

Master Farmer Awards To Be Presented

Harrisburg, Pa. -- Nine individuals representing six farm operations will receive the Master Farmer Award on Tuesday, Jan. 12, during a Farm Show luncheon of agricultural leaders at the Penn Harris Motor Inn, Camp Hill, Pa.

The Master Farmer Award Program, in its 54th year, is sponsored by Pennsylvania Farmer magazine and the Cooperative Extension Services of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and West Virginia. More than 450 individuals have received the award.

Master Farmers are recognized for their accomplishments in agricultural production as well as community involvement and leadership in farm and civic organizations.

This year's winners are Clark Bower of Perry County, Pa.; John Brubaker Jr. of Lancaster County, Pa.; Fred Gold Butler of Berkeley County, W. Va.; Leonard E. Crooke of Bucks County, Pa.; Lee Kiefer of Schuylkill County, Pa.; and Arthur, Richard, Bruce and Brian Pallman of Lackawanna County, Pa.

Clark Bower runs his 505-acre Pleasant View Farm with his son Logan and brother, Ben. Managing 285 acres of crop land and 85 cows without hired help is a continual challenge for the three. Bower believes in health and safety on the farm--for people, animals and finances. Insisting on safe operation of farm machinery, converting to an open Virginia-style heifer barn and keeping debts low are some of the ways Bower keeps his

farming operation healthy and safe.

Keeping his entire family involved in running the farm is important to John Brubaker. During evening milkings, Brubaker, his wife, Barb, and their three children can be found working and playing in the barn. The Brubakers milk 62 head of registered Holsteins on their 136-acre Lancaster County farm. By maintaining soil fertility, practicing soil conservation techniques and striving for optimum feed efficiency, the 33-year-old Brubaker has made his farm prosper. He wants to make sure his children have every opportunity to be involved in farming.

"Every Sunday afternoon, with my eyes wide open, I walk through the farm," says Fred Butler, whose attention to detail is a key to farming success. He grew up on a family farm in Berkeley County, W. Va., helping his father and brother. After serving two years in the Army and marrying Norma Gene Lineberg, he left the home farm and started on his own in 1956 with \$6,000 he had saved from 4-H and FFA projects. Now, he owns 325 acres and rents 607. Butler runs an auto dealership in Martinsburg, W. Va., and he also serves as West Virginia's Farm Bureau president.

Leonard Crooke wants to tell agriculture's story to the consumer. Tours of his 166-acre Crooked Acres Dairy in Bucks County, Pa. help children and adults learn the importance of agriculture in our world. Crooke is concerned about soil conservation--he has installed



One of the Master Farmer awards to be given by Secretary of Ag Boyd Wolff at the Farm Show goes to the Pallman family.

L to R: Arthur, Brian, Mrs. Arthur (Leona), Bruce and Richard Pallman.

7,000 feet of diversion terraces, 3,500 feet of tile drainage and farms 95 stripcrop acres. He also maintains a 12-acre woodlot that supplies firewood and lumber. He believes in continued estate planning, and he is proud to have instilled a love of agriculture in his six children.

Marketing is an afterthought for most game bird breeders, says Lee Kiefer, but he makes it a primary concern. Kiefer, owner of L&L

Pheasantry in Schuylkill County Pa., ships more than 500,000 dressed ringneck pheasants, chukar partridges and wild turkeys each year. He has worked hard to develop a year-round hatch for game birds, now running smoothly, and to operate a genetics program to identify and select for desired traits. Restaurants, his primary clients, need consistent quality, size, weight and taste in the birds they buy, Kiefer says,

and that's what he delivers.

Pallman Farms is a family affair, thriving through the cooperative efforts of Arthur "Dutch" and Leona Pallman and their sons, Richard, Brian and Bruce. Pallman Farms, in Lackawanna County, Pa., is a poultry, tomato and strawberry enterprise. They specialize in supplying local families with fresh poultry. The

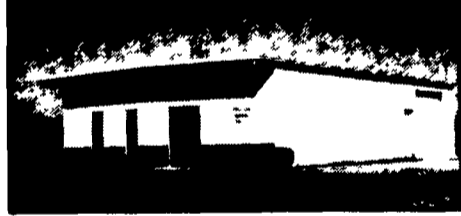
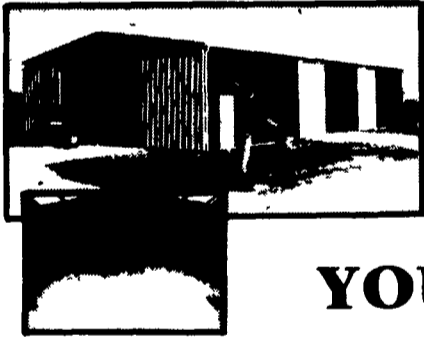
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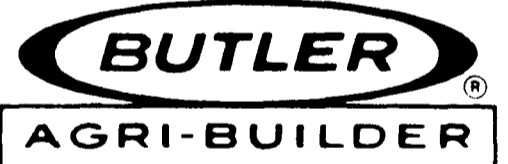
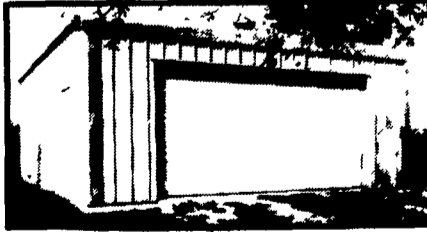
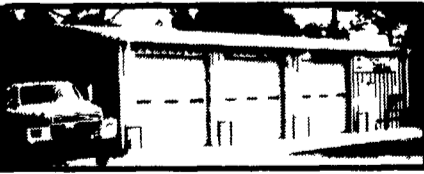
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