

Tillage Event Sets Two-Night Program Topics

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — You won't have to drive far to participate in this year's 22nd annual Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference.

Thanks to television satellite technology, the conference is being downlinked on Dec. 6 and 13 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at nearly 40 known locations in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

Downlink sites also are a probability in New Jersey, New York, and Ohio.

In fact, anyplace in the United States with a satellite dish capable of picking up the KU band could be a downlink site, noted Milt Nelson, extension agricultural editor for the University of Maryland at College Park.

Nelson chaired the planning committee for this year's conference, which has departed from a 21-year tradition of a single meeting site that rotated on an annual basis between Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Telephone and fax machine hookups will permit live question-and-answer sessions following each televised presentation. Penn State University is the originating uplink site. Part of the Dec. 13 program will feature a live feed from Ohio State University.

Other program segments will present professional workers from Penn State, Virginia Tech, the University of Maryland and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, plus two West Virginia farmers.

To help provide financial support, interested agribusiness organizations have been invited to submit two-minute "infomercial" film clips that will be included in the satellite broadcast each night.

Here is the schedule of topics and speakers for Dec. 6:

- "No-Till Forage/Pasture Renovation" — Dr. Harlan E. White, extension forage specialist at Virginia Tech, and Lynn D. Hoffman, agronomy superintendent at Penn State's Russell E. Larson Research Center near Rocksprings, Pa.
- "New Herbicides: What Worked and What Didn't Work in 1995" — Dr. William S. Curran, extension weed science specialist at Penn State
- "Planter and Drill Adjustment

Maintenance" — Lynn D. Hoffman

• "What's New in Conservation Tillage This Year" — Joel C. Myers, state agronomist in Pennsylvania for the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service

• "Precision Farming: Here Now?" — USDA film.

The following topics and speakers are set for Dec. 13:

• "Row Cleaners and Strip Tillage" — Dr. Gregory W. Roth, extension corn management specialist, and Lynn D. Hoffman, agronomy farm superintendent, both from Penn State, plus two West Virginia farmers with practical experience

• "Soil Compaction: Causes and Remedies" — Randall C. Reeder, extension agricultural engineer, Ohio State University

• "Effects of High-Residue Farming on Plant Diseases" — Dr. Patrick E. Lipps, extension plant pathology specialist at Ohio State

• "Herbicide Resistance and New Herbicides for 1996" — Dr. Ronald L. Ritter, extension weed control specialist, University of Maryland at College Park.

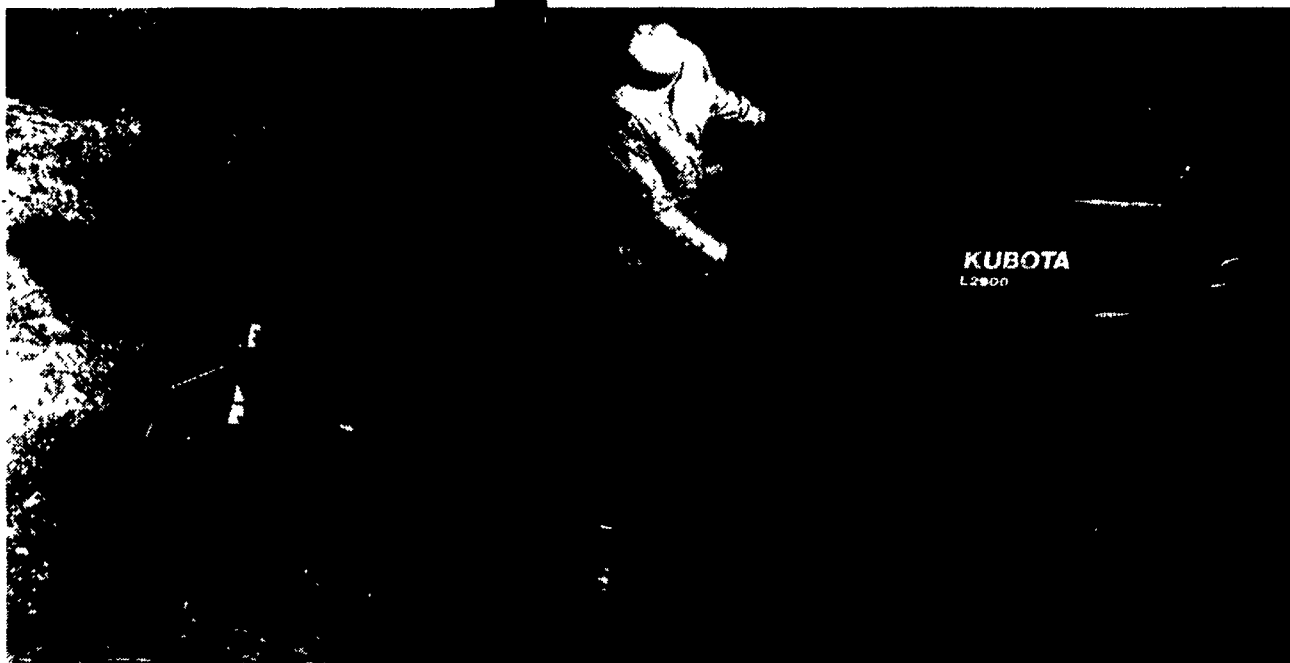
Here are technical details for downlinking the conference:
Test pattern: 6:45 p.m. EST;

program: 7 to 9 p.m.; KU band (horizontal polarity); Telstar 401, Transponder 12A; frequency: 12033 Mhz. To question speakers, call (800) PSU-1010 or send fax message to (814) 863-9877.

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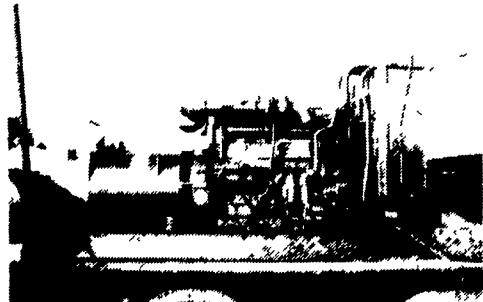
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