

Ohio News Watch

Ohio trade show doesn't disappoint

BY JENNIFER KIEL

DURING the early morning hours of Sept. 21, just outside of London, Ohio, the darkness was broken by rows of headlights that just kept coming. It looked similar to a scene out of the movie "Field of Dreams." The theme of that movie was "If you build it, they will come." It was the same premise for the Farm Science Review, as organizers created an agricultural oasis of offerings to meet the wants and needs of producers, conservationists, rural dwellers and

anyone with an interest in agriculture, food and rural life.

At the Molly Caren Agricultural Center, the show celebrated its 53rd year by hosting 628 exhibitors — an increase of 20 over last year.

While sunny skies welcomed guests, the nearly ideal weather may have been a factor in the slight dip in attendance, as farmers were torn between visiting the show and getting a jump on harvest. This year's show attracted 116,784 visitors, down from last year's record 131,153.

From several antique tractor exhibits to real-time, massive workhorses, the show was a must for those interested in seeing equipment — not just on display, but also in field demonstrations.

Technology was also front and center at the Farm Science Review. A full lineup of educational sessions covered everything from climate to precision farming to the latest mechanical gadgets and computer software.

Students arrived by busloads from area schools and scoured the grounds with walking sticks, goodie bags and open minds.

Next year's show will be Sept. 20-22 at the same location.



CAB COMFORT: Jay Fry and his 5-year-old son, Clark, try out the cab of this John Deere. Also along for the day was Jay's wife, Abbey, and their other children, Hank, 3, and Brock, 5 months.



GRAIN ENGULFMENT: An educational exhibit showed what and what not to do if trouble should arise while in a grain bin.



MASS MACHINERY: The Farm Science Review has every color machinery offered. Visitors took advantage of getting a close-up look and asking questions of representatives manning the exhibits.



IN THE FIELD: Field demos were held throughout the three-day show.

