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NEBRASKA 4/3/3.4: 737

S JUNE 1950

E.C. 737b

GRAIN DRYING NEBRASKA OUTSTATE DEMONSTRATIONS 1949 Summary

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Small grain and corn drying demonstrations using unheated forced air were carried on during 1949 on several farms in Nebraska. These demonstrations and the resulting data were made possible through the cooperation of farmers, county agents, local power suppliers, blower distribution and grain bin manufacturers. For more detailed information on grain drying see Extension Circular 736, "Grain Drying with Forced Air Circulation".

Observations of the grain drying demonstrations indicate the following:

1. For best results, blowers should be capable of delivering 5 to 10 c.f.m. per bushel against a static pressure of approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of water for shelled corn and 3 inches for wheat. Maximum grain depths should be held to approximately 6 feet.
2. A lateral duct air distribution system seems fully as satisfactory as the raised perforated floor. The duct system is lower in first cost, more easily installed, and is readily removed for thorough cleaning of the bin.
3. Electricity has a number of advantages as a power source. An electric motor requires little attention, is easily started, and in many areas has a lower operating cost than other power units.
4. Drying of wheat and oats can be satisfactorily accomplished with unheated air if the conditions stated in paragraph 1 are met.
5. Good results can also be obtained in drying corn. Ear corn was dried satisfactorily. A greater air volume is more easily forced through ear corn, but because of the additional moisture in the cob, drying time may be longer than for shelled corn. Some difficulty was encountered with unclean corn and with shelled corn containing cracked kernels. Serious kernel damage occurred only when a blower-type elevator was used.

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, E. W. Janike, Acting Associate Director, Lincoln.

E.C. 737b

SUMMARY OF 1949 OUTSTATE

COMPILED BY EXTENSION AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING IN COO

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| FARM COOPERATER | C.STARR ¹ | E. BLOCK | E. LINN ¹ | S. PINNEO |
| COUNTY | ADAMS | CHEYENNE | PHELPS | BUTLER |
| KIND OF GRAIN | OATS | WHEAT | WHEAT | EAR CORN |
| BIN—SIZE & TYPE | 10' x 12' WOOD | 12' x 16' WOOD | 18' DIAM. STEEL | 10' x 36' CRIB |
| DUCT SYSTEM | PERFORATED ⁵ FLOOR | WOOD LATERAL | METAL LATERAL ⁶ | 3.5 SQ. FT. SINGLE DUCT |
| BLOWER—SIZE & TYPE | 24 IN. (18°) ⁷ PROPELLER | 27 IN. (18°) ⁷ PROPELLER | 18 IN. ⁸ VANEAXIAL | 36 IN. (14°) PROPELLER |
| POWER—SIZE & KIND | 5 H.P. ELEC. | 4 CYL. GAS | 5 H.P. ELEC. | 5 H.P. ELEC. |
| GRAIN DEPTH—FEET | 6 | 8 | 6.5 | 12 |
| EST. BU. OF GRAIN | 600 | 1200 | 1200 | 1500 |
| S.P.—INCHES OF WATER (STATIC PRESSURE) | 2.1 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 1.1 |
| AIR FLOW C.F.M. / BU. * | 6.8 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 10.6 |
| % MOISTURE—INITIAL AVE. | 22.0 | 17.0 | 16.5 | 25.0 |
| % MOISTURE—FINAL AVE. | 11.5 | 11.8 | 11.9 | 17.0 |
| STARTED DRYING | JULY 14 | JULY 16 | JULY 9 | OCT. 17 |
| STOPPED DRYING | JULY 22 | OCT. 13 | AUG. 11 | DEC. 3 |
| OPERATING TIME—HOURS | 71.5 | 14.4 | 14.8 | 302.5 |
| POWER USED—KWH | 222 | — | 444 | 1551 |
| OPERATING COST CENTS PER BU.—APPROX. | 0.5 | — | 0.5 | 1.5 |

* AIR FLOW FIGURES FROM BLOWER MFR. DATA FOR OBSERVED S.

1 IN COOPERATION WITH SOUTHERN NEBRASKA R.P.P. DISTRICT

2 IN COOPERATION WITH BUTLER COUNTY R.P.P. DISTRICT

3 IN COOPERATION WITH NORRIS R.P.P. DISTRICT

4 IN COOPERATION WITH OMAHA P.P. DISTRICT

RAIN DRYING DEMONSTRATIONS

OPERATION WITH AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| E. LINNER ¹ | J. BIRKEL ² | J. BIRKEL ² | H. HEEREN ³ | W. THORSON ⁴ | H. EHLERS ³ |
| PHELPS | BUTLER | BUTLER | SALINE | SAUNDERS | LANCASTER |
| SH. CORN | SH. CORN | SH. CORN | SH. CORN | SH. CORN | SH. CORN |
| 9.5' DIAM. STEEL | 11' x 11' WOOD | 11' x 11' WOOD | 14' DIAM. STEEL | 16' x 24' WOOD | 9' x 9' CLAY TILE |
| WOOD LATERAL | WOOD LATERAL | WOOD LATERAL | WOOD LATERAL | WOOD LATERAL | PERFORATED FLOOR |
| 18 IN. VANE AXIAL ⁸ | 36 IN. (14°) PROPELLER | 36 IN. (14°) PROPELLER | 36 IN. (18°) PROPELLER | 36 IN. (14°) PROPELLER | 18 IN. CENTRIFUGAL ⁹ |
| 5 H. P. ELEC. | 5 H. P. ELEC. | 5 H. P. ELEC. | 5 H. P. ELEC. | 5 H. P. ELEC. | 3 H. P. ELEC. |
| 6 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 6 |
| 340 | 680 | 1000 | 1015 | 3000 | 380 |
| 3.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.9 |
| 7.0 | 15.0 | 6.1 | UNKNOWN | 3.8 | 10.9 |
| 27.8 | 19.6 | 19.9 | 26.0 | 21.8 | 17.9 |
| 13.0 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 15.5 | 11.5 | 13.7 |
| OCT. 21 | OCT. 15 | NOV. 11 | OCT. 12 | OCT. 21 | NOV. 22 |
| NOV. 7 | NOV. 7 | DEC. 7 | NOV. 20 | DEC. 14 | DEC. 7 |
| 169.0 | 174.3 | 183.5 | 460.0 | 470.0 | 84.0 |
| 533 | 829 | 667 | 1830 | 2134 | 223 |
| 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 2.7 | 1.0 | 0.7 |

5 FURNISHED BY HASTINGS EQUITY GRAIN BIN CO.

6 FURNISHED BY EATON METAL PRODUCTS CORP.

7 FURNISHED BY HABCO MANUFACTURING CO.

8 FURNISHED BY BUFFALO FORGE CO.

9 FURNISHED BY ROBINSON VENTILATING CO.

