



Barnett used this Gleaner combine to set record (photo shows bean head, not corn head). The only modification he made was to boost grain tank capacity to 370 bu.

HARVESTED 2,247 BU. ON 13 ACRES IN 1 HR.

Farmer Sets World Corn Harvest Record

Although it's not official yet, Illinois farmer Dave Barnett says he set the world corn harvest record last fall for the most corn harvested in one hour. He hopes to get listed in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Barnett, who farms near Pleasant Plains, harvested 2,247 bu. of corn in one hour of running time on 13 acres. He got the idea to try for the record when he noticed other agricultural categories in the Guinness Book, such as the record wheat harvest (1,020 bu./hr.), record corn yield (370 bu./acre), etc. There was no listing for corn harvesting so he decided to try to create a new category.

To set the record, he left 24-row strips in the field and lined wagons up along both sides for easy unloading. He also enlarged the grain hopper on his Gleaner N-7 to hold 370 bu. A second modification to the combine, which he originally made for soybeans, helped push the high volume of corn material through the machine. He modified the cage sweep around the rotor to keep it free of crop residue. The cage was already equipped with a factory-made sweep, but debris still accumulated where the cage attaches to the machine.

"I modified the sweep for continual clearing of the mounting points. In beans this has permitted me to go from 2.7 mph to 3.5 mph," Barnett says, adding that the bean modification appeared to have helped when he made the record-setting harvest.

Barnett operated the combine at 4.4 mph while setting the record compared to his usual speed of 3.6 mph. To verify the record-setting attempt, he had seven witnesses in attendance including a local elevator man, a banker, and other independent people. The harvested grain was carefully weighed and documented and the results sent off to Guinness. So far no final decision has been made whether to include the record in the next Guinness book.

Barnett notes that he lost at least 5 min. during the record-setting attempt when he overran the screen capacity and choked up the clean grain elevator. He had to stop to clean it out and then opened up the screen a little. "I should have run a trial heat before starting out," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Barnett, RR, Pleasant Plains, Ill. 62677 (ph 217 626-1180).

How To Set A World Record

Following are just a few of the agricultural world records listed in the Guinness Book:

Largest Farm - A Brazilian pioneer farmer owned 2,149,800 acres starting in 1901 and was still running 250,000 head of cattle at the time of his death in 1975. **Chicken Ranch** - Croton Egg Farm in Ohio has 4.8 million chickens laying 3.7 million eggs daily. **Turkey Farm** - Bernard Matthews in Great Witchingham, Britain, has a staff of 2,600 tending 9 million turkeys. **Wheat Field** - The largest single fenced field of wheat was 35,000 acres sown in 1951 southwest of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. **Bale Stack** - A stack of 40,400 bales of straw was built in 1982 by Nick and Tom Parsons in Birdlip, England. It measured 150 by 30 by 60 ft. high. **Baling** - Svend Erik Klemmensen of Trustrup, Djursland, Denmark, baled 220 tons of straw in 9 hr., 54 min. using a

Hesston 4800 baler on August 30, 1989. **Wheat Harvest** - Philip Baker of Bicester, England, harvested 8,175 bu. of wheat in 8 hr. using a Massey Ferguson 38 combine on August 8, 1989. **Plowing** - Fastest recorded time for plowing an acre with a 4-bottom plow was set on October 21, 1989 by Joe Langcake, Cumbria, England, who used a Case/IH 7140 to do an acre in 9 min. and 49 sec.

Calves Birthed - On April 25, 1964, a cow named Lyubik gave birth to seven calves in Mogilev, USSR. **Oldest Cow** - Big Bertha, a Dremon cow owned by Jerome O'Leary, Kerry, Ireland, was born on March 17, 1944 and is still alive. She is also the world's most prolific cow, having given birth to a total of 39 calves. **Birth Weight** - The heaviest recorded live birth weight for a calf is 225 lbs. from a British Friesian at Rockhouse Farm, England, in 1961. The



Scientists were working on developing better breakfast cereal when they accidentally discovered a new process that resulted in "good as styrofoam" corn packing peanuts.

THEY DISINTEGRATE IN WATER

"Packing Peanuts" Made Out Of Corn

Here's another exciting new use for corn - "packing peanuts" made out of cornstarch using a revolutionary new process that makes conventional hard-to-get-rid-of polystyrene peanuts obsolete. New cornstarch "peanuts" are easy to dispose of since they dissolve in water. You can just flush them down the toilet or spread them on your lawn and turn on the sprinkler.

Dubbed "Eco-Foam" by the manufacturer, National Starch & Chemical, the new corn-based product feels like poly peanuts, sounds like them and protects products the same but without the problem of disposal and without any petrochemical damage to the environment during the manufacturing process.

Eco-Foam was developed by accident in 1988 at a research center where scientists were working on a project to develop cereals that wouldn't get soggy in milk. When they unexpectedly came up with a material that resembled styrofoam, the marketing people got interested.

Rob Asselin, market development manager for Eco-Foam, says demand has been almost unbelievable in the few short months that it has been available. "Everyone's looking for a way to get away from poly peanuts because of environmental concerns even though it has always been one of the best-performing packing materials you can buy. Some have even tried using popcorn but that smells, breaks down, and attracts rodents. All flavor and aroma are removed from Eco-Foam during manufacturing."

Made from a special cornstarch that's extracted from a corn hybrid called Hylon

II, developed 20 years ago by National Starch, Eco-Foam pellets perform just like poly peanuts with the added advantage that they're naturally anti-static so they won't cling to your hands or clothing. One disadvantage is that if a package gets wet, Eco-Foam will dissolve but Asselin says that if a package gets that wet the product being shipped will probably be damaged anyway. "Eco-Foam could be designed to be less water sensitive but we would have to add more synthetic components and they would not decompose as fast."

Eco-Foam is 95 percent cornstarch with the rest made up of water and alcohol. One bushel of corn makes three and a half 12-cu. ft. bags of pellets. Most of the special cornstarch needed is produced at a plant in Indiana. Although the company currently has an adequate supply of the hybrid corn, as demand grows for the new packing product they will be looking to put more growers under contract.

The market for polystyrene peanuts is about \$80 million a year in the U.S. American Excelsior, the company licensed to market Eco-Foam, is already selling the new product across most of the U.S. and hopes to have it available throughout North America in the near future. Eco-Foam sells for about twice the cost of polystyrene peanuts but costs less than popcorn or paper packing.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, American Excelsior Co., 850 Avenue H East, P.O. Box 5067, Arlington, Tex. 76005 (ph 817 640-1555).

lowest live birth weight for a calf is 17 lb., 10 oz. for a bull born in South Africa in 1972. **Milk Yield** - The greatest recorded yield for one lactation (maximum 365 days) is 55,661 lbs. by the Holstein "Beecher Arinda Ellen" in Rochester, Ind., in 1975. Highest milk yield in a day was 241 lb. by a cow in Cuba on June 23, 1982.

Hogs - Largest recorded hog was a Poland-China named Big Bill who weighed 2,552 lbs. before he died in 1933. **Smallest Hog** - The "Mini Maialino" was developed by Stefano Morini of St. Golo d'Enza, Italy, after 10 years of experimentation with

Vietnam pot-bellied pigs. Maialino's weigh 14 oz. at birth and 20 lbs. at maturity. **Biggest Litter** - A litter of 34 live pigs was born in Denmark in 1961. A Large White in England set the record for number of pigs farrowed - 385 in 22 litters from Dec. 1923 to Sept. 1934.

To challenge any of these records, or to establish a record in a new category, contact: Guinness Book of Records, Facts On File, Inc., 460 Park Ave. S., New York, N.Y. 10016.