of ethyl tertiary butyl ether (ETBE). It removes the primary excise tax exemption mechanism which will shutdown some existing operations.

According to Glickman, this congressional effort to reduce or repeal the exemption would have a devastating impact on the nation's corn farmers and effectively halt a period of unprecedented growth in the ethanol industry.

"As a result, ethanol produc-

tion would decline by as much as 50 percent from current projections," Glickman said. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that corn net farm income could decrease by \$3.6 billion over the seven-year period FY 1996-2002, compared to current projections. On a state-by-state basis, that would mean decreases of \$600 million each in Iowa and Illinois and \$300 million or more in the states of Indiana, Minnesota and Nebraska.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Carol Browner also voiced support for ethanol, calling it "a vital part in reducing air pollution" in her agency's quest to give U.S. citizens clean air. Not only does ethanol reduce carbon dioxide emissions and smog, but Browner also said that renewable fuels such as ethanol combat global warming. In its support of ethanol, EPA has proposed the elimination of the oxygen cap on reformulated gasoline. The agency has also proposed model pump labeling so consumers can

knowledgeably choose a renewable fuel, and has asked the National Academy of Sciences to review date on fuel certification so ethanol can be used in summer months.

The NCGA has worked closely with the Administration in its effort to increase the use of ethanol. "We all know how hard the battle has been to build an ethanol market. NCGA, its state associations and members have worked together to make that happen," Gangwish said. "Sixteen years ago there was no ethanol market, and today we produce and sell 1.4 billion gallons of ethanol from corn each year. That market is now at risk, and we appreciated the Administration's insistence that this proposal not become law."

NCGA is conducting a mailing campaign for its corn grower members to contact Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Their plea: that Gingrich and fellow legislators remove the proposal before final action is taken by the U.S. House of Representatives.



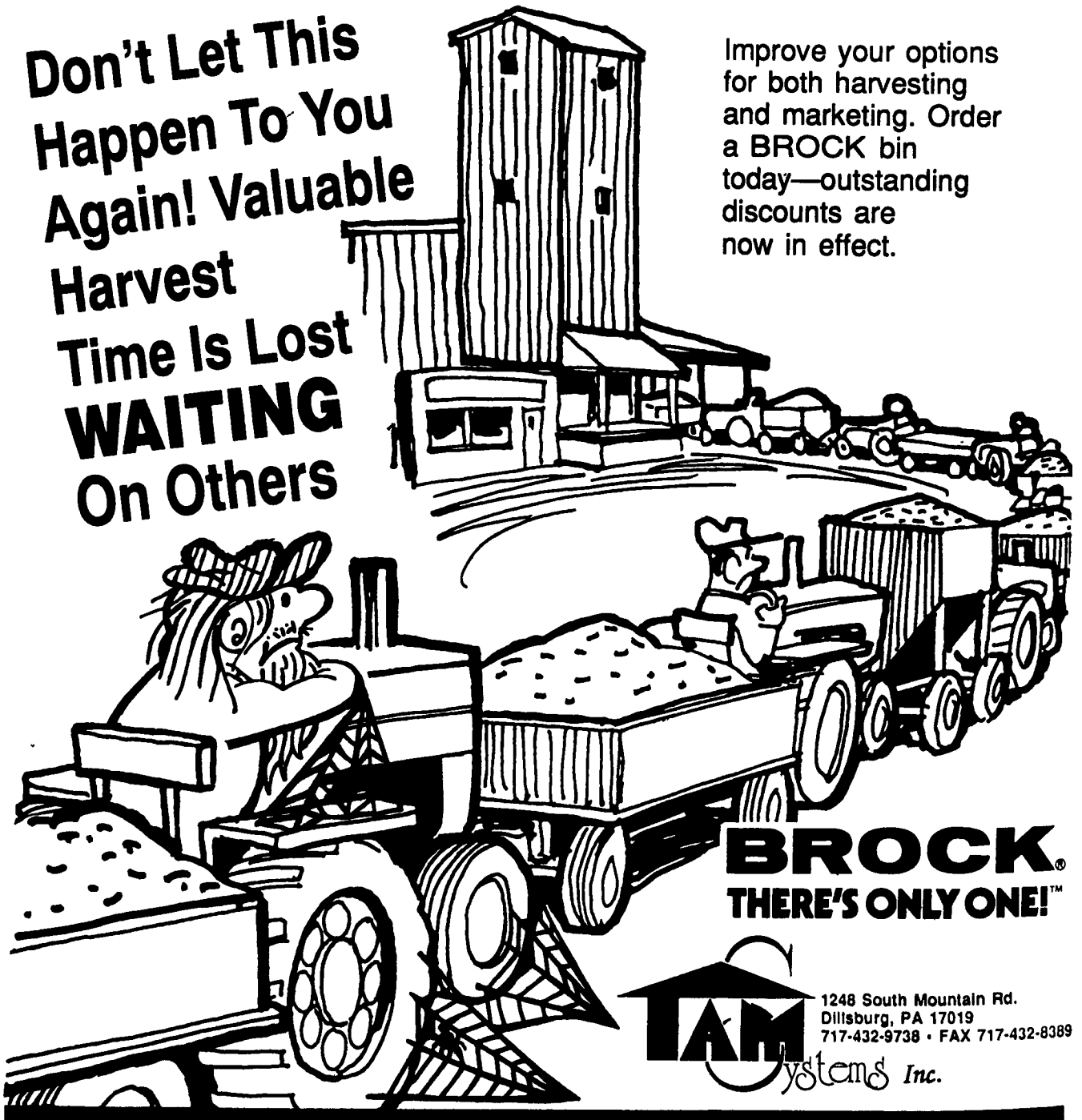
CORN TALK NEWS

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