

Three Overberg Brothers Win Conservation Award

The Lee County Soil Conservation District has entered the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company Soil Conservation Award Program for the last 12 years.

Last year the District won second place in southern Iowa and was so recognized at the fall conference in Des Moines last September.

Each year the District selects an outstanding conservation farmer to receive the Goodyear Certificate of Merit.

Brothers Win It

For 1969 the certificate went to three brothers Henry, Steve and Al Overberg, West Point. These brothers farm 300 acres that is located two miles south of St. Paul in Marion township.

The brothers became cooperators with the Soil Conservation District in December, 1946. The farm plan prepared with them is number 39. This plan was revised in December, 1962.

The farm land is moderately rolling to rolling. The soil types are Clinton, Pershing and Weller silt loam on all the farm land.

Contouring has been the practice used continually on many of the cropland fields for years.

Varied Farm Uses

The farm consists of approximately 152 acres in cropland, 77 acres in rotation pasture, 46 acres in permanent pasture, 15 acres in woodland and the remainder in lots and roads.

The brothers have cleared several acres of timberland and

reseeded into productive pasture land. Several acres of waterway

shaping has been accomplished over the farm land.

Farm Pond

One livestock pond was built on a forty acre field that lies about one mile from the rest of farm. Also, a diversion terrace protects one field from washing.

The brothers have a 40 cow herd of Shorthorn beef cattle and also raise 150-160 head of hogs.

With the hay and pasture needs of the livestock, good meadows and pastures help maintain a state of high fertility. Meadows consist of alfalfa, orchardgrass or brome, which are plowed under after 2-3 years.



TWO OF THE THREE OVERBERG brothers who won the Goodyear award for soil conservation practices in Lee county for 1969 are pictured here. Henry is on the left, Steve on the right. Al was absent. The brothers took up soil conservation practices 25 years ago when the district was

first organized and at different times have utilized countour plowing, terracing, and farm ponds in their farm plans. They raise Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs at their farm south of St. Paul.