

# Striving For Quality?

(Continued from Page 1)

Steigman farms on fields adjacent to Small Valley Hill on 100-foot wide strips that contain timothy and alfalfa mixes. The soil is a Calvin Leck Kill shaley silt loam. Steigman deals with the challenges of clay bottoms and some compaction on the fields.

Soil pH poses a challenge, especially in spots. "We lime regularly," he said.

Careful records are kept to ensure that the proper nutrients are available for all crops.

Steigman manages about 40-50 acres of corn on the two farms.

He grows about 30 acres of field soybeans. Some were double-cropped after barley. Steigman also grows 15 acres of edible beans for the organic market, and about 30 acres of straight alfalfa. He maintains about 40 acres of alfalfa-timothy mix.

Steigman noted this was the first year he participated in the annual contest at Ag Progress Days. He submitted three different samples in different categories. He may enter yet another category in next year's contest.

For the award-winning sample, "I went to the barn and picked out a

square bale from the mow and that was it," he said. "I never thought to analyze it myself."

Steigman was surprised when the near-infrared forage testing revealed exactly how good the bale was at the contest.

The later-cutting alfalfa mix, harvested in mid-June, was the second cutting. The Hesston bales were taken as received — one of about 131 entries in 21 classes on Aug. 19 at the contest in Rockspring.

A note to Steigman reads: "Congratulations, Joel! Sample in Class #4 was a real beauty," by Marvin Hall, Penn State forage specialist and contest coordinator.

The mixed grass-legume hay sample showed an as-received analysis

(Turn to Page 7)



Steigman also wraps hay, including straight alfalfa, an alfalfa/timothy mix, and straight grass (timothy and reed canarygrass), into large square bales. About 300 bales stand in outside storage for sale.

## AMERICA'S ALFALFA KEEPS GROWING WITH AFFINITY+Z

### THE NEAR-PERFECT DISEASE FIGHTER

Affinity +Z is the only alfalfa variety with a 29 rating out of 30 for disease resistance plus resistance for Stem nematode. That's why it has high yield potential from northern Iowa to southern New Mexico and from coast to coast. In Wisconsin yield trials, Affinity +Z beat six popular varieties an average of 8 percent. Strong winter survival capability and top leafhopper yellowing resistance.

Dormancy rating: 4



Genetic Wonders that Work



**P.L. ROHRER & BRO., INC.**

Smoketown, PA PH. 717-299-2571

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 AM to 5 PM  
Saturday 8 AM to 12 Noon; Closed Sunday

LADINO CLOVER • PALATON REED CANARYGRASS • MILLET

## Hay Grazer Alfalfa

- Yielded 107% of the check varieties in unsprayed Cornell field trial 1997
- Vigorous branching root system with deep soil roots to prevent heaving
- Extra leafy & large leaves
- Excellent disease & insect resistance

## GH-797 Alfalfa

- Excellent winter hardiness & hay yields
- Highly resistant to all the major diseases
- Dark and dark green resists leafhopper yellowing
- Treated with Topkote™ for superior protective seed coating that includes essential nutrients

When you want the best Alfalfa Use

An Exclusive, New Release from AgriCulver, Inc.

# DAIRY BANQUET

## SUPERIOR SPRING FORAGE



**Golden Harvest**

3900 McIntyre Rd., Trumansburg, NY 14889

Phone: 1-800-936-3701 Fax: 607-357-5700

GOLDEN HARVEST CORN + SOYBEANS • BARLEY • ORCHARDGRASS

FESCUE • OATS • TALL OATS • WHEAT • BROMEGRASS • TIMOTHY • BUCKWHEAT • ALFALFA • PER. RYEGRASS

SORGHUM SUDAN • GOLDEN HARVEST CORN • RED CLOVER • NORCEN TREFOIL • PEATRITICALE MIX