



Ruth and Sterling Raber operate 308 acres owned, 627 rented on this grain and 100-sow farrow-to-finish farm in Orefield, Lehigh County.



Mehrle H. Ramsburg farms with wife Themla on this 775-acre farm, 245-cow dairy in Thurmont, Md.

Six Master Farmers

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Management Association for crop consulting. Their heavy wet soils average about six tons per acre of alfalfa-ryegrass hay, 110 bushels of corn per acre for grain, 18-20 tons per acre of corn silage, 48 bushels per acre of soybeans, and 45 bushels per acre of wheat. Most years they grow all the feed they need.

All are vaccinated and back-grounded over winter at the farm, then sold as heavy yearlings. McGinnis plans to cut back to 100 cows, convert some leased ground from forages to row crops, and expand the grain operations.

The McGinnis Angus Farm and

Maryland Cattlemen's Association, and Maryland Grain Producers Association. He is heavily involved in ag land preservation efforts.

• Jack, Wilma and Dwight Mickey, Chambersburg. Since the 1970s, Dwight Mickey has dedicated himself to keeping Shatzer Fruit Market a viable, growing business. Included on the operation are his parents and business partners, Wilma and Jack Mickey. They farm 60 acres.

In the 1960s, the Shatzers who-

leased 90 percent of their fruit and retailed 10 percent. It's the opposite today, with most of the produce sold through their on-farm market.

Wilma's parents milked cows on the farm until 1955. The present market was built in 1950. Wilma and Jack assumed control in 1972 and continued the gradual move to retailing. Dwight joined the operation full-time after he was graduated from Shippensburg University in 1981. A three-way partner-

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David is a member of the Bucks County Holstein Club, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and Bucks County DHIA. Sharon serves on the Bucks-Montgomery Dairy Promotion Committee and served a term on the county Farm Service Agency.

• Conrad and Patricia Langenfelder, Kennedyville, Md. A little more than eight years ago, Conrad "Dutch" Langenfelder and wife Patricia uprooted their fourth-generation Maryland farming family and transplanted it to the Eastern Shore. The move took almost a year to complete.

Now, the operation includes a 2,300-acre cash grain operation (1,478 acres owned) and a 180-sow farrow-to-finish operation which produces 3,600 hogs a year. The farm includes children Jennifer Debnam, Bill, and Kristen Nickerson.

Dutch's responsibilities include overall management, marketing with DTN, crop spraying, hauling, and repairs. Patricia takes care of bookkeeping, straw baling, and assisting in the farrowing house.

Jennifer, a graduate of Virginia Tech, returned to the farm as swine operations manager after five years as a loan officer.

Kristen, a Wesley College and an accountant, returned full-time to work in the pork operation. Bill handles the crops, including planting, combine operation, and scouting.

The Langenfelders have two years of yield data from the on-the-go yield monitor. This year they plan to start using the data and global positioning system field mapping equipment to more closely manage field nutrients.

All their farmland is under conservation and nutrient management plans. Reduced tillage is used on more than 75 percent of their crop acres. Their per-acre yields have averaged 141 bushels of corn, 50 bushels of soybeans, 35 bushels of double-crop soybeans, 80 bushels of wheat, and 100 bushels of barley.

In 1993 the Langenfelders were recognized as the county's Soil Conservation Cooperator Family of the Year. Pat was the first woman to be elected county Farm Bureau president in Maryland. She served two terms on the Maryland Ag Commission. She was also appointed to Ken County's Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee. She has been an officer of Maryland Farm Bureau Women and the state Pork Council Women. She also served as past president of Maryland Ag Week.

Dutch has been a county Farm Bureau president and has served four terms on American Farm Bureau's Swine Advisory Committee.

He's a past president and is treasurer of the Maryland Pork Producers.

• Wayne C. McGinnis Farm, White Hall, Md. McGinnis, who was graduated from the University of Maryland and became a high school physical education teacher and sports coach, purchased a 260-acre farm in 1963. Along with the purchase included 50 registered Angus cows and a new tractor.

McGinnis farms with Harriet and children Anne McGinnis-Jones, Jay, and Brett. The farm size is 1,420 acres with 1,060 acres in crops and a 160-cow Angus cow-calf operation.

The farm size increased so that, in 1989, they were farming more than 1,500 acres. McGinnis, who has used only performance-tested bulls on his herd, produces 365-day steer calves averaging 700 pounds each.

