

Witmer Honored By Pennsylvania Grassland Club

Raymond F. Witmer, RD 1 Willow Street, was one of five state farmers to receive the Outstanding Grassland Farmer award at the Pennsylvania Grassland Conference held at Penn State this week.

Witmer owns and operates a 130-acre, 90-head Guernsey cattle breeding farm, and milks about 49 head at the present time. His herd has consistently ranked among the top producers through the years.

Preliminary evaluation of the Witmer farm qualified him for participation in the grassland competition. This was made last summer by Arnold G. Lueck, Associate County Agent

and John Yocum, Supervisor of Penn State's Southeastern Field Research Laboratory. Scoring was based on the entire farm operation, not on individual fields.

In the evaluation all phases of grassland farming are considered: forage production; harvesting; storage; and practices related to the utilization of forage in milk production.

Each year the Pennsylvania Grassland Council selects the five outstanding grassland farmers at the Conference at

Penn State University. These winners are awarded a plaque and automatically become members of the Pennsylvania Grassland Club.

• Musser

(Continued from Page 1) cent under conservation practices. He had built in elaborate slopes and grades; had a stream flowing through the farm and showed how to handle that problem; he showed how to handle run-off water with diversion ditches and a vegetated waterway; he had a farm pond for irrigation; he showed contour planting and strip cropping; then for contrast, he included one corner of the farm that was not yet under conservation, with sloping ground which showed the gullied effect of advanced soil erosion.

Judging was on the Danish system and each of the other six contestants qualified for either a blue or red ribbon

Other blue ribbon winners were Carl Campbell, New Holland, who depicted a grassland waterway; John Campbell, New Holland, who demonstrated the variation in organic matter in soils from woodland, from barren land, and from a cultivated field; Robert Fisher, R. D. 1 East Earl, who compared the water-holding capacity of soils with and without organic matter.

Winners of the red ribbons were: Jay Marlin Bollinger, R. D. 2 Denver, showing soil types and moisture effects; Eugene Bollinger, R. D. 2 Denver, who compared the water-holding ability of soil samples from an uncultivated fence row and from a cultivated field; David Zimmerman, R. D. 1 Reinholds, who contrasted the settling rate of soil from a grass field with soil from a cultivated field.

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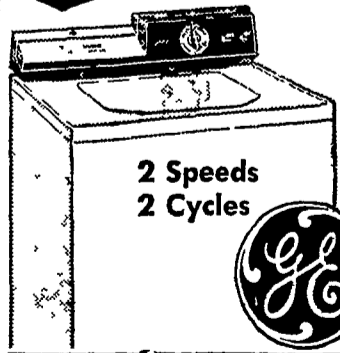
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