

Varied Topics

From Fertility To Soil Herbicides, Belleville Field Day Covers It

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Six different speakers discussed various aspects of crop production at the Belleville Field Day, according to Ron Krausz, manager of the Belleville Research Center. Topics included the new fertilizer that is used to stabilize nitrogen in the soil, marketing issues with Darrel Good of the University of Illinois, and diseases, including Asian rust, featured by Dr. Jason Bond of SIU-Carbondale.

Krausz himself focused on residual herbicide in soybeans, particularly showing growers there is a benefit to using soil herbicides.

"Using more soil herbicides can prevent the spread of resistant weeds and the selection of resistant weeds to Glyphosate," he said. "We

women interact at farmer field days, mixed with men versus not mixed with men," he explained. "Their research has shown that if women are amongst a group of men at a farm field day they tend to ask less questions than if it is a women's tour. So we have offered for the first time an all women's tour of each individual talk to see what kind of questions they might have. It will also further the research to see if there is an effect on women's questions as far as having men around or not having men around during the talks."

A continental lunch at noon was served free to all who attended.

This was the 41st year for the annual farmer's field day. The farm has been SIU's research farm since 1964. Krausz has been at the center approximately 24 years.

There have been many changes in those 24



Photo by John LaRose, Jr.

want to keep the technology viable so it won't become worthless in 10 years or so."

Weed science problems in the United States and weed control problems in soybeans and in corn were also on the agenda. Ethanol and the future of ethanol production in this country also received attention.

"That includes how it relates to the farmers supplying corn to meet that demand for ethanol," Krausz said.

A turf expert, Dr. Ken Diesburg, fielded questions from the audience and Annie's Project by Ruth Hambleton and Lynn Hambleton was also presented.

"Annie's Project studies the effects when

Gathered for a little discussion on farm topics are, from left, Leon Stites, Brad Anglin, farmer, Champaign, Ill., Ron Krausz, manager of the Belleville Research Center; Kit Woadal of Raisens Incorporated out of Liberty, Mo., and Mike Jennings, farmer.

years.

"With the genetically modified crops, the research has changed from herbicide discovery to more seed type research," he explained. "Research is conducted on herbicides, but the real focus is actually genetics more so than herbicide discovery." △