



Another CHAMP



To get corn like this, Lindon used over a ton and one-half of commercial fertilizer, applied 70 loads of manure, plowed the ground 9 times, used 30-inch spacings between the rows, and planted a whole bushel of seed on the acre.

nitrate sidedressed.

3—He plowed the ground nine times and used 30-inch spacings between the rows rather than the 40 inches common to the Corn Belt.

4—He planted a whole bushel of seed on the acre—or 6 to 7 times more seed than the average farm uses per acre—the same Funk's G-711 variety the Ratliffs have used for all their records.

5—He then thinned his plants with a hoe to get a perfect stand.

6—He got his power from Dolly, a 20-year-old mule who has supplied the "horse-power" for all the Ratliff records. In fact, when they made their first state yield back in 1950, Dolly supplied one of her shoes for the Ratliff trophy case. Since then, the

trophies and shoes have really swelled.

7—County Agent Smith and his assistant, Jim Archer, measured off the acre and marked it. Then Lindon and his folks husked the ears which were weighed to compute the yield. Moisture samples were sent to Mississippi State College where final calculations were made.

Harvesting the farm plot has become almost a national event. And what happens to all that fine corn? Lindon feeds it to his 4-H poultry project—and also to the Ratliff's dairy cows and, of course, all the bushels Dolly can eat.

As we reported in the outset, Lindon plans to shoot at his brother's seemingly invulnerable 304 bushel mark next year—and the year after that, if necessary.



The Ratliffs have done it again. This time it was Lindon Ratliff and Dolly who have been in on the act since the beginning. They harvested the highest corn yield in the United States for 1957—on an acre of land once considered right poor.

When a 14-year-old boy harvests nearly 5 wagon loads of corn from one acre of land that once yielded less than one wagon load, he *must* be following sound farming practices.

When he grows the highest corn yield on a measured acre in the United States for 1957 — 250.85 bushels — he *is* following sound farming practices.

Lindon Ratliff, brother of Lamar who topped the U. S. four times in 5 years, is eager to share his know-how with anyone interested in greater yields on fewer acres, according to Taylor Smith, County Agricultural Agent of Prentiss County, Mississippi.

And he is just as eager to top his brother's 304 bushel record of 1955, highest yield of corn ever grown on one acre.



Here Lindon, and some of the folks who helped him grow the nation's champion corn crop, look over the five wagons of top quality corn he grew down in Prentiss County, Mississippi. Among the major hands in Lindon's success were County Agricultural Agent Taylor Smith and his assistant, Jim Archer.

But, right now, the question is: How did the Baldwin, Mississippi, 4-H youth grow the champion corn yield of 1957—what practices did he follow?

1—He grew his corn on the same measured acre that produced the famous 304 bushel yield in 1955. The Ratliffs own less than 15 acres of crop land. They have concentrated on this small piece of bottom land for almost 10 years until it is one of the most fertile in the world. Neighbors now call it "God's Little Acre."

2—He used over a ton and one-half of commercial fertilizer, and applied 70 loads of manure. This included 700 pounds of 15-15-15 in the subsoil, then 300 pounds of 15-15-15 at the side of the plants. He also used 700 pounds of ammonium nitrate (33-0-0) and 300 pounds of ammonium