



TEN WAYS TO LOOSE MONEY ON CORN PRODUCTION

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Here are a few ways corn growers lose money.

1. Never check the planting depth. Seeds get planted too shallow or too deep, stand are reduced by 20 percent, yields by 10 percent, \$30 per acre lost.

2. Don't account for manure or crop rotation nitrogen credits. Entire crop gets about 50 pounds per acre too much nitrogen, \$10 per acre wasted.

3. Assume the insecticide boxes are calibrated from last year. Inadvertently you apply 25 percent more product per acre than necessary, \$4 per acre wasted.

4. Plant all full-season hybrids that yield well but don't dry down. drying a 150-bushel per acre crop four more points at \$0.04 point per bushel costs an additional \$24 per acre.

5. Plant hybrids you have no performance data on or experience with on significant acreage, or plant all acreage to a single hybrid. You get a surprise on hybrid performance, yields are reduced by 10 bushels per acre or \$30 per acre.

6. Use a high Phosphorus starter fertilizer on a soil testing excessive for phosphorus. No response to fertilizer investment, \$10 per acre lost.

7. use a soil insecticide on corn following soybeans. no rootworms to control, cutworms and other pests don't show, \$13 per acre wasted.

8. Practice recreational tillage by plowing fields that

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Environmental working Group (EWG) issued a report denouncing the Clinton administration's efforts to fairly and objectively implement the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA).

Passed in 1996, FQPA substantially changes the way pesticides are evaluated for

could be easily no-tilled. Labor, equipment, and fuel cost \$20 per acre.

9. Use 100 units of nitrogen where you need 150. Crops run out of nitrogen late in season, yields reduced by 10 bushels per acre. \$30 acre lost, but you saved \$10. Out \$20 per acre.

10. Have complete faith in your pre-emergent herbicide program and don't check for escapes 2-3 weeks after planting. Weather fails to cooperate and herbicide performance is less than ideal. Weeds reduce yields 10 bushels per acre before you apply rescue treatment in early June, \$30 per acre lost.

Unfortunately these scenarios will be repeated again next year on many fields. Try not to make them with your crop.

their health effects. Vice President Al Gore recently directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Agriculture to work together to ensure smooth implementation of the law. Based on that direction, the agencies formed a Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC) to provide policy guidance on the use of sound science, ways to increase transparency in their decision making, strategies for a reasonable transition for agriculture, and ways to enhance consultations with stakeholders as they reassess pesticide tolerances.

"Vice President Gore has outlined a process that will bring all the stakeholders together with the promise that sound science and real-life farming practices will be taken into consideration as

EPA and USDA make decisions regarding the future availability of crop protection chemicals," noted national Corn Growers Association (NCGA) President Ryland Utlaut, a farmer from Grand Pass, Mo. "EWG is obviously taking a preemptive strike because they are concerned that fairness, objectivity and open dialogue might get in the way of their ongoing efforts to demonize the entire agricultural community.

"Corn growers look forward to working with EPA, USDA and other stakeholders - including the Environmental Working Group - to make sure that the FQPA is implemented using the best scientific methodology and data and the most accurate information based on real farm practices and actual pesticide use," Utlaut said.



CORN TALK NEWS

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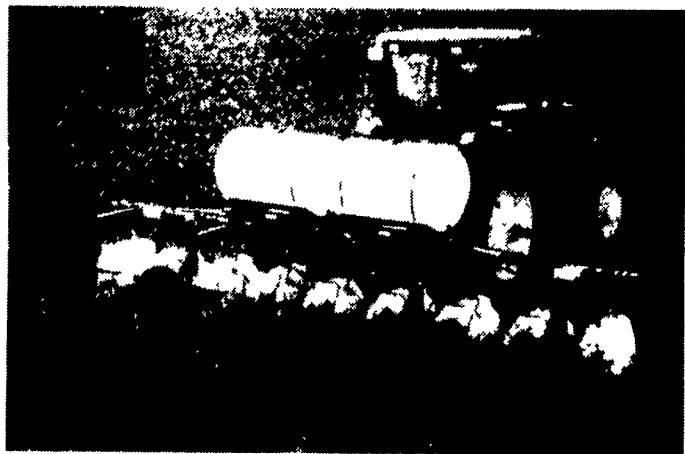
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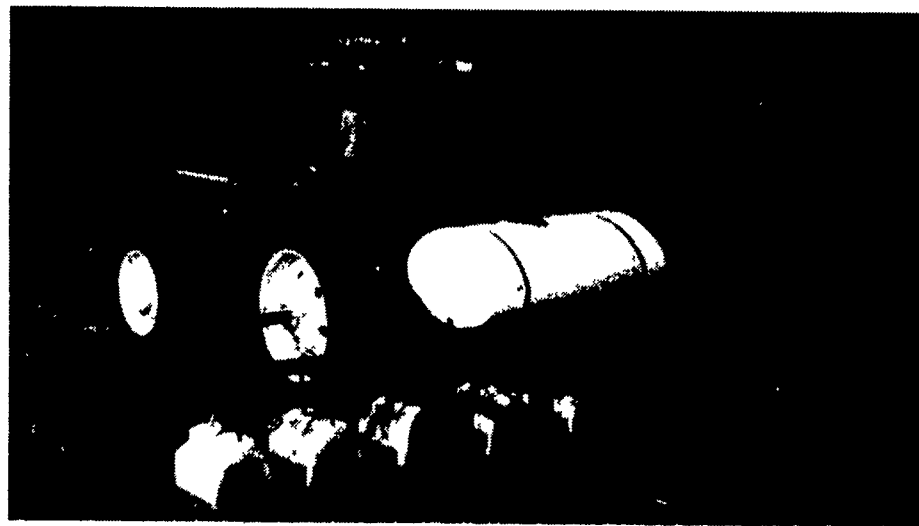
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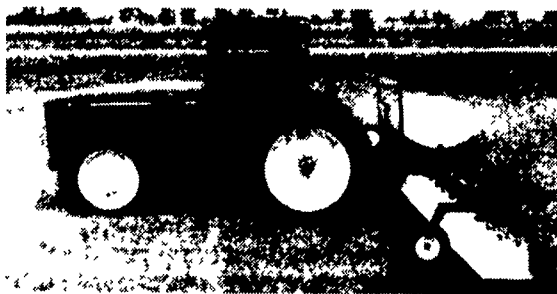
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