

Growers Take Home Awards At Conference

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Lancaster Farming Staff
GRANTVILLE (Dauphin Co.) — For corn growers, last season was best described as a "rough season in all areas," according to Greg Roth, Penn State corn specialist.

Roth spoke about the growing year before presenting the annual Five-Acre Corn Club Contest awards recently at the Pennsylvania Corn and Soybean Conference at the Grantville Holiday Inn.

Despite a year of cool, wet planting, severe drought, and cold harvests, some growers did well.

Corn winners from the 5-Acre Corn Club contest are:

- First place, shelled grain class, three-year average award, regular harvest size, Jeff Mitchell, Reinholds, for an average of 197.5 bushels per acre using Pioneer 3293 and Pioneer 3335.

- Second place went to Matthew Maximuck, Doylestown, for an average of 191.5

bushels. Maximuck used Dekalb 623 and Dekalb 618.

- Third place went to Larry E. Moyer, Mertztown, for an average of 187.4 bushels using Doebler's 82XP and Pioneer 3335.

In the 3 acre plus harvest size:

- First place went to Clarence A. Keener, Jr., Manheim, for an average of 210.5 bushels using Pioneer 3394 and Pioneer 3335.

- Second went to Floyd Kurtz, Fleetwood, for an average of 194.5 bushels using Pioneer 3335 and Pioneer 3260.

- Third place went to Lee Spangler, Mifflinburg, for an average of 189.8 bushels using Pioneer 3293, Pioneer 3394, and Pioneer 3335.

In the ear corn class, three-year average awards, regular harvest size:

- First went to David Schantz, Alburts, for an average of 197.4 bushels using Pioneer 3394 and Pioneer 33Y09.



Second and third place winners in the 5-Acre Corn Club Contest. From left, Joseph Albright, 1997 winner, second place, ear corn class, hand harvest; James Hershey, 1997 champion third place, shelled grain class, 3-acre plus harvest size; and Lee Spangler, second place, 1997 champion, shelled grain, 3-acre plus harvest size.

- Second went to Kenneth L. Schlegel, Fleetwood, for an average of 180.5 bushels using Pioneer 3163, Pioneer 3335, and Pioneer 32K61.

- Third place went to Lester Poust, Muncy, for an average of 174 bushels per acre using Pioneer 3527 and Pioneer 3437.

For the 1997 one-year harvests, shelled grain, regular harvest size:

- First place went to Lloyd Zook, Oley, for a yield of 212.3 bushels per acre using Pioneer 3394 at a population of 19,624.

- Second place went to Joseph Matejik, Mechanicsville, for 211.9 bushels per acre

using Hytest HT 4612 at a population of 31,029.

- Third place went to Jeff Mitchell, Reinholds, for 206 bushels per acre using Pioneer 3335 at a population of 25,265.

In the shelled grain, three-acre plus harvest size:

- First place went to Stanley and Richard Crone, Danville,

for 213.3 bushels per acre using NK 7639Bt at a population of 29,155.

- Second place went to Lee Spangler, Mifflinburg, for 208.5 bushels per acre using Pioneer 3335 at a population of 25,287.

- Third place went to James

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Maximum Yield

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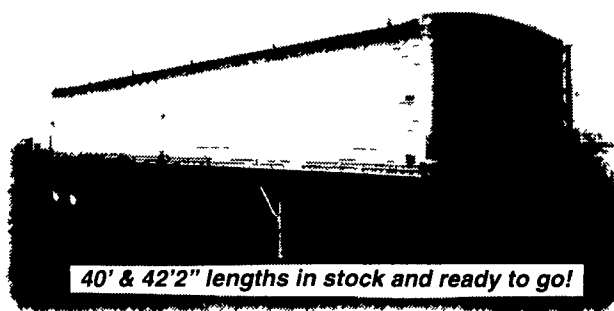
One of the most significant traits developed for corn plants has been Bt corn, which protects plant yield potential, noted Mattingly. Stalk rot from corn borer damage critically affects yield. By reducing corn borer feeding, the "plumbing system" that is the stalk can feed a healthier plant during the growing season.

"We can't change the weath-

er, but we can make agronomic choices to reduce the consequences of the weather," said Mattingly.

Also at the conference, Dr. H. Louis Moore, Penn State professor of ag economics, provided an overview of grain industry trends for 1998, with figures that appeared in previous issues of *Lancaster Farming*.

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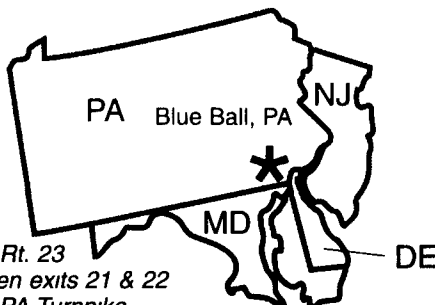
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