MGPA Welcomes Challenge Event

EDGEWATER, Md. – In June, the Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) hosted a press event to welcome the Ethanol Vehicle Challenge teams from 14 competing universities and colleges nationwide.

The challenge -sponsored by the General Motors, US Department of Energy (DOE), and Natural Resources Canada — hopes to spur automotive technology toward clean, renewable fuel.

The goals of the challenge

are three-fold, according to Bob Larsen of Argonne National Laboratory and project coordinator for the event. "We're trying to attack technology barriers that prevent dedicated ethanol vehicles from competing with conventional automotive technologies. We're training automotive engineers that will be the future of this industry. Technology is worthless without those who know how to use it. And finally, we're raising visibility of ethanol as a

clean alternative fuel."

The State of Maryland has operated E85 85 percent ethanol, 15 gasoline) flexible fueled vehicle (FFVs) since last year. FFVs can operate on any combination of ethanol up to 85 percent or gasoline. The E85 FFVs were purchased by federal and state agencies to comply with the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPACT).

Charles "Jamie" Jamison, on behalf of the MGPA, indicated that the association is PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOC., INC.

committed to placing refueling infrastructure where adequate vehicles are stationed. "We need the cooperative of the state to place sufficient vehicles into a refueling area to justify Maryland's first E85 station. We hope to open a E85 station in the state by the end of the year."

Maryland agriculture has benefited from the national fuel ethanol program since its inception in the early '70s, according to Pat McMillian, director of Intergovernmental relations for the Maryland Department of Agriculture. "Corn sold to produce ethanol in the Midwest raises the price of corn sold in Maryland by \$0.45 per bushel. On average, we sell 45 million bushes of corn per year. This equates to about \$20 million annually for the state," said McMillan. He also thanked the students for contributing technology to help America meets its ener-

The competition, which began at the General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Mich., ended as the motorcade arrived at the nation's capitol for the DOE Clean Cities Conference. During an awards banquet held in the Cannon House Building on Capitol Hill, the following awards were presented: 1st place - Wayne State University, Michigan, 2nd place - university of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, 3rd place - University of Illinois, Chicago, 4th place -University of California, Riverside, 5th place Cedarville College, Ohio, and 6th place - Illinois Institute of Technology.

For more information about the Ethanol Vehicle Challenge or ethanol in Maryland, call the Maryland Grain Producers Association at (410) 956-5771.

Free Bag Of Seed Corn For Corn Growers With 3-Year Membership

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — The Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association (PMCGA) is conducting a

Membership Incentive Program (MIP) in conjunction with a number of seed corn companies.

The MIP with seed corn company sponsorship will entitle any corn grower who plants at least five acres of com to a free bag of seed corn (standard size) with a three-year membership in PMCGA/NCGA.

This program applies to all three-year memberships, new or renewal. To participate, complete the membership form and select the brand of seed corn you would like to try.

The theme of the program is "Try Something New." PMCGA hopes you will use this opportunity to experiment and not just get a bag of free seed com.

You will receive a certificate from PMCGA for a free bag of seed corn from the company you selected. You will make the final decision about which hybrid to receive in consultation with the local seed corn dealer for the company you se-

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lected.

PMCGA member benefits include Corn Talk, Com Farmer (a successful farming magazine), Pennsylvania five-acre Corn Club, copies of the "PA Commercial Corn Hybrid Test Results," National Corn Growers Association updates, Annual Pennsylvania Crops Conference, and a strong voice in issues facing corn growers.

Ethanol Tax Incentive To Benefit Producers

WASHINGTON, D.C. producers and consumers alike will benefit from Congress' decision to extend tax incentives to blenders of ethanol through 2007, according to National Farmers Union (NFU).

"NFU is extremely pleased with the strong support for ethanol tax incentives comonstrated by members of Congress in last week's passage of the highway bill," said Toms Buis, NFU vice president of government relations. "This is extremely good news for grain producers and for rural communities that make ethanol."

The final bill, which included the ethanol tax incentive language, passed in May by a 297-86 margin in

the House and by a 88-5 margin in the Senate. it extends the ethanol blenders tax incentive--currently at 5.4 cents per gallon--through 2007, reducing it to 5.1 cents per gallon by 2005. President Bill Clinton has said he will sign the bill.

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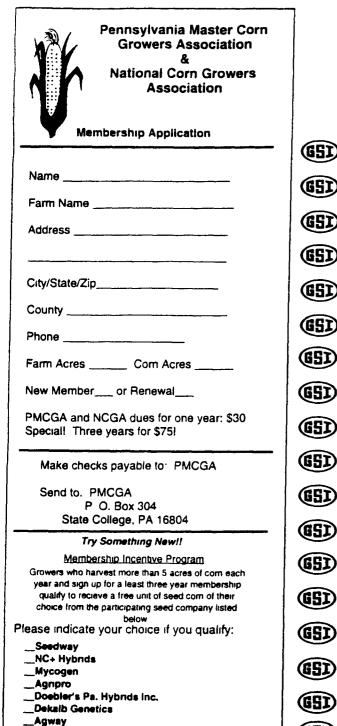
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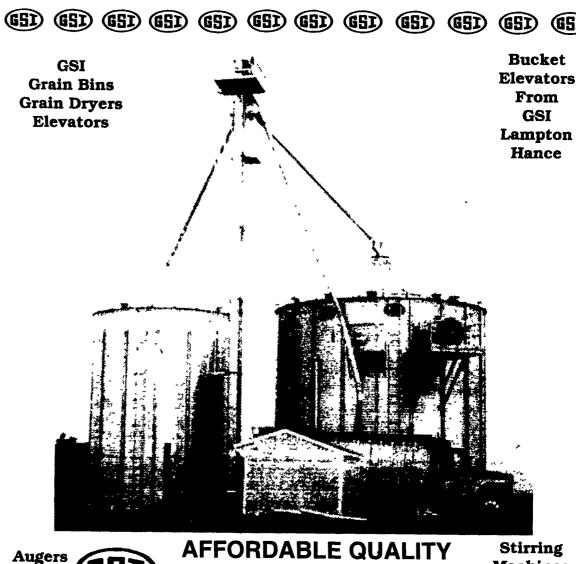


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