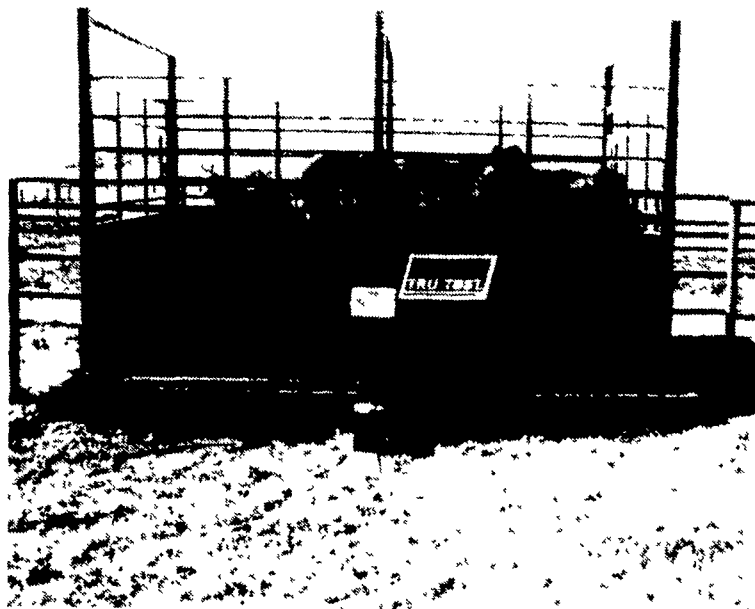


Tru-Test Introduces Group Scale



SAN ANTONIO, Texas — An electromechanical group scale lets you "load 'em up and move 'em out" while getting a fast, accurate weight.

Tru-Test incorporates its electronic technology with the mechanical group scale to provide the same speed, digital accuracy, and confidence as found in the full line of Tru-Test scales.

This scale is legal for trade in all 50 states. Durable construction both in the scale and its electronic components (load cell and digital indicator) will give the user the advantage on weighing for many years. The Tru-Test Electro-Mechanical Group Scale is designed specifically to weigh live animals and will lock onto a stable weight within 5-10 seconds.

Bt Corn Hybrids Round Out Cargill Product Line

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Four new Bt corn hybrids round out the Cargill Hybrid Seeds European corn borer-resistant hybrids. All Cargill Bt hybrids compared favorably to other Bt hybrids and conventional corn in 1998 test plots

"We now have a complete product offering across most maturity groups," said Dr. Dan Froehlich, Cargill agronomy services manager. "The Bt hybrids performed very well in head-to-head trials against competitive hybrids and Cargill non-Bt hybrids with similar genetics"

In addition, Cargill will introduce limited seed quantities of hybrids that stack the Bt trait with tolerance to Liberty¹ herbicide from AgrEvo USA

The four new Bt hybrids are "additional ammunition in the war on bugs," Froehlich said

Following are the hybrids

- 4021Bt A 100- to 102-day hybrid with very good early vigor and drought tolerance. Tall and attractive, 4021Bt responds well to high fertility and moderately high plant population.

- 4521Bt. Adapted to all soil types, 4521Bt performs best at medium to high planting populations. This 104- to 106-day hybrid would be the preferred choice if late planting is necessary and makes an excellent companion to Cargill 3677 and 6303 hybrids, Froehlich said.

- 6521Bt. Sharing many traits with Cargill 6303, this hybrid is again having a consistent top-performing year.

Excellent stalk strength, dry-down and fast emergence gives this shorter-statured, 110- to 112-day Bt hybrid the winning edge.

- 7521Bt. A medium-tall, 112- to 114-day hybrid with excellent late-season plant health. Excellent standability allows for a wider harvest window

Two new Cargill hybrids combine resistance to European corn borer with Liberty Link¹ technology.

- 5021Bt/LL A 106-107-day hybrid, 5021 Bt/LL shows outstanding early vigor, yield potential and ear flex. It's an excellent choice for conventional tillage and no-till systems

- 7821Bt/LL This 114- to 115-day hybrid has top-end yield potential at moderate populations due to outstanding ear flex, and excellent standability and test weight

In Cargill product evaluation plots and research trials, the four new Bt hybrids yielded as well or better than popular Cargill non-Bt hybrids 3677 and 4111.

"High yield potential is important," Froehlich said, "because prevention of yield loss due to corn borer is what justifies investment in the Bt trait, even in a year when corn borer pressure is relatively light."

According to information released by AgrEvo, Bt hybrids will net the producer an additional \$3 to \$5.63 per acre, assuming the price of corn is between \$2 and \$2.50 per bushel and low European corn borer infestations cause only 3.5 per-

Snowy Day Brings Large Turnout To Snider's Horse Seminar

LEMASTERS (Franklin Co.) — The 8th Annual Snider's Elevator Inc. Horse Seminar was held recently, despite eight inches of snow. More than 100 people attended the event held at the Lemasters Community Center.

Introductions were made by Susan Snider, marketing manager of Snider's Elevator Inc. The first speaker, Dr. Colleen Wilson, is a researcher for Farnam Companies, Inc. A resident of Arizona, Wilson has formulated many products for Farnam, including Maxflex and Performax. Wilson discussed the older horses and their needs for supplements. The audience was invited to ask questions.

The second speaker, Heather Heider, discussed horse feeds. Heider, a Southern States equine feed and tech representative, discussed the nutritional needs of senior horses. The audience asked questions during Heider's presentation. Many people in the room are owners of senior horses. Also, Heider discussed proper feed management from birth through maturity.

Door prizes were given out before the end of the seminar. A



At the recent seminar, from left, Heather Heider, Southern States feed and technical representative; Susan Snider, Snider's Elevator Inc. marketing manager; and Phyllis Snider, Snider's Elevator Inc. treasurer, take a moment to discuss the Southern States complete line of horse feeds before the start of the eighth annual seminar.

month supply of free horse feed, compliments of Southern States, was given out to two winners. The winners were Bill Nutwell of Clear Spring and George Brindle

of Chambersburg. Donations were accepted for the Franklin County Therapeutic Riding Center. Also, some horse grooming supplies were donated.

Bovine Somatotropin Effective Over Multiple Years

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — A recent study by Cornell University animal scientists Dr. Dale Bauman and Dr. Robert Everett establishes the effectiveness of Posilac®, bovine somatotropin (BST) in on-farm settings over multiple years.

"Beginning in 1994 with the commercialization of Posilac, supplemented herds produced the equivalent of eight to 12 pounds more milk, per cow, per day, for each animal supplemented with Posilac," said Bauman.

The eight-year study compared 340 northeastern commercial dairy herds: slightly less than half supplemented with Posilac and the remainder, a control group, managed by producers who had never purchased a dose. Comparing Northeastern Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) data with Monsanto Dairy Business records, the scientists concluded that supple-

mentation with Posilac significantly and consistently increased milk production throughout multiple years.

In addition to determining the sustained response to Posilac, the study also compared average days in milk, average age in the herds, somatic cell counts (SCC), and the levels of fat and protein content between herds supplemented with Posilac and the control herds.

"Both parameters — average days in milk and average age of the herd — remained consistent between the control herds and the herds supplemented with Posilac," said Bauman. "This indicates sound reproductive performance and continued cow health for herds supplemented with Posilac throughout the four-year study."

Additionally, the findings demonstrated herds supplemented with Posilac exhibited no change

in the pattern of SCC across the lactation, and were at a similar SCC level. The post-approval period SCC score averaged 106,000 for the control group and 113,000 for the BST group. The study further indicated fat and protein content increased proportionally with milk yield.

The scientists also determined genetic improvements and changes in herd management improved in both the control and Posilac herds at the same rate of two percent each year from 1990 to 1998.

To qualify for the study, supplemented herds must have continuously used Posilac since June 1994 in at least 50 percent of the milking cows. The only requirement for the control group was to be a DHI test herd. No additional parameters were placed on the randomly selected herds, Bauman said.

McCoy Receives Director Training

DENVER, Colo. — Bill McCoy, a broker and seedstock operator from Lancaster, PA, took part in a director training session designed to educate producers about their roles and responsibilities as new appointments to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) board of directors

McCoy was appointed to the checkoff division of the NCBA board in February to represent the views of the Pennsylvania Beef Council.

McCoy, along with other

industry leaders, participated in the March 11-12 director training in Denver to get a more complete understanding of NCBA, its operating structure, and its partner organizations

"It's important that NCBA directors fully understand the organization and its operating structure," said George Swan, 1999 NCBA president and host of the training session. "We are part of a complicated industry with a complex governing structure. If board members have a good understanding of how NCBA operates, they will be bet-

ter able to represent and educate their constituents.

The NCBA director training session was held in conjunction with a training session for new appointments to the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB) — the group charged with overseeing the \$1-per-head beef checkoff program. NCBA contracts with the Cattlemen's Beef Board to conduct checkoff programs on behalf of the industry.

"We hold our training sessions in cooperation with CBB, because it is also important that NCBA directors understand the operating procedures of our partner organizations," said Swan. "Directors need to be able to communicate about the value of the beef checkoff program and that we contract with the CBB on a cost-recovery basis — meaning that we do not profit from work conducted on behalf of the beef checkoff."

NCBA will next meet in Denver during the Cattle Industry Summer Conference, July 17-21.

per acre against 182.1 bushels per acre from Pioneer 3489. "The 4.6-bushel yield advantage represents \$3.41 more gross income per acre," Froehlich said.

"These trials clearly show the benefits of planting Bt corn. Especially high-performing Bt hybrids that outyield the competition.

For more details, producers should contact their Cargill Hybrid Seeds dealer.