

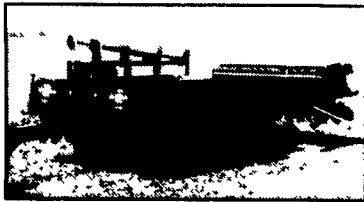
Grain Drill Unfolds To 40-Feet

SALINA, Kan. — The new 3S-4000 Min-Till grain drill from Great Plains is ideal for large-acreage farming.

The three-section drill unfolds to cover 40-feet in the field. Combined with its high capacity seed box, the 3S-4000 maximizes seeding productivity.

The drill features active hydraulic down-pressure on the openers for even penetration across the drill, even in uneven ground. One key feature exclusive to Great Plains is that hydraulic down pressure can be adjusted separately between the wing and center sections to account for compaction from tractor tires.

The wing sections flex 15 degrees down and 20 degrees up, allowing the drill to hug field contours. The proven straight-arm openers have offset double



The new 3S-4000 Min-Till grain drill from Great Plains is ideal for large-acreage farming.

disks and depth-controlling press wheels.

The drill folds hydraulically to a transport width of 15-feet.

The 3S-4000 is available in 6-, 7½- or 10-inch row spacing. Seed-level indicators, V-bottom box dividers, a wide walkboard, and safety lights are standard equipment. Markers, point-row clutches and flow monitor are available.

USDA Proposes To Discontinue Grading Of Imported Meat Products

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The USDA recently announced that a proposed rule to restrict the USDA grading of imported beef, lamb, veal, and calf products will be issued later this summer.

Kathleen A. Merrigan, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said, "The proposed rule will assure U.S. consumers that the USDA grade shield only appears on meat products from livestock processed in the United States."

In 1999, the National Cattleman's Beef Association and the American Sheep Industry Association requested that USDA

end the official grading of imported meat products. USDA solicited comments on the issue in an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) published earlier this year.

One hundred and four people and producer groups responded to the ANPR, with the majority of commentors requesting that USDA restrict its meat grading services to exclude imported meat products. They expressed the belief that applying the USDA grade shield to imported meat products contributes to consumer confusion regarding the origin of those products.

Deere Breaks Ground For New Division Headquarters

CARY, N.C. — In accordance with plans for expansion in the North Carolina's Triangle area, the John Deere Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division broke ground on its new headquarters in Cary, N.C.

The 156,000-square-foot, four-story building is expected to be the first of several buildings to be built on a 65-acre campus near the corner of Weston Parkway and Evans Road.

Director of Industrial Recruitment for the North Carolina Department of Commerce Doug Byrd, Cary Mayor Glen Lang and other local dignitaries joined John Jenkins, president of the John Deere Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division, in the ceremony.

"Today's groundbreaking marks another milestone in the growth of the Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equip-

ment Division and a continued commitment to our presence in North Carolina," said Jenkins. "Our division has aggressive growth goals over the next decade. We're excited to tackle these initiatives here in the Triangle area, where we've had success as an organization since 1988."

The expansion could include an additional 900 employees over the next decade, bringing total employment from more than 300 people to almost 1,300. The expansion will help the Division meet the goal of being a \$6 billion Division for Deere and Co. by 2006.

According to Gary Davis, Director of Business Process Excellence, the campus development is expected to include multiple phases of office building construction and the expansion of business functions, such as marketing and sales, supply management, information systems, finance, and business process excellence.

the Signature
FFA of Success

Justice Petitions Supreme Court To Hear USDA's Mushroom Case

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On behalf of the USDA, the Solicitor General of the U.S. Department of Justice petitioned the Supreme Court of the United States on Aug. 18 to hear a case concerning the constitutionality of a mushroom research and promotion program that the USDA oversees.

The Department of Justice filed the petition for a writ of certiorari to hear the case of *USDA v. United Foods* following the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals' March 23 decision in Cincinnati, Ohio, to deny a rehearing. This resulted from the court's ruling on Nov. 23, 1999, that the portion of the Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act which requires the payment of assessments for advertising and promotion violates the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

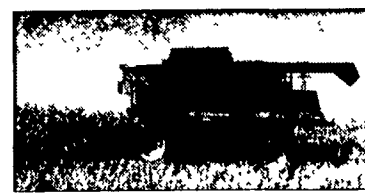
The decision of the appeals court reversed a July 1998 judgment by the U.S. District Court in Jackson, Tenn. The decision of this district court followed a June 1997 Supreme Court ruling (*Glickman v. Wileman Bros. & Elliott, Inc.*) regarding the constitutionality of compelled funding of generic advertising under two federal marketing orders for California tree fruit. In the *Wileman* case, the Supreme Court ruled that mandatory assessments for generic advertising did not violate the First Amendment because they did not restrain or compel any speech by particular industry members and did not advance any political or ideological views. The Sixth Circuit held that *Wileman* was not controlling since the tree fruit promotion statute was part of a broader industry regulatory

scheme, and the mushroom program was not.

In the petition filed with the U.S. Supreme Court on Aug. 18, the government argues that the appeals court erroneously applied the *Wileman* case, and that other decisions among various circuit courts in the nation conflict with the Sixth Circuit's position.

Research and promotion programs are intended to expand, maintain, and develop markets for individual agricultural commodities in the U.S. and abroad. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service oversees 14 of these industry self-help programs. They are requested and funded by the industry groups that they serve. These programs provide the means for industry to conduct product and market research, and they empower individuals to work together to address common marketing problems.

Rotary Combine Offers New Level Of Harvesting Performance



The Massey Ferguson MF 8780 XP Rotary Combine features a new electronically controlled 285 hp Cummins Quantum engine, and a patented rotary threshing system, proven in more than two decades of field use for faster, cleaner harvesting.

ATLANTA, Ga. — The new Massey Ferguson® MF8780 XP rotary combine uses revolutionary new Cummins® Quantum System power and a patented rotary threshing system, proven over two decades of field use, for faster, cleaner harvesting and on-the-go unloading without slowing down.

"The combination of a new electronically controlled 285 hp Cummins Quantum System engine working in tandem with Massey Ferguson's patented, field-proven rotary threshing system is producing unprecedented harvesting performance — even in highly adverse crop conditions," said Verlin Tinder, Massey Ferguson general marketing manager.

"The MF 8780 XP excels in operations that require large harvest capacity, superior grain quality, and low grain loss," said Tinder. "With its increased power, higher torque, constant speed rotor control, and faster harvesting in all crops, this is the ideal machine for both individual farms and large custom harvester."

The MF 8780 XP is powered by a new Cummins 285 hp

Quantum System engine with full-authority electronic controls that ensure higher torque, increased fuel economy, quieter operation, and longer maintenance intervals. The 24-valve cylinder head increases power and response across the entire power band.

Rated at 285 hp at 2200 rpm, a Power Bulge to 305 hp at 2000 rpm maintains combine performance in tough harvesting conditions and when unloading on-the-go.

The MF 8780 XP features load-sensing hydraulics, hydros-

tatic ground drive, four speed, constant-mesh transmission, and heavy-duty final drives. The exclusive, infinitely variable, hydrostatic rotor drive replaces complicated belt and gear box drives found on competitive combines, provides full-powered rotor reverse, and accurately monitors rotor load, making both experienced and inexperienced operators highly productive.

The large-capacity, 230-bushel grain tank features a fast filling clean grain auger, and can be unloaded in approximately two minutes on-the-go with electro-hydraulic control of turret unloader position and engagement.

A unique rotor feed system with an exclusive inlet beater, a wide 44-inch feeder elevator, and large 2,205-square inch concave threshing area are matched with a direct discharge rotor, and large chaffer and sieve to provide unequalled cleaning at maximum capacity levels. The exclusive direct crop discharge eliminates the need for a power-consuming beater, and the field-proven, long 140-inch rotor provides more complete threshing and separating.

MidAtlantic Farm Credit Granted Preferred Lender Status

other loans in their portfolio.

Walmsley congratulated J. Robert Frazee, MidAtlantic Farm Credit's CEO, for the lender's performance in making and servicing FSA farm ownership and operating loans. "By granting preferred lender status to MidAtlantic Farm Credit, we're expressing our confidence in their credit management system."

"Preferred lender" is the top status that a lender can hold in the FSA guaranteed loan program. Preferred lenders submit

only a one-page application and a narrative describing the loan's credit factors. Approval is automatic if FSA does not respond within 14 days of receiving a completed application.

To qualify for the PLP designation, a lender must have made at least 20 USDA guaranteed loans in the past five years and have a low historical loss rate. In addition, the lender must have a proven record of submitting sound loan proposals and a demonstrated ability to service guaranteed loans.

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