

Wildermuths Receive Statewide Outstanding Century Farm Honor

Ohio Agriculture Director Dailey recognized the achievement of the Rodney and Edith Wildermuth family, the 2000 Outstanding Century Farm winner, during a program held in the ABN Building at the Farm Science Review. The Ohio's Century Farm Award program is an annual recognition given to productive farms held in the same family for the past 100 years or more. Each year, eight families are selected from four regions in Ohio and are recognized during the Ohio State Fair. One of the regional families



is named the statewide honoree during the Farm Science Review in September.

The Wildermuth farming tradition started in Ohio when George Kalb, who came from Maryland, purchased 160 acres in Madison Township in 1805. A Revolutionary War veteran, Kalb received a land grant for his war services. Rodney and Edith

Wildermuth have called the farm home since 1958. The farm's homestead, built in 1865, still serves as the family home. In 1984, their son Jerry and his wife

Gina joined the family operation.

Together the Wildermuths have built a top-producing dairy herd and well-known sheep operation. Edith also has a flock of laying hens and sells fresh eggs from the farm.

The Outstanding Century Farm Awards Program, now in its eighth year, is a joint project of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Historical Society, and *Ohio's Country Journal* magazine. Families are chosen for their commitment to preserving their rural heritage, their contribution to the agricultural industry, and their environmental stewardship.

Ohio Tobacco Growers to Receive Another Round of Checks

Ohio tobacco growers who recently completed applications for the National Tobacco Growers Settlement Trust (Phase II, year 2000) should receive checks in early January 2001.

Trust applications were distributed to growers beginning Sept. 20.

This year's application was made easier to complete, with instructions printed directly on the application form. ODA's Office of Tobacco Programs also held a series of meetings to assist growers in completing applications.

"To develop this year's distribution plan, we consulted with Ohio grower representatives, the Ohio Tobacco Advisory Committee, the Ohio Certification Entity, and several other tobacco states," said Ohio Agriculture Director Dailey.

Ohio's share of the Trust funds will be split 25 percent for quota holders and 75 percent for producers. Quota payments will be based upon basic farm quota. Producer payments for a farm will be based upon the combined average of actual 1999 marketings plus farm effective quota for the farm. The term

"producer" this year includes anyone who shared in the risk of producing tobacco for a farm. Based upon the Trust contributions to the tobacco companies, this year's payments will be the lowest of all 12 years of the Trust.

Farmers with questions about the Trust program or Tobacco Loss Assistance Program payments should call First Union National Bank of North Carolina at 1-877-319-8944. For information about Ohio tobacco programs, call ODA's Office of Tobacco Programs at 1-800-282-1955.