

"The Signature of Success" To Mark National FFA Convention

INDIANAPOLIS Ind. — "FFA - The Signature of Success" is the theme for the 72nd National FFA Convention, symbolizing the agricultural education organization's mission to prepare students for success throughout their lives.

More than 49,000 FFA members, advisers, supporters, and guests are expected to attend the convention Oct. 27-30 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville, Ky.

"The National FFA Convention is a perfect forum to see the energy, motivation, and talent that will unite us with our ever-changing world," said Larry D. Case, national FFA adviser. "Students from across the country celebrate each other's successes, share their pride in American agriculture and apply what they've learned about leadership, personal growth and career success. Watching students show such pride and energy is the best guarantee we have for the future of our nation."

The national convention, the culmination of a year's activities for FFA members, is an opportu-

nity for recognition, business, elections, and celebration. Delegates from each state will discuss topics affecting the national organization and elect a new team of national officers. Exceptional members and supporters will receive awards for their achievement and commitment to the FFA. Students will compete for national titles in several events, including speaking and parliamentary procedure competitions.

Opportunities for personal growth and leadership development continue with presentations by educational and motivational speakers including Danny Glover, nationally acclaimed actor; Danny Roever, motivational speaker; Jamie Clark, expeditionist; and Emory Austin, motivational speaker.

Future education and career are also key components of the convention. Students will have the opportunity to meet business and industry supporters of the FFA, represented through the 1999 National FFA Foundation Sponsor's Board chaired by William Boehm, vice president - logistics, of Kroger

Company. Hundreds of exhibitors will provide information about education and career possibilities at the concurrent National FFA Alumni Convention and the National Agricultural Career Show.

The national FFA officers, a team of six student leaders, help plan the convention activities and represent FFA on a national level. The officers kick off the convention the afternoon and evening of Oct. 27 with the opening "Reflections" sessions, a series of dramatic and motivational presentations that generate excitement and set the theme for the convention. The 1998-99 National FFA Officers are Lisa Ahrens, national president from Osage, Iowa; Abby Dougherty, national secretary from Greenwood, Ind. Andy Armbruster, central region vice president from Kiowa, Kan.; Emily Buxton, eastern region vice president from Warsaw, Ohio; Jose Santiago, southern region vice president from Camuy, Puerto Rico; and James Garner, western region vice president from Hanford, Calif.

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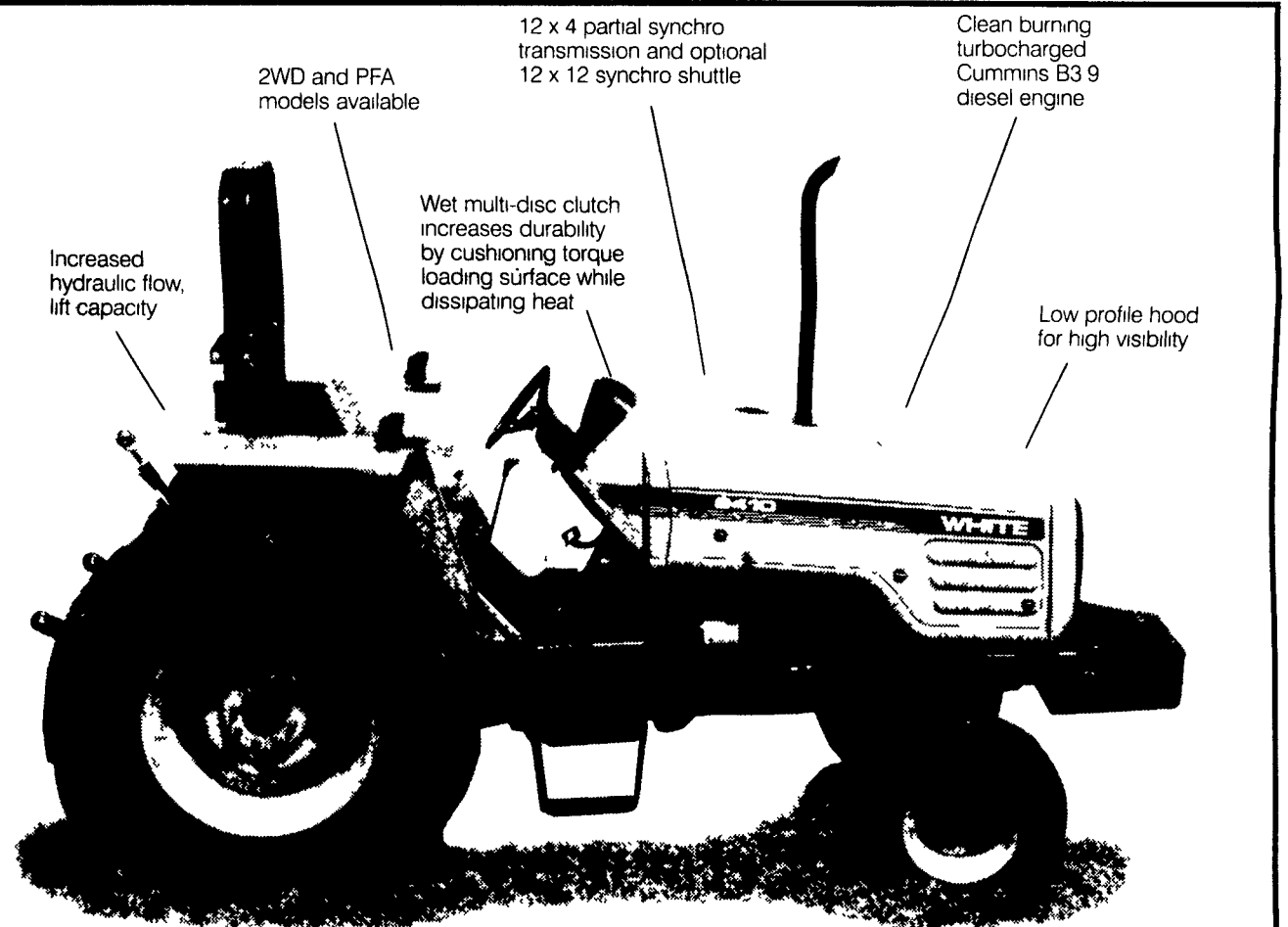
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