

Binkley & Hurst Schedules Field Days

LITITZ (Lancaster Co.) — Mark your calendar now for the Binkley and Hurst Bros., Inc. Field Days and Equipment Demonstration, scheduled Aug. 4-5 at Rothsville Station Road.

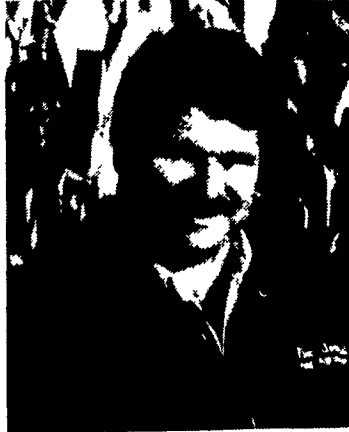
The event will feature daily seminars by Ken Ferrie, crop and soils consultant for Farm Journal; equipment demonstrations by Case, Kinze, Sunflower, and others; and field corn, sweet corn, and vegetable plots.

In 1990 Ken Ferrie started Crop-Tech Consulting, which serves farmers in central Illinois. As an independent consultant, Ferrie directly oversees 55,000 acres through farmer clients. At the same time, he works with leading fertilizer dealers to provide agronomic direction for another 150,000 acres.

His farmer clients are all within

a one-hour drive of his Bloomington-area office. The self-imposed distance rule is part of Ferrie's hands-on approach to consulting — and farming. In addition to providing soil tests and fertility recommendations, he helps clients with a wide range of tasks — seedbed management, insect and disease control, residue management, fine-tuning equipment and manure management.

Ferrie, field agronomist for Farm Journal magazine, puts in almost 150 test plots each year, testing everything from herbicides and varieties to planters and closing wheels. Data gathered in the plot research helps fine-tune his systems approach to farming. As a way to serve more farmers, Ferrie produces a Farm Journal video series, A Systems Approach to Precision Farming.



Ken Ferrie

Prior to founding Crop-Tech, Ferrie worked as a company agronomist for Farm Service co-

operative. Before that, he served as production specialist and manager for a fertilizer plant in Illinois and as maintenance manager for an Iowa cooperative.

A native of Cresco, Iowa, Ferrie grew up working on his family's farm, tending hogs, cattle and a dairy herd. He holds a bachelor's degree in agronomy and agricultural business from Illinois State University. He also holds an associate's degree in agricultural business from Ellsworth Community

College. Much of his leading-edge agronomic training was received as an apprentice under Dr. Everett Dennis, private agronomist from Manhattan, Kan.

Also, for one day only, a Main Street Marketing Tour will feature a Case-sponsored product show of new tractors on Tuesday, Aug. 4.

Food will be available for purchase at the field day.

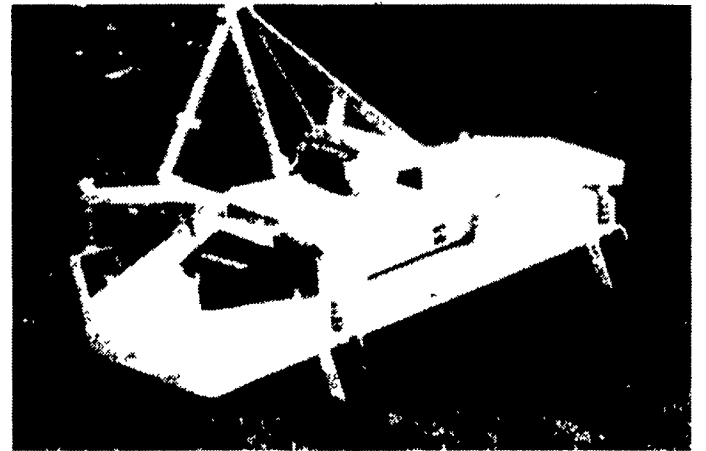
Proceeds benefit local federations. Cold drinks are courtesy of Binkley and Hurst Bros., Inc.

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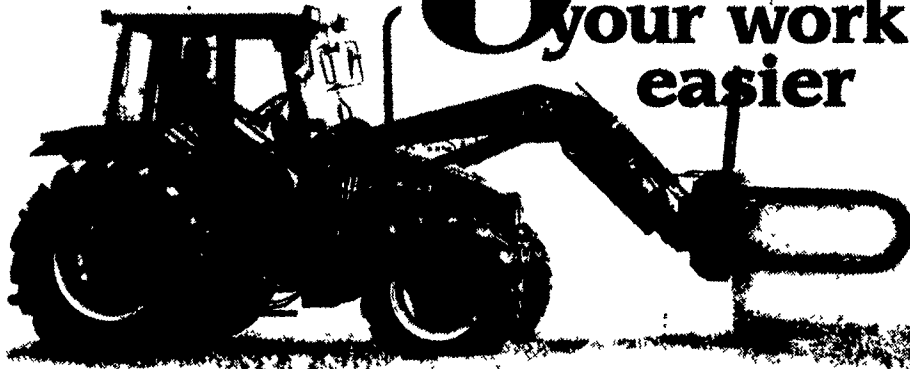
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