

JUL
30
1992



THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

125th Year, No. 32 Carlisle, KY 40311-0272 Thursday, July 30, 1992 50 cents per copy

Bus recall could affect Nicholas Co.

By Josh Shephard
of the Courier-Journal

CARLISLE — Nicholas County School Superintendent Robert Gilbert, Friday, said the possible recall of some 4,500 Navistar International school buses in Kentucky may not affect the Nicholas County bus fleet.

Last Wednesday, July 22, Navistar International, said to be the largest manufacturer of school bus chassis in the United States, announced the corporation might recall several thousand school buses due to their test findings that reveal a defect in the bus fuel tank.

According to a statement by the Kentucky Department of Education, the recall would affect about 4,500 buses in school systems across the state.

The defect, according to the report, was discovered during testing of International made Chassis equipped with a 35-gallon fuel tank. During tests that simulated a car crashing 'at 30 mph into the right side of a stationary bus, the fuel tank protrusion, cage collapsed, puncturing the bus' fuel tank.

No International bus in the Nicholas County fleet, Gilbert said, contains a 35-gallon tank. All diesel buses at Nicholas County, he said, are 60 to 65-gallon tanks.

According to Nicholas County bus mechanic Richard Gardner, Nicholas County had received word of the possibility of a bus recall since late last spring. He said he has been awaiting notice from the state on whether any of the Nicholas School bus fleet would be included in the recall.

Superintendent Gilbert said Nicholas County bus was completely destroyed last April when fire broke out beneath its hood near the Simpsonville Rest Area on Interstate 64. Although students were evacuated safely, the bus was fully engulfed by flames before fire fighters could arrive. That bus, however, was a Ford F700, Gilbert said, and was a gasoline powered vehicle.

The Ford Motor Company, As Dorothy Robertson, coordinator and worker for the Labor Hotline program in Bath County, explained, the hotline is a way farmers and laborers can communicate more conveniently and efficiently.

"The problem with farm labor, partially, is that many workers are not available on a full time basis. There are several who are willing to

work weekends and after their regular jobs to earn a little more money, but they don't know who may need help," Robertson said.

The "Hotline" project changes that situation, she said.

The project was tested last year in Harrison County and the results of this project, Robertson said, were promising.

According to the pilot project records, the hotline program was able to match up 40 farmers with laborers in the first week alone. Approximately 295 acres of tobacco were housed in that week due to the project's help, Robertson said.

Continued on Page 2

Look Inside Special 1992 Nicholas County Fair Program

By Josh Shephard
of the Courier-Journal

CARLISLE — A *Ridomil* resistant strain of the blue mold fungus has been confirmed present in tobacco fields in Western Kentucky.

The blue mold fungus, it says, has been widespread in many Kentucky counties, Nicholas County Extension agent Mike Phillips said, but according to researchers at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, a strain of blue mold resistant to the effects of the fungicide *Ridomil* has been found in Kentucky for the first time.

Researchers discovered the presence of the new mold strain in a tobacco field in Allen County in western Kentucky. The field had been pre-treated with *Ridomil* and had, apparently, no effect on the fungus, Bill NeSmith, an extension plant pathologist with the UK Agriculture department, said NeSmith said, according to a press release. Nicholas County farmers should be aware of its pres-

ence in Kentucky, Mike Phillips said, but also felt there was no cause for immediate alarm.

"The Nicholas County extension office has not received any local reports of the fungus in western patches of the fungus. It may possibly exist in very small patches of the fungus, but it has been windborne, but again, UK has not been able to confirm its presence in the area. They are tracking it fairly thoroughly," Phillips said.

Phillips thoughts are echoed by NeSmith in the release. While it has been detected and confirmed in Allen County, it is not anticipated to be widespread.

But, Phillips said, area farmers should be aware that it will eventually be in Nicholas County, as well as in surrounding counties. Farmers should prepare.

Ridomil, he said, will remain as good protection of tobacco crops, but farmers should prepare to mount what Phillips terms as a two-fold

attack against the more resilient fungus.

The resistant blue mold is actually a mutated strain of the fungus originating in tobacco fields in Mexico several years ago, Phillips said. In the central American country, *Ridomil* was used exclusively to control the crop.

Eventually, Phillips said, the fungus naturally developed an immunity to the fungicide. In the United States, the resistant strain has been tracked through field in Florida, Georgia, and scattered areas of Tennessee.

With weather conditions in Kentucky promoting the widespread outbreak of the disease in western sections of Kentucky, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture Division of Pesticides declared a crisis in Kentucky's tobacco crop, allowing for the use of the fungicide Dithane M45 to control the disease.

However, farmers should be wary of turning immediately to Dithane M45 as a

Continued on Page 2



Carlisle Police officer Jerry Bloomfield investigated an accident involving a Carlisle man whose truck, apparently out of control, crashed a residence on the corner of North Street and Broadway early Thursday evening. Chane W. Warner, 17, of 200 Watkins Lane, was driving south on Broadway, when, according to a report by Carlisle Police, the brakes locked up causing it to swerve right and sideways a rock wall. The truck was thrown to the left side of the road. The truck ran approximately 75 feet across the road, jumped the curb and narrowly missed hitting two trees as it collided with a Carlisle home at 209 North Street and was stopped by an orange tractor just off the curb, the report said. Warner and a passenger, 14-year-old Crystal Stapp of 297 Pleasant Springs Road, were taken by Nicholas County ambulance to the Nicholas County Hospital for treatment of injuries sustained during the course of the accident.

Ridomil resistant blue mold found in Kentucky

By Josh Shephard
of the Courier-Journal

CARLISLE — A *Ridomil* resistant strain of the blue mold fungus has been confirmed present in tobacco fields in Western Kentucky.

The blue mold fungus, it says, has been widespread in many Kentucky counties, Nicholas County Extension agent Mike Phillips said, but according to researchers at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, a strain of blue mold resistant to the effects of the fungicide *Ridomil* has been found in Kentucky for the first time.

Researchers discovered the presence of the new mold strain in a tobacco field in Allen County in western Kentucky. The field had been pre-treated with *Ridomil* and had, apparently, no effect on the fungus, Bill NeSmith, an extension plant pathologist with the UK Agriculture department, said NeSmith said, according to a press release. Nicholas County farmers should be aware of its pres-

ence in Kentucky, Mike Phillips said, but also felt there was no cause for immediate alarm.

"The Nicholas County extension office has not received any local reports of the fungus in western patches of the fungus. It may possibly exist in very small patches of the fungus, but it has been windborne, but again, UK has not been able to confirm its presence in the area. They are tracking it fairly thoroughly," Phillips said.

Phillips thoughts are echoed by NeSmith in the release. While it has been detected and confirmed in Allen County, it is not anticipated to be widespread.

But, Phillips said, area farmers should be aware that it will eventually be in Nicholas County, as well as in surrounding counties. Farmers should prepare.

Ridomil, he said, will remain as good protection of tobacco crops, but farmers should prepare to mount what Phillips terms as a two-fold

attack against the more resilient fungus.

The resistant blue mold is actually a mutated strain of the fungus originating in tobacco fields in Mexico several years ago, Phillips said. In the central American country, *Ridomil* was used exclusively to control the crop.

Eventually, Phillips said, the fungus naturally developed an immunity to the fungicide. In the United States, the resistant strain has been tracked through field in Florida, Georgia, and scattered areas of Tennessee.

With weather conditions in Kentucky promoting the widespread outbreak of the disease in western sections of Kentucky, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture Division of Pesticides declared a crisis in Kentucky's tobacco crop, allowing for the use of the fungicide Dithane M45 to control the disease.

However, farmers should be wary of turning immediately to Dithane M45 as a



Nicholas County High School Football team begins practice for the upcoming season under the direction of Head Coach Greg Letcher. The team is shown using blocking dummies last Monday night. The team will travel to Carroll County on August 13 for its first season of the 1992 season.