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Present corn, soybean contest awards **Chamber recognizes county farmers at Ag Day luncheon**

Approximately 150 persons attended a Farmer-Businessman luncheon during National Ag Week last Wednesday at the Methodist church hall in Manchester.

The event is sponsored annually by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce to show appreciation to Delaware county farmers and honor participants in the 1987 Master Corn and Soybean Growers contest.

Corn, Soybean contest

Recognized as Delaware County's Master Corn Producer in the regular till category was Francis Childs of rural Manchester with a top yield of 210.90 bushels per acre.

The runnerup award with a yield of 201.99 bushels per acre went to Harl and Jean Hosch of Petersburg.

Winning the no-till division with a yield of 196.90 bushels per acre was Phil DeShaw of Worthington. Second place went to Ken Jasper of Manchester with a mark of 175.77.

Thirty-eight Delaware county farmers participated in the contest. In addition to having two yields over the 200-bushel mark, there were seven over 190, six over 180, and 11 over 175.

In the soybean contest Doran Zumbach of Coggon was the winner with a yield of 69.46 bushels per acre. Second place went to Earl Zumbach of Ryan with 66.15.

The grain contest was organized by the Manchester Jaycees.

Windbreaker award

Marvin Calonder, representing the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District, presented an annual Windbreaker award to LaVern and Mary Trumm of Route 2, Manchester.

The Trumms were cited for having an outstanding windbreak in the

county, consisting of two rows of blue spruce trees and some arborvitae that were planted 10 years ago.

Arlyn Maifeld, Chamber director who served as master of ceremonies, said the Farmer-Businessman luncheon is a salute to the strong agricultural economy in Delaware county.

He said in the past year county farmers produced \$153,380,000 worth of farm products with the average farm consisting of 240 acres. He mentioned that Delaware county is the top hog producing county in the state with 591,000 head raised in '87.

"You can see we're very dependent on agriculture," Maifeld said after also providing statistics for dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep and grain.

Food Security Act

The program speaker was Keith Krause, chairman of the Delaware County Soil Conservation District.

Krause spoke of the Food Security Act of 1985 and the implications it will have on future farming practices. He said the Food Security Act "is another one of these farm programs" which has drawn a lot of controversy and rumors. He said the Food Security program "is nothing new technically." It's designed to control soil losses.

Farmers who want to remain eligible for any of existing government programs, they must develop a conservation plan by 1990, and that plan must be implemented by 1995 on any erodible land.

Krause said the most important part of the Food Security Act is, "If you have highly erodible land, you will have a conservation plan in two years in order to be eligible for the USDA farm programs," he said.

Each plan designed to control soil losses must be approved by the SCS

office.

Ray Bulens, agriculture committee director for the Chamber, introduced the following representatives of Delaware county farm organizations: Arden Fischer, Dairy Producers; Dennis Lyons, Pork Producers; Shirley Lyons, Porkettes; Gladys Tinker, Cattle Women; Sharon Beitz, Dairy Ambassadors; Milt Retz, Farm Bureau; Warren Hillier, Grange; Joe McGrane, NFO; Ambrose Hellman, Farmers Home Administration; Keith Krause, Soil Conservation District, and Chuck Kolbet, Delaware county agriculturist with the Extension Service.