

In Contest Sponsored By Newspapers **Harper, Singley, Nic**

1954

Division I



Dewey Harper moved to his present farm, which includes 360 acres, in 1946 and began practicing soil conservation immediately. The farm is located southwest of Bloomfield.

The conservation practices completed to date include: Construction of more than two miles of waterways; Construction of approximately one and one-half miles of terraces; Approximately 75 acres of strip cropping; Approximately 40 acres of contouring; Most of permanent pasture land improved using some of initial Birdsfoot Trefoil in county; Approximately 200 rods of contour fencing and currently in process of establishing Multi-Flora Rose fencing.

Harper also carries out a livestock program which conforms with the conservation planning. The livestock program is highlighted by the production of Black Angus cattle and Corriedale sheep.

Harper is a former winner of the Davis County Soils District's conservation award.

The Division I winner is a member of the Davis County Farm Bureau and holds membership in the West Grove Methodist church. He is a former school director and is active in the Davis County Fish & Game Club. Harper has participated in the latter organization's program of raising young quail and pheasant.

He and his wife, Ruth, have one son, Larry, who plays an active role in the local Future Farmers of American chapter. Larry exhibits sheep and cattle and also engages in the chapter's conservation activities.

cklin 1954 Winners

Division II — 1954 —



This year's Division II winner goes to a mother-son farming combination. The division includes landlord-tenant farms.

Mrs. Myrtle Singley is the owner of the farm, and the land is cared for by her son, Robert. The farm is located at the west edge of the county, approximately two miles north of Highway 2. It is made up of 288 acres.

Robert began operating the farm in 1949 and launched his personal conservation program at that time. He did not secure a farm plan from the Davis County Soils District until 1951.

In carrying out his land-improvement program, Singley has strip cropped all cropland and constructed a farm pond. He has also constructed many waterways.

Singley's principal livestock project is dairy cattle. He is also initiating a beef herd and sheep flock to consume the additional forages being produced.

In spite of the busy schedule required by his farming operations, Singley still finds time for outside activities. He is a director for the Appanoose County Farm Bureau and is also a director for that county's artificial breeding association. In addition, he is a deacon in the Moulton Christian church.

Singley, 25, is married and the father of a two and one-half year old daughter.

Given Recognition For Outstanding Soil Conservation

Will Receive Awards At Annual Cooperator Meeting In November

Winners in the 1954 Soil Conservation Contest, sponsored by the Bloomfield Newspapers, were announced this week.

The contest, now in its second year, includes winners in three divisions. Competition in Division I is open to farm owner-operators. Division II is for landlord-tenant farms. Division III participation is open to new co-operators with the Davis County Soil Conservation District. The latter division changes annually. This year's contestants must have become co-operators since January 1, 1952.

This year's winners are as follows:

Division I—Dewey Harper.

Division II—Myrtle Singley (owner), Robert Singley (tenant).

Division III—Wendell Nicklin.

All farmers of the county were eligible for the contest, with the exception of soil conservation district commissioners and previous winners. The only requirement was that they be co-operators with the local district.

The contest is sponsored each year by the local newspapers, in cooperation with the Davis County Soil Conservation District. Judging is done by a committee selected by the district.

This year's winners will receive attractive engraved plaques at the annual cooperator's meeting, which is expected to be held early in November.

Davis county's winners will advance to regional competition. The regional winners will compete for state awards. Judging on the state level will also be carried out on a three division basis. Division I and II winners will then be eligible for a sweepstakes prize of a \$500 bond, provided by the Des Moines Register and Tribune.

Last year's winners, Konrad Goettsche, Mrs. J. W. Lanman and Glen Lanman, and Cleo F. Rinkenberger, were selected from approximately 400 co-operators. The number this year had been increased to approximately 450.

Purpose of the contest is to encourage better land use programs on the farms of the county.

The fact that the three winners are engaged in conservation farming is, in part, illustrated by the accompanying aerial photos. The pictures were made available by the Davis County Soil Conservation District.