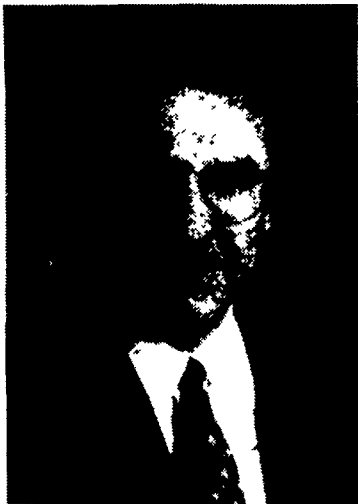


Kimmel Joins Corporate Office As Senior V.P.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Phil Kimmel has been named senior vice president business development for Farm Credit Services, a \$5 billion financial services cooperative headquartered in Louisville, Ky.

He will lead a new division which includes the finance, marketing, agribusiness, and leasing functions. This team will work together to pursue growth opportunities in all market segments taking advantage of improved pricing and capital positions.

Kimmel has more than 25 years experience in Farm Credit, including serving the last eight year as president of Keystone Farm Credit, a \$350 million association serving the southeastern part of Pennsylvania. He also worked for nine years at the Louisville office.



Phil Kimmel

He is a graduate of Penn State with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and rural sociology.

Forage Harvester Available With Kernel Processor

BOISBRIAND, Quebec, Canada — Make your forage work harder for your dairy and beef herds with a harvester that cracks the kernels while harvesting.

Dion Machineries has announced the release of their latest forage harvester, the Dion 1224Xc. This latest harvester is just one example of the high quality products offered by the short liner.

The Canadian based manufacturer has been producing high quality forage equipment since 1920. The Dion 1224Xc is the latest harvester to impact the market. The unit is available with the "Corn Cracker" kernel processor which Dion says research has shown that processed corn silage increases milk production between 2 to 3 pounds per day. Other research has shown increased production of up to 6 pounds per day. Rate of gain for beef herds can also be increased with processed corn kernels.

The forage harvester has a straight through design which improves harvesting capacity while slashing energy consumption. All crop entering the harvester is cut, processed, and blown in a direct line. The unit has an intake width of 24 inches,



Dion 1224Xc harvester is available with the "Corn Cracker" kernel processor. Dion says research has shown that processed corn silage increases milk production between 2 to 3 pounds per day.

which is the same width carried right through the 12-knife cutter head and four-paddle blower.

Dion offers two model harvesters. The first comes as a 150-300 hp model with a maximum volume capacity of 25,469 cubic feet per hour at a 3/8-inch cut, making it the largest capacity pull type harvester on the market. The second comes as a 90-150 hp model with a maximum volume capacity of 20,732 cubic feet per hour at a 3/8-inch cut. Both units may be equipped with an 84-inch wide windrow attachment and your choice of a two- or three-row corn attachment.

Rovendale Ag And Barn Equipment Honored

BRODHEAD, Wis.—Jerry Smith and Steve Pesik, Knight Manufacturing Corp., awarded a Dealer Sales Plaque for outstanding sales efforts in 1999 to Rovendale Ag and Barn Equip-

ment of Watsonstown, Pa.

This award was presented during the recent Knight sales and service meeting in Chambersburg, Pa.

Knight, with manufacturing facilities in Brodhead and Greeley, Colo., is a leading manufacturer of 3000 Series Reel Auggie TMR mixers, 4000 Series Botec TMR mixers, 8000 Series Pro Twin Slinger side-discharge spreaders, and 1000 and 1100 Series box spreaders for both agricultural and commercial/industrial use.

I SUPPORT



Dealer Among First To Offer New Self-Propelled Field Sprayer

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — Messick Farm Equipment, Inc. Elizabethtown, is among the first dealerships in North America to offer a new product for cash grain producers, New Holland's SF550 self-propelled field sprayer.

The new SF550 self-propelled field sprayer is designed and built by Ag-Chem Equipment Co., Inc. It is marketed through New Holland's global distribution network as part of a joint venture agreement between the two companies, and is the first product offering of the joint venture.

The SF550 sprayer is designed for custom applicators and large farming operators.

"With the introduction of new plant varieties, spraying is now one of the most critical operations on the farm, alongside seeding and harvesting," said New Holland product marketing manager Greg Emmanuel. "Some producers cover their



New Holland's SF550 self-propelled field sprayer is designed for custom applicators and large farming operators. The SF550's rugged "C"-channel frame flexes to maintain wheel-to-ground contact in all ground conditions, especially when working on uneven terrain.

fields as many as six times during the season, so dependable, cost-effective spraying equipment is a necessity for efficient operation."

The SF550's rugged "C"-

channel frame flexes to maintain wheel-to-ground contact in all ground conditions, especially when working on uneven terrain. Power transfer and traction are smooth and steady with full-time four-wheel hydrostatic drive. It maintains all four wheels on the ground for maximum traction, stability and performance, and offers a smoother ride and longer machine life.

The three-range hydrostatic transmission allows travel speeds of 11 mph to 26 mph. Hydrostatic dynamic braking is standard. A 70-gallon fuel tank provides enough fuel to work a full day, so the operator can spend more time spraying and less time refueling.

Variable-rate leaf-spring suspension allows the boom to remain stable, regardless of load. It also provides consistent application rates and reduced maintenance costs and reduces operator fatigue to allow for longer operating hours in a day.

Agreement Reached For Required Case IH Divestiture

RACINE, Wis.—CNH Global N.V. announced that an agreement has been reached for the sale of its partnership interest in Hay and Forage Industries (HFI) to AGCO Corporation, subject to approval of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The sale was agreed to under terms set by the Department of Justice for approval of the business merger of Case Corporation and New Holland to form CNH in November 1999. It will give AGCO sole ownership of HFI. Case IH and AGCO have been joint venture partners in HFI since 1991.

"We have taken actions to ensure an uninterrupted supply of equipment and parts through our dealer network," said Jim Irwin, vice president of the Case IH North American agricultural business.

Under the agreement, Case IH-branded hay and forage products will be supplied through the HFI plant to the Case IH distribution network

until March 2001. Case IH dealers will also have a steady supply of parts for Case IH products produced at the HFI plant through a 10-year renewable agreement.

A separate Case IH line of hay and forage products is in development to replace the HFI line. The new line will be available in the fourth quarter of 2001, ensuring an uninterrupted product supply.

"Our dealers and hay and forage customers can rely on Case IH to provide superior products and services, now and in the future," said Irwin. "These actions demonstrate our commitment to the hay and forage industry."

Full terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

CNH is successfully working toward complying with all regulatory divestiture requirements in North America and Europe. The company recently reached an agreement with the A.R.G.O. Group in Italy for the sale of the

New Holland facility in Brezanze, Italy. The agreement is pending approval of the European Commission.

In February, CNH completed the divestiture of the Austrian commercial distribution rights of two of its compact tractor models to Lindner Traktorenwerk GesmbH, an Austrian agricultural machinery maker. CNH will continue to produce the Steyr model M-948 and M-958 and Case IH models CS 48/58 tractors at its Case IH Steyr plant in St. Valentin, Austria. Under terms of the divestiture agreement, the St. Valentin plant will supply these tractors to Lindner, which as agreed to sell these tractors to Austrian Case IH and Steyr dealer network under their respective brands. Lindner also will sell the tractors under its own brand through its own dealers. The agreement was approved by the European Commission and already has been implemented.

Corn Checkoff Pays Off With Plastics Plant

BLAIR, Neb. — "Corn checkoff-funded research yields results for farmers if you have a vision, work with industry, and set priorities," said Lee Klein, National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) president-elect and a farmer from Battle Creek, Neb.

Klein has proof. Today, he and other NCGA leaders participated in the groundbreaking ceremony at Blair, Neb., where Cargill Dow is building the first world-scale manufacturing facility to make plastics and natural-synthetic fibers from corn.

"Cargill Dow's action culminates research and market development on polylactic acid (PLA), and NCGA members and all corn growers who pay the checkoff can take pride that their dollars funded the research that has led to this new facility," Klein said.

Expected to be on-line by late 2001, the new facility will use 40,000 bushels of corn per day for an annual use of 14 million

bushels. The plant will turn corn into polymers, small chips or pellets of plastic-like material that manufacturers will then process into fabrics for clothing and plastics for cups, food containers, packaging, and home and office furnishings such as carpets. Cargill Dow emphasized that this is the first time a renewable resource, corn, "stands alone on price and performance."

Klein explained how the NCGA worked with Cargill Dow. "Since 1994, corn growers at the national and state-level organizations have made PLA applications research a top priority," he said. "Besides encouraging Cargill and helping the company seek funding through Department of Commerce grants, NCGA invested checkoff

dollars from farmers to fund basic research to get things going. And Cargill helped us evaluate research opportunities."

Klein said the combination of Cargill's expertise and Dow's strong industry position will yield important new products for consumers and will open an important market for corn growers.

He further illustrated some of the longer-term opportunities for corn. "This opens the door to the possibility of other price-competitive consumer products made from renewable resources such as corn. The tremendous potential for consumer goods could eventually lead to demand for another 500 million bushels. That additional demand could add 25 cents to the price of a bushel of corn."

MILK AMERICA'S HEALTH KICK