

**CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD
IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM (ISCAP)
NOMINATION FORM**

*(due May 1 to local Soil and Water Conservation District,
SWCD selections due May 15 to NRCS Area Office, Area Office selections due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ)*

*Thanks to Van Wall Group of Perry, the winner will have the free use of a
John Deere 6E Series Utility Tractor or equivalent for up to 12 months or up to 200 hours*

Eligibility

Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) **HENRY**

Farmer's Name **STEVE & ANN MALLAMS**

Address _____ City **MT PLEASANT** State **IOWA** Zip Code **52641**

Acres in Farm _____

This program is open to all farmers in the SWCD, except SWCD Commissioners, members of the State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC), and employees and sponsoring agencies. Past state winners are not eligible to compete. Past district winners are ineligible to compete during the two years subsequent to receiving the state award. All landowners who farm both highly erodible land (HEL) and non-highly erodible land (NHEL) are eligible; however, applicants with HEL/wetland conservation land must be in compliance.

Does this farm have highly erodible land and/or wetland conservation plan requirements?

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

If yes, is this farm in compliance with these requirements?

Yes: ☒ No: ☐ If no, this farm is not eligible for this award.

Certification

We certify this farm meets the basic eligibility requirements of the ISCAP award.

Signature (SWCD Chair)

Date

Signature (DC)

Date

A copy of the nominated farm's conservation plan must be followed and accompany this entry. Erosion on the farm must be adequately treated to meet district soil loss limits.

Include a map of the farm showing fields where practices are located and what types of practices are utilized. Indicate type of tillage system used.

Scoring System

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Practices to Protect Soil and Water Quality | 40 % |
| 2. Conservation Promotion | 20 % |
| 3. Conservation System Description | 40 % |

Practices Implemented to Protect Soil and Water Quality (40%)

Check the boxes for all the practices which apply.

	Required by Compliance	Not Required by Compliance
No-Till	☐	☐
Strip-Till	☐	☐
Ridge-Till	☐	☐
Contouring (this year's crop)	☐	☐
Waterways	☐	☐
Terraces	☐	☐
Diversions	☐	☐
Farm Ponds	☐	☐
Planned Grazing System	☐	☐
Pasture Planting/ Row Crop to Pasture Conversion	☐	☐
Field Borders	☐	☐
Filter Strips (along streams, sinkholes, etc.)	☐	☐
Grade Stabilization Structures	☐	☐
Water and Sediment Control Basins	☐	☐
CRP or Other Row Crop to Grassland Conversions	☐	☐
Cover Crops	☐	☐
Bioreactors	☐	☐
Saturated Buffers	☐	☐
Constructed or Enhanced Wetlands	☐	☐
Nutrient Management	☐	☐
Other Misc. Soil and Water Conservation Practices (indicate below)	☐	☐

Conservation Promotion Information (20%)

Describe how this farmer has promoted conservation? (i.e. hosted field days, community involvement, mentor, etc.)

Conservation System Description (40%)

Describe how this farmer is protecting water and air quality, managing nutrients, providing wildlife habitat, conserving energy and using technology for natural resource conservation. (Please be sure to include items not necessary for compliance.)

Steve and Ann Mallams have a diversified farming operation including livestock, seed corn, corn, and soybeans. The last two years they have been experimenting with strip till and cover crops. This year Steve and Ann converted their entire operation to a strip till tillage system, a first in their neighborhood. They have committed 240 acres to continuous cover crops for 3 consecutive years with help from the Environmental Quality Incentive Program to evaluate the economic benefits of increasing soil health. To show the benefits of strip tillage, the Mallams' have done some custom work for their neighbors in their area. This allows other farm operators to see how strip works in their fields and realize the associated cost-savings without investing large amounts of capital for ownership of specialized equipment.

Manure nutrients are treated as a valuable commodity. Manure is rotated from field to field, either where nutrients are needed based on soil tests, or based on the time period since the last application of manure.

Steve and Ann have buffered all stream corridors located in their operation with filter strips utilizing the Conservation Reserve Program. The Mallams' will plant monarch butterfly habitat with their filter strips as an enhancement with the Conservation Stewardship Program. Managing nutrients for crops through selective manure and fertilizer use, shielding the soil surface with residue management, and protecting streams with buffers allows the Mallams' to safeguard water quality on their farm.

Note: This award is open to self nomination.

Nomination Submitted By:

Name **HENRY SWCD** Date **5-1 2017**

Address **709 S IRIS STREET** City **MT PLEASANT** State **IOWA** Zip Code **52641**

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