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INSTITUTE NEWS

Senator Culver Portrays Wallace as a Cerebral, Original Genius

Henry A. Wallace was a "quiet, cerebral man"—a "provocative and remarkably original mind," who, it was said, "was the only genius to have served as Secretary of Agriculture," according to Senator John C. Culver, who presented the 1996 Inaugural Henry A. Wallace Annual Lecture this spring. The speech, entitled "Seeds and Science: Henry A. Wallace on Agriculture and Human Progress," was attended by 110 people, including Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Deputy Agriculture Secretary Richard Rominger, and Senator George McGovern.

Senator Culver painted a detailed and fascinating portrait of Wallace, who was befriended as a boy by George Washington Carver, led an agricultural revolution by developing hybrid seed, became President Franklin D. Roosevelt's youngest cabinet member at 44, and enacted federal agricultural programs which "remain the basic framework today."

"The depth and breadth of Wallace's intellectual interests" were extraordinary, according to Senator Culver. "Wallace was not only a geneticist and journalist, he was one of the nation's leading agricultural economists, an authority on statistics and author of the leading text on corn growing. . . .

Somewhere along the line, he also found time to start the world's first—and still the world's largest and most successful—hybrid seed corn company," Pioneer Hi-Bred.

President Roosevelt referred to Wallace "as 'old man common sense,' and selected him as his vice presidential candidate in 1940 because, according to Eleanor Roosevelt, he could best carry out Roosevelt's domestic and foreign policy if something should happen to the President," Senator Culver said. As Vice President, Wallace delivered his most well-known public address, which came to be known as the "Century of the Common Man" speech, in which he "envisioned a worldwide revolution against the old order," according to Senator Culver.

If he were here today, Senator Culver said, "Wallace would be appalled and disgusted by the attack now being made on the nation's conservation programs, especially those related to agriculture. . . . We might guess that Wallace would look upon the sustainable agriculture movement with considerable affection."

The text of Senator Culver's lecture will soon be available from the Wallace Institute.

Wallace Institute Elects Officers, Installs New Members

The Wallace Institute Board of Directors has elected new officers for the coming year

and installed five new members. The President, re-elected for another year, is **Dr. Anne K. Vidaver**, Chairperson, Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Vice President is **Dr. Frederick Kirschenmann**, farmer and manager, Kirschenmann Family Farms, Windsor and Medina, N.D.; Secretary is **Dr. Frederick R. Magdoff**, Professor, Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of Vermont; and Treasurer is **Dr. Cornelia Flora**, Professor of Sociology and Director, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development, Iowa State University.

The new members of the board are: **Dr. Neil V. Anderson**, Professor, Food Animal Health and Management Center, College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS; **Dr. Jill Shore Auburn**, Associate Director, Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, University of California, Davis; **Jose Montenegro**, Acting Director, Rural Development Center, Salinas, CA; **Christine (Cass) A. Peterson**, farmer and owner, Flickerville Mountain Farm and Groundhog Ranch in Dott, Pennsylvania; and **Thomas N. Urban**, Senior Lecturer, Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University, and Chairman of the Board of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

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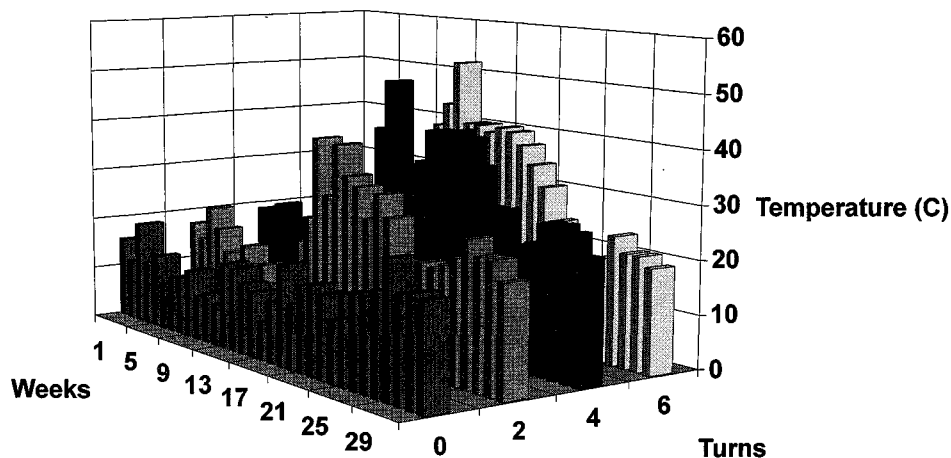


Figure 2. Mean internal temperature of straw windrow plots with zero to six turns through 32 weeks of monitoring.

attractive alternative to open field burning for disposing of straw. Additional studies are being conducted using a front-end loader to turn the compost in place instead of the commercial straddle-type turner. This may result in lower inputs and costs to the farmer.

Acknowledgment. Partial support for these studies was provided by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station. We thank Thom Edgar for technical assistance.

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INSTITUTE NEWS (Continued from page 6)

Jason Halbert Is Wallace Institute's First Ward Sinclair Intern

Jason Halbert of West Chester, Pennsylvania, has been named the first recipient of the Wallace Institute's Ward Sinclair Memorial Internship. Beginning in July, Halbert will spend six months working at the Flickerville Mountain Farm and Ground Hog Ranch in Dott, Pennsylvania, the farm established and managed by the late Ward Sinclair and Cass Peterson, and he will be working with the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture. At PASA, he will investigate farmer/consumer demographics in Pennsylvania to determine the best potential producer-only markets in Pennsylvania, and he will travel throughout the state to encourage local markets. He worked at the Flickerville Mountain Farm last year, and he has also worked as a grassroots lobbyist and organizer for a forest protection organization.

The Internship is sponsored by the Wallace Institute to honor the late Ward Sinclair, an organic farmer, a writer, and a member of the Wallace Institute's Board of Directors.