Troop Family Earns Bay Clean Water Award

MARJORIE KEEN

Chester Co. Correspondent Harry and Dorothy Troop of Faggs Manor Farm, Cochranville, are recipients of the Chester County Conservation District's first Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm Award. District Chairman Charles Harris presented the award to the Troops at their 110-acre dairy farm last Monday.

Harry Troop, who farms with wife Dorothy, son David, and David's wife Becky, has completed a conservation management plan. He has implemented a comprehensive manure storage and

utilization plan and has installed nearly a mile of drainage tile, storage terraces and contour strips. The Troops have reduced tillage by no-tilling corn on Faggs Manor Farm and on an additional 40 acres that they rent.

The Troops participate in a soil testing program with a service that monitors fertilizer application and yields. A former director of the Chester County Crop Improvement Association, Harry Troop has also instituted a pesticide and herbicide application plan.

With 65 Registered Holstein cows and 60 heifers, Faggs Manor



Left, Charles Harris, Harry L. Troop, and Dorothy A. Troop discuss the sign that will be displayed on their farm.

This photo shows the Troop's Holsteins, one-acre pond and the 10-foot deep fertilizer storage pit which

measures 48'x52'. **HOLLANDER RD, RD3 NEW HOLLAND, PA** 17557 717-354-9611 NUFACTURING CORP.



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feet deep. The Troops haul the manure with a conventional spreader. Nutrient management has reduced fertilizer need to 60 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

The headwaters of Little Elk Creek are located on Faggs Manor Farm. The Little Elk empties into the Chesapeake Bay via the Elk

Harry Troop says, "I think the Chesapeake Bay Program is a good thing. We've got to start cleaning up the water.'

Dorothy Troop, who enjoys water skiing in the Bay, agrees. "As soon as I get out (of the water), I take a shower," she declares.

Harris stated that nominations for the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm Award must be received by the Chester County Conservation District no later than October 16. Nominations may be made by the County Extension Office, Grange, Pennsylvania Farmers Association, Pennsylvania Farmers Union chapters or by the

individual farmer (selfnomination).

Chester County Conservation District directors will review all applications and, if a qualified farm is nominated, select a county winner. The district will then prepare a regional application for the county winner.

Every nominated farmer who meets minimum criteria for a Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm will receive a certificate signed by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Environmental Resources, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. County winners will receive a display sign identifying their farm as a Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm. Regional winners will be personally recognized during Pennsylvania Farm Show Week, January 1988, in Harrisburg.

For more information, contact Chester County Conservation District, 235 W. Market St., West Chester, PA 19382, (215) 696-5126.

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