

# CORN BITS

## NCGA Supports Pilot Program On Wetlands

NCGA sent a letter to Sens. Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) and Tim Johnson (D-S.D.) Sept. 22 supporting a pilot program for the Prairie Pothole region that would allow small farmed wetlands to be enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) under the continuous sign-up.

These small farmed wetlands are areas typically adjacent to buffer strips, but yet have not been eligible for the continuous sign-up. This pilot program would make a "technical fix" to allow the enrollment of this land.

This program would be in place over the next two years and work within the existing CRP cap of 36.4 million acres.

NCGA believes that it is important to give growers the flexibility to participate in government conservation programs and this legislation would provide a much-needed option for growers in the prairie pothole region.

## NCGA Leaders Meet With Other Farm Group Heads

NCGA President Lynn Jensen and CEO Rick Tolman joined other farm group leaders in Washington Sept. 20 at an agricultural commodity roundtable meeting hosted by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

These periodic meetings are designed to give the heads of the nation's major agricultural organizations an opportunity to build relationships and share information on the major issues of the day.

Discussions at this week's meeting focused on international trade, agricultural research, environmental issues, and the 2002 Farm Bill.

Public Policy Team Takes Its Show To The Quad Cities Members of NCGA's Public Policy Action Team discussed the future of farm policy with grower leaders from Iowa and Illinois Sept. 14. Their meeting in Moline, Ill., was the fourth in a series of state visits that the action team has made as part of NCGA's Farm Bill "discov-

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Getty Petroleum Marketing, Inc. was recently honored by the nation's corn growers for using renewable, environmentally friendly ethanol in the gasoline it sells at about 1,300 stations in 12 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) President Lynn Jensen presented his organization's annual President's Award to Getty Chairman and CEO Leo Liebowitz during the Commodity Classic in Orlando.

"A satisfied customer is the best advertisement for ethanol. The fact that one of the nation's largest independent gasoline marketers is successfully blending it into all of their gasoline is a testa-

ment to ethanol's economic and environmental benefits," Jensen said.

Oxygenates such as ethanol or methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) are blended with gasoline to help it burn more cleanly and reduce air pollution. Petroleum-based MTBE has been the oxygenate of choice outside the Corn Belt. But it has recently been found polluting water supplies from Maine to California, raising widespread concern about its environment and health effects. "We're honoring Getty for proactively choosing the sensible alternative: clean-burning, corn-based ethanol," said Jensen. "This is certainly good for corn growers. But, more import-



# CORN TALK NEWS

PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOC., INC

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antly, it's good for consumers and good for the environment."

Getty has promoted its switch from MTBE to ethanol by hanging banners at its stations, distributing informational brochures to consumers, placing full-page ads in major newspapers, and including information on its web site (www.getty.com). Through these efforts, the company educates millions of consumers a month about ethanol's benefits.

"Getty's success with ethanol-blended gasoline provides a shining example to other refiners and blenders. Ethanol can and should be the oxygenate of choice in clean-burning gasoline nationwide," Jensen said.

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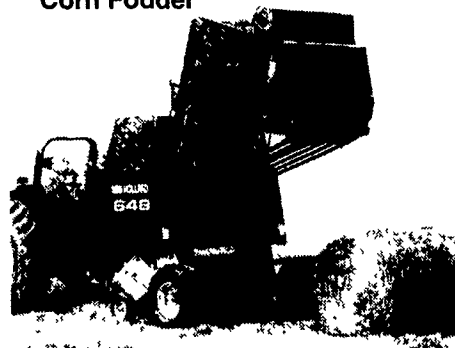


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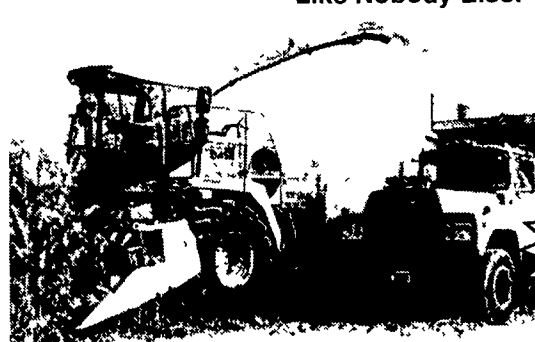


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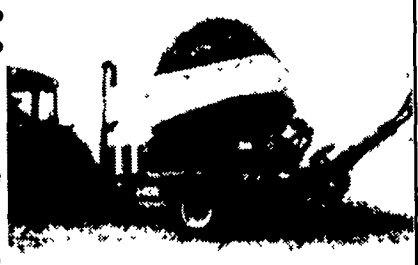
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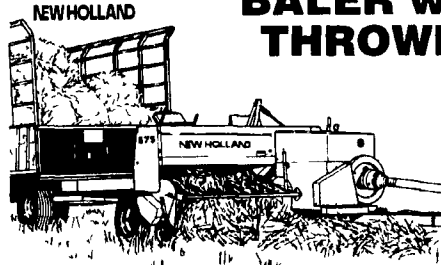
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