



Carroll Greene, right, executive secretary of the West Virginia State Soil Conservation Committee, presents an award to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Savage of near Wheeling. The Savage family was honored as one of the state's "Outstanding Farm Families" for 1976.

Farm-Home Advisory Committee. She still finds time to help with the farm work and perform several hobbies, one of which is freezing and canning vegetables from the garden.

Farm Family Is Honored

The Thomas Savage family, owners of a 140-acre, diversified livestock operation in Ohio County situated near Wheeling, has been honored as one of West Virginia's "Outstanding Farm Families" for 1976.

The Savages produce 40 acres of hay, 17 acres of corn for grain, eight acres of oats and five acres of corn for silage. The remaining 70 acres is improved pasture.

They milk 18 registered Holstein cows, maintain 21 Hereford beef cows and 25 head of purebred Polled Dorsett sheep.

The Savages credit much of their success in farming to continued use of recommended soil and water conservation practices.

Farm Family Honored

The Thomas Savage family of near Wheeling in Ohio County recently was honored as one of West Virginia's "Outstanding Farm Families" for 1976.

The Savages have a 140-acre, diversified livestock operation in Ohio County. They produce 40 acres of hay, 17 acres of corn for grain, eight acres of oats and five acres of corn for silage. The remaining 70 acres is improved pasture.

Presently, they milk 18 registered Holstein cows and maintain 21 Hereford beef cows and 25 head of purebred Polled Dorsett sheep. They previously were named as the Conservation Farmer for 1976 at the annual convention of the West Virginia Soil Conservation Districts Association in November of 1976.

Savage credits a great deal of the success in their farming operation to the wise and continued use of recommended soil and water conservation practices. All 70 acres of their cropland are arranged in contour strips and they have built a pond and developed three springs to reduce soil erosion, provide a habitat for fish and wildlife and provide plenty of clean, fresh water for their livestock. All 70 acres of their pasture has been improved by the application of recommended amounts of lime and fertilizer and are managed to maintain their productivity and vigor.

The Savage family is extremely active in the rural life of their community, are members of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has actively supported and held various offices, including president, in the Continental Polled Dorsett Association. Creating and supporting opportunities of youth is a primary interest of the Savage family. They have strongly supported the Ohio County 4-H Dairy Genetics Project by supplying good quality dairy heifers to the program and have been hosts for land judging contests, field trips and "day on the farm" educational ventures.

Savage is a member of the Ohio County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and Farmers Home Administration Advisory Committees; director and vice president of the Northern Panhandle District Holstein Club; board chairman of Southern States Co-op at Triadelphia; director of Ohio County Farm Bureau; a Milk, Inc., delegate, and member of the West Virginia and National Holstein associations.

Mrs. Savage (Louise) has been a member of the Liberty Extension Homemakers Club for 26 years and has served several times on the FHA Farm-Home Advisory Committee. She still finds time to help with the farm work and perform several hobbies, one of which is freezing and canning vegetables from the garden.

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NEWS

For Cooperative Farmers

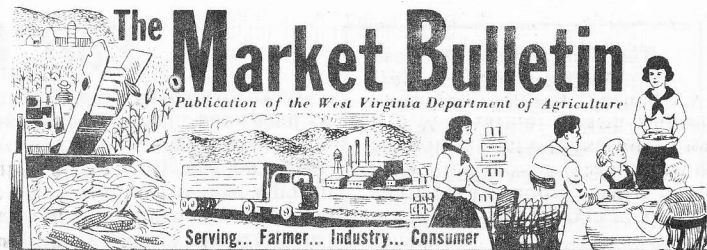
'Conservation Farmer' is patron Tom Savage

Thomas Savage of Ohio County, W. Va., has been selected as the West Virginia Conservation Farmer for 1976. Savage and his family operate a diversified livestock operation on their 140-acre Ohio County farm. They are milking 18 registered Holstein cows, have 21 Hereford beef cows, and 25 head of purebred Polled Dorset sheep.

All of Savage's 57 acres have been arranged in contour strips. The Savage family has built a pond and developed three springs to provide water for livestock on the farm. Their pastures are managed to maintain their productivity.

The West Virginia family has been active in their community. Besides serving on the local stockholder committee of the SSC Ohio County Service in Triadelphia, Savage has been a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has held various offices in the Polled Dorset Association. He also supplies high quality dairy heifers to the 4-H genetics projects in Ohio County.

Presentation of the award was made at the 35th annual meeting of the West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Association.



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1976 Conservation Farmer

Thomas Savage, of Ohio County, has been selected as the West Virginia Conservation Farmer for 1976. Presentation of the award was made at the 35th Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Association held at Jackson's Mill November 9-11. In the same contest, Drilake Farm, Irvin King, Manager, from Jefferson County, placed second and the Joseph Garrett Farm of Taylor County placed third.

The Thomas Savage Farm had earlier been selected as winner in the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. The Savages carry on a diversified livestock operation on their 140-acre Ohio County farm. They are milking 18 registered Holstein cows, have 21 Hereford beef cows, and 25 head of purebred polled Dorset sheep.

Over the years many soil conserving practices have been installed on the Savage Farm. All of their 57 acres of cropland are arranged in contour strips. They have built a pond and developed three springs to provide water for livestock on the farm. Their pastures have been improved by liming and fertilizing and are managed to maintain their productivity.

The Savage Family has been active in the rural life of their community. Mr. Savage has been a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has been very active and held various offices in the Polled Dorset Association. He strongly supported the 4-H genetics project in Ohio County by supplying good quality dairy heifers to the program.

Cont'd. on Page 2

notes from

Valley Grove

by Paulette Kerns

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Ohio County Resident Is State Farmer of Year

Ohio County resident Thomas Savage was selected West Virginia Conservation Farmer of 1976 at the annual meeting of the West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Association November 9 - 11.

The Savage farm had been selected earlier as winner in the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. Savage maintains a diversified livestock operation on a 140-acre farm, including 18 registered Holstein milking cows, 21 Hereford beef cows and 25 head of purebred polled Dorset sheep.

Among the conservation practices installed on the Savage farm are contoured strip cropland, developed springs and liming and fertilizing to maintain pasture productivity.

Savage is a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has been active in the Polled Dorset Association.

He strongly supports the 4-H genetics project in Ohio County by supplying good quality dairy heifers for the program.

The West Virginia Conservation Farmer Contest is sponsored annually by the West Virginia Soil Conservation Committee.

Birth

Born to Ernest and Laura Smith Higham of Dayton, Ohio, a son on December 6, weighing 5 pounds 8 ounces - Jeffrey Allen. The Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Harold Smith of Wheeling and great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John L. Smith of RD 2, W. Alexander. Area residents were saddened by the death of Pauline Henderson. Se was involved in local activities including the Valley Grove Cub Scouts.

The deer season has proven to be successful for two area men. Charles Ebbert bagged a 10-point buck with a 19½" spread, weighing 200 pounds while hunting in Pendleton

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Ohio County Man Selected 1976 Conservation Farmer

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In the same contest Drilake Farm, Irvin King, manager, from Jefferson County, placed second and the Joseph Garrett Farm of Taylor County placed third.

The Thomas Savage farm had earlier been selected as winner in the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. The Savages carry on a diversified livestock operation on their 140 acre Ohio County farm. They are milking 18 registered Holstein cows, have 21 Hereford beef cows and 25 head of pure-bred polled Dorset sheep.

Over the years many soil conserving practices have been installed in the Savage Farm. All of their 57 acres of cropland are arranged in contour strips. They have built a pond and developed three springs to provide water for livestock on the farm. Their pastures have been

improved by liming and fertilizing and are managed to maintain their productivity.

The Savage family has been active in the rural life of their community. Mr. Savage has been a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has been very active and held various offices in the Polled Dorset Association. He strongly supported the 4-H genetics project in Ohio County by supplying good quality dairy heifers to the program.

Second place winner was the 530 acre Drilake Farm from the Eastern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. Irvin King, manager, operates a 140 cow dairy. This farm has nearly 400 acres corn planted by the no-till method to conserve the soil. The King's have installed a lagoon to collect waste from the dairy operation and thus prevent the pollution of nearby streams.

The Joseph Garrett Farm from Tygarts Valley Soil Conservation District was third place winner. The Garrets have developed a farm that started with two cows, two veal calves and a team of horses in 1951 to an attractive, productive (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)



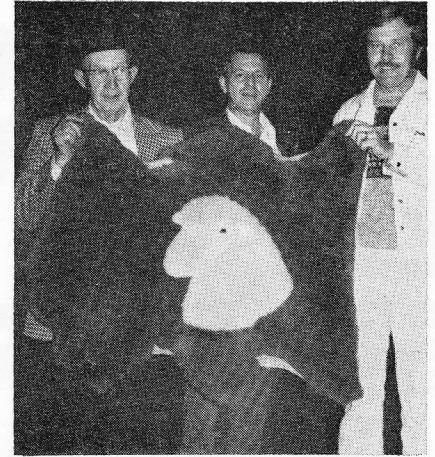
CONSERVATION FARMER OF YEAR — Thomas Savage representing the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District, was selected as the West Virginia Conservation Farmer of 1976. The Ohio County farmer was presented with the award during the West Virginia Soil Conservation District Supervisors Association meeting which will be concluding today at Jackson Mill.

(Continued from Page One)

farm that wintered 85 cows, 25 yearling heifers, 40 heifers, 50 breeding ewes and 4 bulls in 1975. To each their level of production they have reseeded all their meadows, fertilized their pastures and developed ten springs to supply water for livestock. Additional work has been done in constructing diversion ditches and installing tile drains to improve water control on the farm.

The West Virginia Conservation Farmer Contest is a program sponsored by the West Virginia State Soil Conservation Committee and numerous state and federal agencies associated with agricultural programs. Winners are judged on the basis of how well they are carrying on conservation practices on their farms and their contribution to soil and water conservation in their home communities.

Those of you know our retiring President, Tom Savage, might be interested in a recent honor that was bestowed on Mr. & Mrs. Savage. The Savages recently won first place in the West Virginia State Conservation Farmer Contest. In addition to several gifts for both Mr. & Mrs. Savage, they have won an all-expense trip to Atlanta, Georgia, for 1 week in February. Those of us that have been close to the Savages have always kidded Tom about the fact that the farms in West Virginia were mostly on the vertical! Some of us have felt we should mark the trees when traveling to Tom's farm to make sure we can find our way back to civilization! But, the Savage farm is truly a beautiful place, they have spent many years of work in making it so, and are most deserving of this State Award for Conservation. Congratulations, Tom and Louise.



Retiring President of the Continental Dorset Club, Tom Savage of Wheeling, W. Va., Ross Chrisman, newly seated director from Great Lakes District, and Director Dale Heidemann from North Central District, display the pelt awarded to the winner of the Young Flock Class at the recent Western Regional Dorset Show at the Cow Palace. The winner was Stony Point Ranch, Petaluma, California.

Farmer Is Honored

An Ohio County man has been selected West Virginia Conservation Farmer of the Year, and according to him "farming is the way of life."

Thomas Savage, of Weidman Run Road in Ohio County, was presented the 1976 award this week at the 35th Annual West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Association meeting at the State 4-H camp at Jackson's Mills.

The Savage farm qualified for the statewide judging after winning the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. Savage won top honors in 1971 and placed as runner-up in 1974.

Savage and his wife began farming in 1938 and have remained on the same farm since then. Today, they also operate a diversified livestock operation on their 140-acre farm. Although their primary source of income is from selling Grade A milk from the dairy cows, the Savages also sell extra corn and hay.

Savage uses various soil conserving practices on his farm. For example, the 57-acre fields of corn are arranged in contour strips.

According to Savage, managing his farm is a 12-hour a day operation, which lasts each day of the year.

Ohio Countian Farmer of Year

By STAN PAWLOSKI
The Intelligencer Staff

"Farming is the way of life," Thomas Savage of Weidman Run Road in Ohio County said Thursday after he had been selected West Virginia Conservation Farmer of the Year for 1976.

The award was presented at the 35th Annual West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors Association meeting at the State 4-H camp at



Thomas Savage, Weidmans Run Road, proudly displays the plaque he received in recognition of his selection as West Virginia Conservation Farmer of the Year for 1976. The Ohio County resident was presented the award Wednesday at the West Virginia Soil and Conservation District Supervisors Association meeting held at Jackson's Mill.

(Photo by Baker)

Jackson's Mills this week.

The Savage farm qualified for the statewide judging after being selected as the winner in the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District. Savage previously won top district honors in 1971 and was runner-up in 1974.

Savage and his wife began farming in 1938 on the same farm where they presently are living.

Today, they operate a diversified livestock operation on their 140-acre farm. They own 18 registered Holstein cows, 21 Hereford beef cows and 25 head of purebred polled Dorset sheep.

"Our primary income is from selling Grade A milk from the dairy cows," Mrs. Savage said, "but we do sell any extra corn or hay we may have."

The job of managing a farm of this size is a 12-hour a day, 365-day per year operation, Savage said.

"I start at seven in the morning each day and it is seldom I ever quit until seven at night," Savage added.

Many soil conserving practices are used on the Savage farm. The 57-acre fields of corn, hay and oats are arranged completely in contour strips.

The Savages have built a pond and developed three springs to provide water for livestock. Their pastures have been improved by limiting and fertilizing and are managed to maintain their productivity.

Savage has been active in the rural life of the community. He has been a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and has held various offices in the Rolled Dorset Association. He also supported the 4-H genetics project in Ohio County by supplying good quality dairy heifers to the program.

As part of this week's award, the Savages received a plaque, two wristwatches, a \$50 Savings Bond and an all expense paid trip to the National Soil Conservation meeting to be held in Atlanta, Ga., next February.

"We enjoy our life to the fullest with the selection of farming as our occupation," Savage said. "It is an awful lot of work but we think it is all worthwhile."

Savage Wins Competition 'Outstanding' Farm Cited

The Thomas Savage farm in Ohio County has been selected the outstanding farm in the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District for 1976.

The combination beef and dairy farm is located at the head of Wiedeman's Run. It was selected in a competition between Lawrence Pyle of Brooke County, Edgar Chambers of Hancock County and Merle Chaplin of

Marshall County.

The Savage farm now has been entered in a statewide contest involving district winners from the other 13 soil conservation districts in West Virginia.

The Savage farm placed third in the 1974 state contest.

Savage is president of the Continental Dorset Club, a national sheep organization, director of the Fa m

Bureau, vice president of the Holstein Northern Panhandle Association, delegate to Milk Inc., and a member of the Southern States Co-Op.

His farm consists of 140 acres. He has 25 polled Dorset sheep, 18 dairy cows, five heifers, eight bull calves and 21 beef cows.

The Savages became cooperators with the Northern Panhandle Soil Conservation District in 1950 and soon developed a conservation plan with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Savage credits the SCS, the Department of Agriculture's technical branch, with giving him assistance in developing a conservation farm.

You may have read recently where TOM and LOUISE SAVAGE'S farm placed first of all those in West Virginia in a judging which shows their dilligence, skill and hard work.