



CORN BITS

**LYNN HOFFMAN RETIRES
FROM PENN STATE
AGRONOMY DEPARTMENT
GREG ROTH
Penn State
Agronomy
Associate Professor**

After a career of more than 30 years with Penn State Agronomy Department, Lynn Hoffman has retired effective Sept. 30.

Lynn was also a long time member of the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association and participated in many corn production-related events over the years.

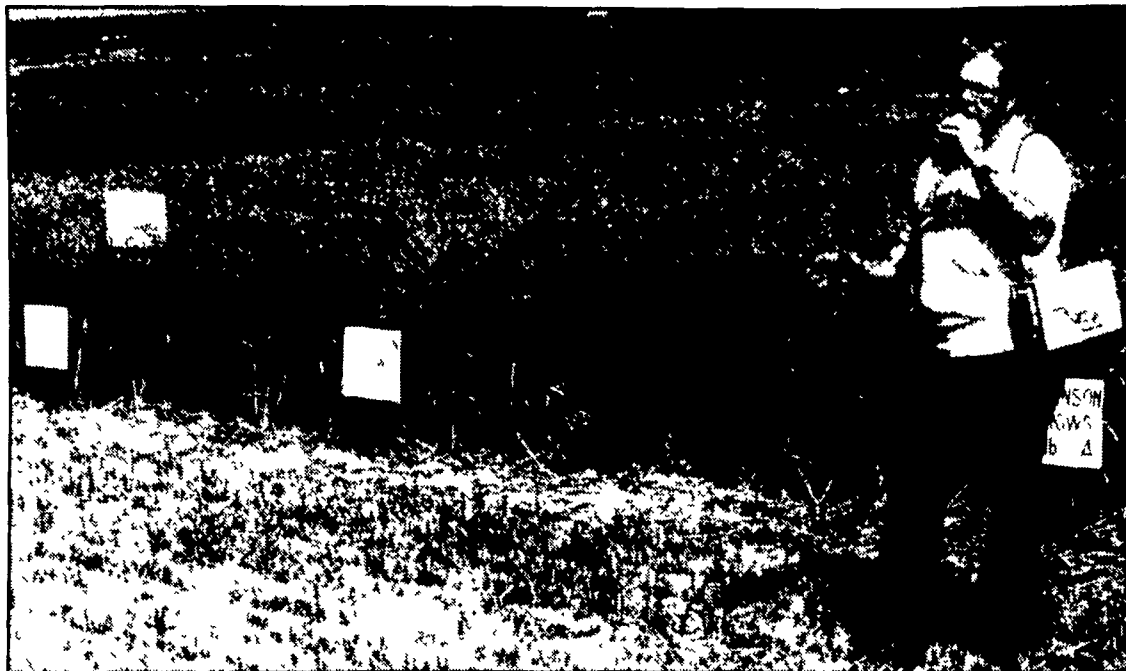
Lynn's primary research and extension interest was the development of no-till production systems in our state. Along with his colleague, the late Bill McClellan, Lynn traveled extensively around the state and conducted many no-till demonstration with farmers and their local extension agents or conservation districts.

Lynn gained much respect for his practical approach to making these systems work and was a popular speaker at many winter excursion meetings over the years

Lynn was responsible for supervising the Penn State Agronomy farm during his tenure at the university and organized many field days for industry representatives and farmers to view ongoing research at the station. Lynn helped to coordinate the machinery demonstrations at Ag Progress Days as well and always helped to point out the various things to consider when purchasing one of the machines that were being demonstrated.

Lynn used many innovative research extension methods during his career. He was a proponent of field demonstrations, but also pioneered the production of agronomic videos and satellite broadcasts of winter meetings. On the research side, he helped to launch Penn State's precision ag research effort and was also responsible for the development of automated data collection systems in our forage variety testing program.

Lynn's enthusiasm and candid approach will be missed by many of us. Lynn and his wife Pepper plan to continue to live in the State College area.



Lynn Hoffman, Penn State Department of Agronomy, at a field day at Rockspring. Hoffman has recently retired.

Corn Grower Leaders Explore Options For Ethanol In California

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Officials from the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) were in California to explore opportunities to expand the use of clean-burning ethanol in the state's gasoline.

The use of reformulated gasoline (RFG), which is blended with an oxygenate such as ethanol or methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE),

is required to fight smog in parts of California by the Federal Clean Air Act and by California air quality regulations. In March, California Gov. Gray Davis ordered a phase-out of MTBE because its contamination of the state's water supplies poses "a significant risk to the environment."

NCGA economists esti-

mate that if ethanol were eventually to replace MTBE as the primary oxygenate in California RFG, it would be a 400-600 million gallon per year market, utilizing 160-240 million bushels of corn. This boost in the ethanol market could add approximately 10 cents to the value of every bushel of corn grown in the United States.

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