

Robesonia Farmer Wins

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mind is no problem for Wolfskill because, ultimately, soil and water conservation translates into better production and a more efficient operation, he said.

Wolfskill's continuous stewardship of the land has won the admiration of the Soil Conservation Service, which oversees soil conservation in the county.

"He wants to keep soil on the field," said David G. Younker, a technician with SCS. "He's a good manager and wants to have the best production he can."

Making contour strips is not necessarily more work for a farmer, Younker said. Although some of the plans can get complicated, farmers can realize fuel savings because running a tractor along the level in contour strips is easier on it than going up and down hills.

But it's not just containing the soil that the SCS is interested in. The SCS is also trying to maintain water quality by preventing soils containing manure into the water table, Younker said.

Younker doesn't disparage planting crops in big, square fields. They can be planted with a no-till method to retain the soil, then rotated with a hay crop, he said.

But Younker noted that all farmers who receive federal aid will be required by 1995 to file soil conservation plans. Conservation farming assistance is readily available from the SCS.

Wolfskill not only practices conservation methods on his farms, he also serves the district as a volunteer. He is a farmer-director of the district and serves as treasurer.

He belongs to the Berks County



The Wolfskill family takes a break from their morning work. From left are sons Mark F. with Nathan, Douglas, Nancy, and Mark.

and Pennsylvania Farmers associations.

Last year, he was nominated by several county agencies for the

"Good Earth Award" and placed second in this honor for the state.



Cleaning barn stalls is the order of the day since the ground is still to wet to plant. "We would have had oats in by now," he said.

Rodgers Named National

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land for the land, livestock and the environment.

Rodgers is a well known Ayrshire cattle breeder, utilizing pasture and alfalfa as the forage base for his dairy herd. Additionally, he has been featured in various national farm publications, including HOARD'S DAIRYMAN and FARM JOURNAL. He is a past president of the Penn State Ag Advisory Council and has served on the United States Dairy Research Center's Advisory Committee in Madison, Wisconsin.

Rodgers is the past president of

the Rotary Club of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, a certified Dale Carnegie instructor, and is a regional director of the Mellon Bank. Other activities include giving numerous speeches to many diverse groups in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Sweden, New Zealand and Australia.

Some of the land he currently

farms has been in his family since 1755, received in a warrant from John, Thomas and Richard Penn, son and grandsons of William Penn. His 5 children and 7 grandchildren are the 9th and 10th generations respectively to be enjoying the bounty of this property nestled in the Kishacoquillas Valley in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania.



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