

NCGA Offers Statement On Biotechnology

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The following is position of the National Corn Growers Association on the availability and use of biotechnology for U.S. agriculture.

Biotechnology and Bushels

Farmers are accustomed to assuming and managing risk. However, few cropping seasons have appeared as risky as the 2000 season because of concerns about the production and marketing of biotech corn.

While farmers recognize the safety, benefits, and potential of biotechnology, we also recognize that activist organizations have clouded the domestic and international acceptance of biotech products. This has created uncertainty and questions for everyone who grows, markets, and handles corn. However, it must be emphasized that there have been no problems of food safety or quality with any biotech corn product.

National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) advocates the continued availability of federally regulated and approved seed and crops produced through biotechnology. NCGA supports the science-based regulatory process and stands behind the system that approves these new tools for agriculture and food production.

NCGA recognizes that the use of these biotech products is an individual decision, based upon the benefits of agronomic traits, such as higher yields from pest control that a hybrid may offer and the marketing options available for that hybrid.

For 2000, there is the risk that some markets may change between planting and harvest. Some processors and grain companies could change acceptance policies or may change delivery points for hybrids considered conventional, those approved for export to the European Union (EU), and those not yet approved for export to the EU. Farmers will need to actively and aggressively track the marketing opportunities available throughout the 2000 growing season.

Know Before You Grow

NCGA recommends that as you select hybrids you do so with the full knowledge of whether the number is conventional, one approved for EU export, or one not yet approved for EU export.

The NCGA website, www.ncga.com, lists the hybrids not yet approved for EU export. In 1999, less than 5 percent of the U.S. corn crop came from hybrids not yet approved for European export.

NCGA recommends that

growers read their grower agreements before planting and are fully aware of the requirements of these agreements. It is vital that hybrids awaiting EU approval are kept out of export and processing channels.

Know Where to Go

If you grow hybrids not yet approved for export to the EU, NCGA urges you to funnel these hybrids into one of three markets. Those markets are (1) to feed these hybrids in your own livestock rations, (2) to sell into domestic livestock feeding channels or (3) sell to elevators accepting grain not yet approved for EU export. Visit the American Seed Trade Association website by its link through the NCGA website or at <http://asta.farmprogress.com> for more information about the grain facilities accepting hybrids not yet approved for export to the EU.

This marketing discipline will ensure the integrity of the U.S. grain supply and will

demonstrate the respect U.S. corn farmers have for the desires and preferences of our customers.

Insect Resistance Management

To prevent development of European corn borer resistance to Bt, farmers must follow the requirement, founded upon science-based regulatory agency review and upon advice from industry, to plant a 20 percent refuge of non-Bt hybrids in the Corn Belt and a 50 percent refuge in the Cotton Belt.

Voluntary Labeling

Although food safety is not the issue, NCGA policy supports consumer choice through standards for goods that do not contain products of biotechnology. Consistent with current U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulation, NCGA supports voluntary labeling for foods and agricultural products that identifies attributes that are important to consumers and that accurately conveys in-

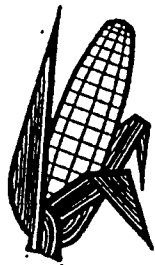
formation without being misleading. NCGA believes labeling of nonbiotech products provides a framework for consumer protection and choice.

In contrast to the voluntary labeling supported by NCGA, the European Union, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand have enacted mandatory food labeling to identify biotech ingredients. Some food manufacturers and retailers are reacting to these new labeling requirements that claim to be "free" of biotech material. The desire to market non-biotech food will increase demand for identity-preserved, conventional corn and for substitute food ingredients.

Segregation

Some grain handlers and processors have recommended segregating conventional and biotech hybrids. Segregation and the more management-intensive iden-

(Turn to Page 23)



New Board Members

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.)—The Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association (PMCGA) conducted an election for board members at the recent Pennsylvania Corn and Soybean Conference.

Elected to the board for a three-year term in the producer category were Chris Kimmel, Armstrong County; Jeffrey Werner, Lebanon County; and D. Richard Snyder, Lycoming County.

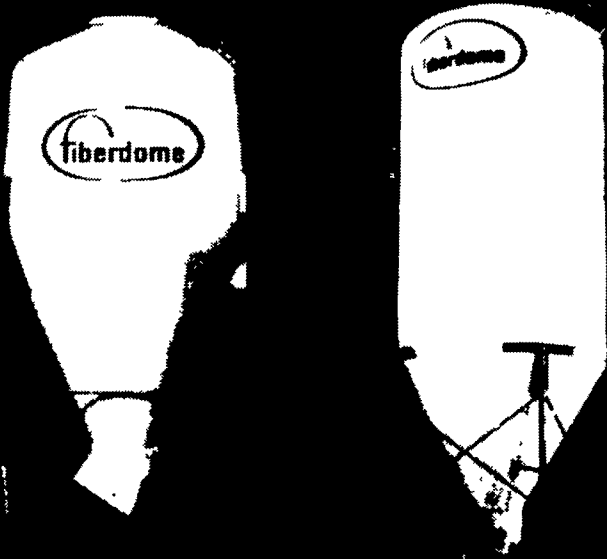
The industry representative elected to the board was Mike Kuhns of Lewisburg. Elected to the board for the education category was Thomas Murphy of Trout Run, Lycoming County. Elections were conducted for the first time at the annual meeting this year.



Why settle for 2nd best - when Fiberdome now manufactures the most advanced fiberglass bulk bin available!

- Eliminates bridging, won't rust or corrode
- Cuts heat buildup and condensation
- Feed stays fresh in any weather
- Precision engineered for long, long life
- Unique 5-year warranty
- Adaptable to any auger or feeding system

Capacities from 2.5 ton to 30 ton
(Tonnage based upon 40 lb density) Industrial Bins Available



(2' - 10' Ton)

(11-30 Ton)

Write for a full color brochure and a free sample of fiberglass - The modern material used for high-performing bins

...made to last
Contact your nearest dealer.



PO Box 11 • Lake Mills, WI 53551
(414) 648-8376

McMILLEN BROTHERS
Loydsville, PA
717-789-3961

SOLLENBERGER SILO
Chambersburg, PA
717-264-9588

SOMERSET BARN EQUIPMENT
Somerset, PA
814-445-5555

CEDAR CREST EQUIP.
Lebanon, PA
717-270-6600

300 gallon SINGLE AXLE HCM SERIES SPRAYERS

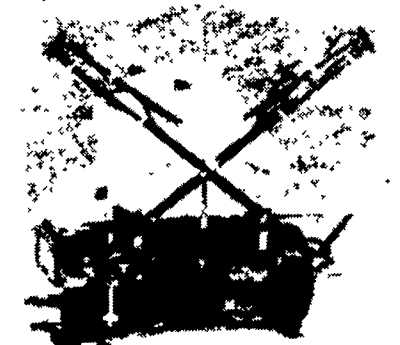
from Demco



Duty-Bound Sprayers

- 300 gallon elliptical polyethylene tank with deep sump for complete chemical removal.
- Jet agitation for thorough mixing and excellent chemical suspension.
- 10" fillwell with no splash cover.
- Adjustable wheel spacings for row crop applications
- Single axle trailer with 27" ground clearance, three ton hub and spindles and 15"x8" wheels.
- Large front mounted step, platform, and safety rail for easy filling.
- Three section boom control.
- 2 1/2 gal clean water tank for safety.
- Available with 21' and 28' Truss-T-Boom with 1/2" plumbing and conventional nozzles
- Available with 28', 30', 40', and 45' heavy duty truss booms with boom skids, 3/4" boom plumbing, and diaphragm check nozzles

- **DBFT** Flotation boom mount is standard on truss booms.
- **Pump Packages**
- Demco single piston pump with electric shut-off.
- Hypro belt driven centrifugal pump
- Hypro PTO driven roller pump
- Ace hydraulic driven centrifugal pump.



Truss-T boom folded for transport.

Wholesale Distributor
HAMILTON EQUIPMENT, Inc.
567 South Reading Road, Ephrata, Pa. 17522
717-733-7951

AUTHORIZED DEALERS

MARYLAND	
Whiteford - Deer Creek Equipment.....	410-452-5252
PENNSYLVANIA	
Altoona - Hines Equipment.....	814-742-8171
Carlisle - Gutshall's, Inc.	717-249-2313
Cresson - Hines Equipment.....	814-886-4183
Easton - Forks Equipment.....	610-252-8828
Fairmount City - Miller's Equipment.....	814-764-5159
Honesdale - Marshall Machinery.....	570-729-7117
Honeybrook - Dependable Motor Co.....	610-273-3131
Johnstown - Hines Equipment.....	814-262-0137
Lebanon - Umberger's of Fontana.....	717-867-5161
Lititz - Binkley & Hurst Bros.....	717-626-4705
Lynnport - Kermit K. Kistler, Inc.....	610-298-2011
Marion Center - Allegheny Farm Service.....	724-397-2660
Oley - Pikeville Equipment.....	610-987-6277
Oxford - Deer Creek Equipment.....	610-932-8858
Turbotville - Ag Resources.....	570-649-5161
Washington - Bull International.....	724-222-0450
Williamsburg - Longnecker's, Inc.....	814-793-3731