



WEEK OF MAY 29, 1988

STATION NOTES



Taylor, Harman, Weeden, Stasz Comprise Research Team

\$267,000 KODAK GRANT TO FUND SEED-PROTECTION EFFORT

A \$267,000 grant from Eastman Kodak Company will enable a team of Station scientists to conduct a three-year study on new methods to protect planted seeds and to enhance plant growth.

"The idea is to use the helpful elements of nature to combat nature's harmful

elements," says Gary Harman, who leads the project. "This substantial grant will help fund research into ways to improve beneficial fungi used in the process, and to develop a means of getting this 'bioprotectant' physically onto the seeds themselves." The project will span a wide geographic area, including field-trial

activities in Texas, Florida, Mississippi and Idaho as well as in New York.

The Station team includes Harman, co-leader Alan Taylor, Tom Stasz and Norm Weeden. Also providing input will be

(Continued inside.)

PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER OPEN HOUSE PROGRESSING WELL

Plans for the September 9-10 Open House at the Station are moving ahead well, according to Pat Krauss, chairman of the planning committee.

"Members of the planning committee have done an outstanding job with their colleagues in the various departments and units in outlining nearly 100 exhibits that should appeal to the general public," said Pat. "Most of the material for the brochure that will be given everyone who attends is in and ready for editing, personal letters are being sent to Superintendents of 26 school districts in the region encouraging them to allow science classes to attend, Assemblyman Frank Talomie is planning a Legislative Day on Friday, September 9, some exhibit material has already been submitted and completed, 2,500 invitations will be mailed to friends of the Station during the first week of August, and various farms that will be on the tour are being readied as is the main campus."

The Open House will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each of the two days. Dean Call will attend on Friday and speak to those

assembled early in the afternoon. Director Plane will talk to the group on Saturday. Station Club is in the process of working on a design for T-shirts and caps that will be sold during the Open House. Station Club will also sell food and beverages during the affair. Helping to distribute brochures and direct people to key spots around campus will be the clowns, Cricket and Spry. Two-dozen individuals from the retiree group have volunteered their services for the Open House and nearly 20 other individuals from the active faculty and staff will help with the field tours. Individuals who would like to volunteer to help with the tours are encouraged to contact Pat Krauss at x201.

Members of the planning committee are: Phil Forsline and Bob Becker, Horticultural Sciences; Bob Seem, Plant Pathology; Dave Soderlund, Entomology; Don Downing, Food Science and Technology; Sue Dwyer, Germplasm Resources Unit; Janet Knodel, IPM; John Williams, Communications Services; Dave Lasher, Buildings and Properties representing Station Club and Geneva Employee Council; and Pat Krauss, chairman, Administration.

OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Geneva Employee Council is now soliciting nominees for the first of its two semi-annual awards. The Outstanding Employee will be announced at the Station Club Picnic, July 15. Each employee should have received a nomination form last week. With just a little effort on your part, someone can be officially recognized for his/her outstanding efforts. Please return the form and any supporting materials by June 24, to Martin Goffinet (X392) or Ken Livermore (X235), Horticultural Sciences.

YEAR-END CLEARANCE SALE

The New York Fruit Testing Association is again offering discounted nursery stock to all Station employees. There are no prior phone orders. Stock can be selected and paid for at the Fruit Testing nursery cellar any day during the week of May 31 - June 3. This special sale is cash and carry. No replacements will be made.

All trees	\$5.00
Grapes.....	2.00
Blueberries	2.50
Raspberries	1.00

TENNIS LADDER

Week 3 Results

Petzoldt def. Rule; Lavin def. Roelofs; Gray def. Rule.

209	Joe Kovach	222	Rixana Petzoldt
240	Ed Lavin	246	Cathy Matteson
364	David Soderlund	345	Tim Dennehy
361	Wendell Roelofs	362	Jim Ottea
206	Curt Petzoldt	312	Tom Burr
374	George Abawi	392	Martin Goffinet
324	Donna Gray	239	Bruce Reisch
362	Walter Wolf	789-0020	Bob Parker
362	Geoffrey Rule	253	Joseph Gotham
297	Pim Larsson	264	Diana Barrett
[261	Charles Linn]	233	Jim Cummins
345	Chris Hoffman		

NOTE: Inactivity by players can negatively affect their position on the ladder.

SAFETY-WISE ADVICE

Wet cement can burn you. Many do-it-yourselfers mix cement at home to repair driveways or patch sidewalks. Do you realize that prolonged skin contact with wet cement can cause severe chemical burns? People have been known to suffer third-degree burns and need to have skin grafts. When water is added to cement, a highly alkaline chemical called calcium hydroxide is released. As the cement dries the caustic substance becomes inactive. Anyone using cement at home should wear protective clothing and avoid skin contact with wet cement. A safety tip from Cornell Life Safety Services.

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PEOPLE

Dr. George J. Hucker Dies at 94

Noted with deep regret is the passing of Dr. George J. Hucker, 94, who devoted 44 of his years in service to the people of New York at the Station. Dr. Hucker was born in Cascade, Iowa, seven years before this century began. He was a renowned bacteriologist whose more than 200 published works continue to be a source of reference for successors. His contribution to society, beyond an eminent professional career, is well known. He took a deep and abiding pride in the Geneva and Western New York community and served tirelessly in numerous civic and charitable capacities for decades.

He will be missed.

Who's New?

Electre Guillier (France) and Sibylle Krieger (West Germany) are working with Thomas Henick-Kling, Food Science.

Retirement Dinner

A dinner honoring Bea Stoyla, Food Science, is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28 at Club 86. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. Reservations can be made with Debby by June 17, X255.

Condolences

The Station extends its sympathies to George MacDonald, Horticultural Sciences, and his family on the recent death of his mother.

SEED RESEARCH GRANT

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visiting scientists Ta-Gi Min, Korea, Alex Sivan, Israel, and Lodovica Gullino of Italy.

The team already has improved the effectiveness of biologically derived seed treatments through utilization of a superior strain of the beneficial fungus *Trichoderma* achieved through protoplast fusion and other procedures. The fungus has been shown effective in protecting seedlings for such plants as sweet corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, snap beans, peas, wheat and cotton.

Not only are the seeds better protected than using traditional chemical methods, but the roots also showed an improved level of protection.

Harman says that in some limited-scale trials, plant yield was doubled.

Under the agreement Kodak, a company with extensive microbiological research capabilities of its own, receives worldwide marketing rights. Trial data could be ready for submission to the EPA by as early as 1991.



COMSTOCK VISITORS BRIEFED

Drizzling rain, but warm hospitality, greeted about 60 members of Comstock Foods during a visit to the Station last week. Two stops were: Germplasm Resources (top photo), where Steve Kresovich describes the activities of his unit. At right, Terrence Robinson, Horticultural Sciences, takes a group through one of the Station's orchards.



AGRINOTES

Bath, Himrod Have "Grandchild"

A seedless red table grape recently developed by the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station at Fayetteville can trace its roots back to the Geneva area.

"Saturn," the fourth in a series of Arkansas grapes named for planets, is the result of a cross between "Dunstan 210" and "NY 45791," the latter a cross between the cultivars "Bath" and "Himrod." The new grape is described in the *Arkansas Farm Bureau Journal* as "bright red in color, crisp and firm with a tendency to overbear, requiring thinning."

"Right-to-Know" Update

Growers must be in compliance with the new Hazard Communication Standard (right-to-know law) this week. According to the *NYS Vegetable Growers Bulletin*, it will cost U.S. employers \$1.8 billion to label containers, provide safety

data and train employees during the new regulation's first year.

Unreal Spuds Introduced

A new kind of "baked potato" developed by Canadian food technologists has a man-made skin that's stuffed with mashed potatoes and frozen. The skin-- a product of wheat bran, animal protein and gelling agents-- has no imperfections that have to be cut away. It's viewed as a possible alternative to French fries as a fast food. Source: *The Furrow Magazine*.

Corn-sumer Preferences

According to *The New Jersey Grower*, a survey of 3,000 NJ consumers buying corn at retail markets placed freshness as their number one priority in considering their purchase. Sweetness ranked number two, with lack of defects a distant third. The lowest factors in the survey proved to be size, price and nutritional value.



SEMINARS

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Thursday, June 2
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Place: Food Science Conference Room
Speaker: Pom Sajjaanantakul
Subject: A study on heat degradation of carrot protein:
 Effect of methyl ester content

Date: Thursday, June 2
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Place: Food Science Conference Room
Speaker: Olga Padilla
Subject: A comparison of apple juice prepared using
 ultrafiltration membranes with various
 molecular weight cut-offs

CLASSIFIEDS

COTTAGE FOR RENT: Keuka lakefront near Penn Yan. Whistle clean. Two bedrooms, rowboat. Bring own linens. Available weekends in June or weeks of 7/30 - 8/6 and 8/27 - 9/3. Call extension 252 or 536-3573 evenings.

DOG SITTING-FREE: If you can't take your dog with you on your vacation, let him come camping with me. Just send along some dog food. Call Tom at 472-5788 after 5:00 p.m. or write Box 75, Hector, NY 14861.

WANTED: Furnished apartment close to Station needed for visiting scientist for one year beginning July 5, 1988. Contact Anwar Khan, X247.