



April Is Auctioneers' Month

OVERLAND PARK, Kan.—The cry of "sold!" will echo throughout the month of April as auctioneers across the land celebrate National Auctioneers Month.

Sponsored by the 6,000 members of the National Auctioneers Association (NAA), the 2000 celebration honors both NAA members' dedication to the youngsters of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the value of the auction method of marketing to the free enterprise system.

This year's theme, "Auction—Voice of the Market," pays tribute to the efficiency of the auction method in dispersing all types of property. Because auctions eliminate lengthy turn-around times for sellers and buyers are able to pay the price they want in a spirit of competition with others, more and more people are realizing auctions are a selling method of first resort.

"It's a great time to be involved in the auction industry," said John Roebuck, CAI, AARE, NAA president. "The

knowledge that auctions are the best way to sell anything continues to grow and April is a great time for us to convince others to jump on the bandwagon."

The celebration also honors the willingness of NAA members to share their success with others. Since 1995, NAA members have raised more than \$1.3 million for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Many auctioneers conduct fundraising activities during the month of April to assist the hospital in its mission of treating sick children and researching a cure for cancer and other catastrophic childhood illnesses. Auctioneers have pledged to raise \$2 million for the hospital, which treats children regardless of their parents' ability to pay.

Efforts on behalf of the hospital earned the NAA election to the Association Advance America Honor Roll, sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives. The award recognizes those programs that make a quiet, but powerful impact, on American Society.

Soil Preparation Device Is Versatile

JOHNSTOWN (Cambria Co.)—Rockaway removes rocks and debris as it tills and fluffs soil to prepare for seeding or sodding. Dirt and rocks are processed together by a durable rotor equipped with carbide-tipped mining teeth. The teeth are spiral-mounted to pull material toward the center.

Dirt clumps are broken up, leaving only rocks and debris in the loader bucket. Fine dirt for seeding passes through the rotor and out through the Rockaway screen.

Designed and built by a land replacer frustrated by the cost of replacing chains and slats, Rockaway is a very low maintenance—just two greaseable bearings and one roller chain. The sturdy rotor does all the work and provides years of productive service. Rockaway is a quality soil preparation device that is reasonably priced, productive, low maintenance and durable, and adaptable.

Rockaway is not a self-



The Rockaway removes rocks and debris as it tills and fluffs soil to prepare for seeding or sodding.

contained attachment. It pins onto customers' existing utility, high-capacity, or low-profile skid-steer buckets. It is easy to install and easy to remove—just two pins and two hoses. The same Rockaway can be used on several different buckets.

There are three models for three bucket-width ranges. The 67-inch Rockaway fits 60 to 66.5-inch buckets. The 69-inch version is for 62 to 68.5-inch buckets. The largest version is 74 inches wide and fits 68 to 73.5-inch buckets.

AgChoice Hosts Ag Forum

LEWISBURG (Union Co.)—AgChoice Farm Credit brought two nationally known agricultural experts to a 10th Annual Ag Outlook Forum here at the Best Western Country Cupboard.

The theme of this year's forum was "Agriculture 2000: Planning for Success in the New Millennium."

Lou Moore, professor of agricultural economics at Pennsylvania State University, led the forum with predictions on the commodity trends and prices for this year. Dr. David M. Kohl,

professor of agricultural economics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, discussed farming practices and management issues in the 21st century.

Explaining the current state of agriculture, Kohl said America generates half the world's agricultural product. Kohl's presentation was highlighted by what he called his "big picture planning formula." The formula says that exports, weather, government policy, and interest rates all add up to determine a farmer's profits.

Stine Varieties Prominent In Soybean Yield Contest



NEW COLUMBIA (Union Co.) — Stine Keystone Group seeds resulted in six of the top 14 places in the recent Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest.

Joe Anchor, representing Stine, placed third in the Over-70 Bushel Club. Anchor farms 800 acres in Union County as a member of the Keystone Group, White Deer. Another Keystone Group member and Stine grower, Carl Schmidt, farms 250 acres of soybeans in Lycoming County.

Using a Stine bean, Anchor realized yields of 71.3 bushels per acre last year. The seed was a conventional 3398-8. Anchor attributed the yields to good seed selection and good overall agronomic practices, including pH, soil testing, and timeliness, the "fundamentals of a good crop," he said.

Keystone Group is a marketing arm of the Stine Seed Company, Adel, Iowa. Keystone Group markets seeds to central and eastern Pennsylvania.

In photo, at right, is Joe Anchor and at left, Carl Schmidt.

Silage Baler Produces Bales In Variety of Crops

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.)—New Holland's Model 658 All-Purpose Silage Special round baler produces dense, uniform, well-shaped bales in a wide variety of crops, from dry hay and corn stalks to silage.

This baler is designed for high-capacity baling, and makes bales that are 4-feet wide and up to 6-feet in diameter (5-feet in diameter in silage), weighing up to 2,000 pounds. With this baler, the operator can produce high-volume hay and straw bales for shipping as well as dense, square-shouldered silage bales perfect for wrapping.

Endless belts and a dual-cam pickup make this a durable baler that's well-suited for high-capacity baling. A heavy-duty

pickup frame provides longer life in heavy crops.

The Model 658 All-Purpose Silage Special round baler features 20,000 pounds tensile-strength endless belts. Endless belts, which are stronger and last longer than laced belts, are covered by New Holland's Bonded Protection program for three years or 15,000 bales.

The Model 658 All-Purpose Silage Special round baler is equipped with a new tube-type bale kicker with compression springs to move the bale away from the tailgate and hold the bale so the tailgate can close. The tailgate can be closed without pulling forward, saving the operator time with every bale.

The All-Purpose Silage Special version of the popular

Model 658 is electronically-controlled by the Bale Command Plus™ system which allows the operator to switch from net to twine at the touch of a button. The Bale Command Plus system allows the operator to bale 6-foot tall dry hay or straw bales then move directly into baling silage bales without leaving the tractor seat. Bale Command Plus features a surface-mounted audible alarm that can be removed for easy servicing, plus heavy-duty sealing gaskets to keep dust and moisture out of the controls.

For more information, contact your local New Holland dealer or visit the New Holland Web site at www.newholland.com/na.

No-Risk No-Till Challenge

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—April 1 is the deadline for farmers to sign up for an innovative program that guarantees net income on no-till soybeans and strip-till corn.

The program is called the No-Risk No-Till Systems Challenge. It is sponsored by Monsanto and is targeted to farmers in select geographies who are not currently practicing no-till or strip-till.

Under the program, Monsanto guarantees equal or better net income to qualifying farmers on no-till Roundup Ready® soybeans and strip-tilled Roundup Ready corn, compared to crops from conventional programs. The program is limited to 80 acres per crop, with a minimum of 20 acres.

"University and Monsanto research shows that strip-till and

no-till can reduce input costs, increase net income and provide other benefits compared to conventional tillage practices," said Jim Bowman, Monsanto market manager. "This program will make it possible for farmers to gain experience with these systems while limiting the financial risk."

To participate in the program, qualifying farmers must sign up by April 1, indicating the number of acres they will enroll and agreeing to use approved practices.

Participants must plant comparison plots of equal size using conventional tillage, conventional weed control, and conventional seed programs beside their no-till or strip-till plot. Monsanto-branded technologies must be used on no-till and strip-till plots.

The program is available across the Midwest, East and Plains.

Participants have until Dec. 1, 2000 to submit net income claims under the program. Claims will be paid within 30 days of submission.

For more details, complete eligibility requirements and program rules, contact your Monsanto representative or your agricultural retailer.

