

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

the rain shower just prior to the demonstration, the seeding worked well and provided a good comparison with the variety of equipment being used.

In addition to the equipment dealers, chemical sales representatives from Chevron Chemical Company, BASF Wyandotte Corporation, and Monsanto Chemical Company were on hand to give their expert advice on chemicals to be used in conjunction with ridge tilling and no-tilling.

This 45 acre demonstration plot is rather unique in Minnesota in the respect that it combines two different planting methods on a large variety of crops. Crops in the plot for 1985 include: alfalfa, no-till winter wheat, no-till barley, no-till beans, ridge till beans, and ridge till corn.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts and U.S. Soil Conservation Service personnel from Douglas, Grant, Pope, Stevens, and West Otter Tail counties provided technical and financial assistance to establish this demonstration site. Additional assistance was provided by the Extension Service, ASCS, chemical companies, equipment dealers, Region III American Dairy Association, and Evansville Sunnyside 4-H Club.

All six crop sections on the 45 acre plot are visible from the parking area and may be inspected by interested parties throughout the year.

Hasemans Honored

~~Joan Volker~~

Joan Volker

Don and Shirley Haseman, Evansville, were chosen Douglas County "Conservation Farmers of the Year" for FY 1984 by the District Board. The Hasemans' cash cropping operation encompasses 1100 acres in Evansville, Brandon, and Millerville Townships.

Soil conservation efforts began in 1971 on the Haseman farm with the installation of a farmstead shelterbelt. This began an on-going tree planting program which includes: field wind-breaks, wildlife plantings, and an addition to their farmstead

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

shelterbelt. The years to follow brought additional soil conservation practices to the Haseman farm, including: terraces, water bank program, and ridge tillage.

The Hasemans are "pioneers" of ridge tillage in Douglas County. This concept of building ridges to plant on and leaving residue behind to control erosion is quite new to this area. Some other benefits of ridge tillage are reduced field time and reduced labor, fuel, and equipment costs. Don and Shirley are quite excited about their new farming method.

The Hasemans were guests of the Douglas SWCD at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts 48th Annual Convention in St. Paul on December 2, 3, and 4, 1984. Bob Moraczewski, Editor, THE FARMER MAGAZINE, presented them with a Certificate of Merit Award at a special Conservation Farmers luncheon.



Bob Moraczewski, Editor, THE FARMER MAGAZINE, Shirley and Don Haseman.

Douglas SWCD also presented Don and Shirley with a personalized District Cooperator sign.

Loken Retires
~~Joan Volker~~
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Julian Loken, charter member of the Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, and one of the organizers of the District in 1954 retired from the District Board effective January 1, 1985.

Even before the conservation district was formed, Julian was actively interested in solving soil erosion problems. This concern about soil erosion prompted him to become