

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE CONGRATULATES MASTER FARMERS, FARM HOMEMAKERS

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today congratulated the six Kansas farm couples receiving the annual Master Farmer and Master Farm Homemaker award. The award ceremony is tonight at the K-State Union.

"These farm couples have displayed outstanding leadership on behalf of agriculture for the betterment of their communities and the nation," said Senator Dole.

The award is presented through the Cooperative Extension Service and is jointly sponsored by Kansas State University and the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Farm couples are nominated by county extension councils and agents throughout the state and selected by a panel of judges. Couples are judged for their contributions to farming, homemaking, rural living, citizenship, and community activities.

The six couples receiving the award are:

Wendell and Georgia Ebright, Lyons. The Ebrights operate a diversified crop farm managing over 1,000 acres. Wendell was past president of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers and traveled to Washington, D.C., Japan, China and Hong Kong to discuss agriculture issues. The Ebrights were the first to irrigate in their county and were early users of commercial fertilizer.

Harlan and Freda House, Goodland. The Houses operate a 9,900 acre beef and crop farm. Crops raised include wheat, corn, sweet sorghum, milo, alfalfa and soybeans. In addition to their own beef operation, the Houses custom feed up to 8,000 cattle.

Vernon and Maxine Huck operate a beef farm near Protection. Their operation involves 400 cows, 400 grazing steers, grain sorghum, alfalfa and silage. Both Vernon and Maxine were school teachers and 4-H project leaders. Vernon is the Comanche County Commissioner.

Paul and Helen Hunter from Parsons operate a beef, wheat, soybean and milo farm. Paul is known as "Mr. Soil Conservation" in his area. He was the Kansas Association of Conservation District's Conservationist of the Year in 1982 and received the Governor's Award for Conservation last year by the Kansas Wildlife Federation.

Harold and Katherine Scanlan operate a 225 registered Holstein dairy herd near Abilene. Harold has been a leader for the dairy industry and soil and water conservation issues. He was the first Kansas dairyman to use artificial insemination between herds. The Scanlans have hosted 30 farm trainees from 15 foreign countries.

Max and Phyllis Porter and their sons operate a farrow to finish hog operation which produces a million pounds of pork per year. They also raise wheat and sorghum. The Porter's were the Kansas Farm Family in 1965 and Max has been a Director of the Kansas Swine Seminar, and the Pork Producers Council.