A LANCASTER FARMING EXCLUSIVE

The Official Publication For The PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOC.

SPECIAL SECTION IN **LANCASTER FARMING** OCTOBER

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DEADLINE FRIDAY, **OCTOBER 6, 2000**



Catastrophic Crop Insurance A Must For Bethlehem Grower 70 percent crop loss in the county "How could you not, especially the past year, when producers got less than half a

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
BETHLEHEM

(Northampton Co.) — Penn-sylvania Master Corn Growers Association (PMCGA) Vice President Guy Wagner knows how im-portant catastrophic insur-ance, or CAT, can be for

Because of last year's devastating drought, Wagner recalls that the corn on 40 acres was so worthless he simply disced it in. CAT insurance for

Wagner amounted to \$60 per crop.
"I always took it," he said during an interview late in December at his farm

Ever since Wagner pur-Ever since wagner purchased the farm business from his father, Walter, in 1990, he has bought crop insurance for his 880 acres of corn and 400 acres of soy-

beans, for a total of \$120.

As for CAT insurance, "most don't take it," said Guy. "They never thought the year could have been like this either You just never

CAT insurance pays off only a fraction of the crop

Many Factors Go The Way Of Five-Acre Winners

GAIL STROCK

Mifflin Co. Correspondent EMPORIUM (Cameron Co)-She says farming is ex-pensive, and would he like to try bowling instead? The humor in LuAnn

Reed's voice soon turns to pride when she talks about her husband, Jeff, farming part time on his family farm, and winning the 1999 Penn-sylvania 5-Acre Corn Club

Award in the hand-harvest class with 2043 bushels per

Jeff and LuAnn Reed both In their spare time, they farm about 45 acres of cropland on his home farm plus an addi-tional 60 acres on his father, Earl's, farm.

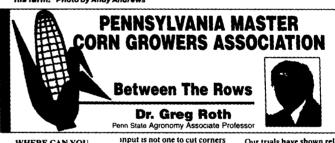
What pleases this Cameron County couple the most



The height of the corn on Earl Reed's farm on July 4, 1989, exceeded everyone's expectations. Shown here, left to right, are LuAnn, Jeff, and Earl Reed.



Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association (PMCGA) Vice President Guy Wagner knows how important catastrophic insurance, or CAT, can be for producers. CAT insurance for Wagner amounted to \$60 per . "I always took it," he said during an interview late in Decembe



WHERE CAN YOU CUT CORNERS ON CORN PRODUCTION?

After last year's dreadful year, many corn growers are asking where and how they can reduce input costs in corn

The key is to focus on those inputs that give us the most consistent responses to our investment. Let's review how each of several common corn inputs have produced a return on investment in our trials here at Penn State

One input you might think bout is seed. In our trials there is often a large variation in performance-about 30 to 40 bushels per acre. So this

input is not one to cut corners on Some, but not all, premium-priced hybrids are top yielders. Check out inde-pendent data to get some idea

Our trials have shown relatively low (3-4 bushel per acre) yield responses to the Bt gene itself under normal planting conditions, as have



Wednesday March 8 Field Crop IPM, W Insect and Disease Man-Ag Center, 9 a m -4 p m

chuylkill County Crops Clinic, Penn State Schuylkill Campus, Schuylkill

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