

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES FOR 1978

NATIONAL SWINE IMPROVEMENT FEDERATION

MARTIN J. C. ANNEXSTAD, JR., St. Peter, Minnesota

Nominated by the Minnesota Pork Producers' Association. Has raised commercial hogs since 1949. Selects boars from producers who raise the best performance tested swine available for his crossbreeding program. Utilizes growth rate, feed conversion and carcass merit in selecting replacements for sow herd. Served as President of the Minnesota Pork Producers' Association for 12 years, Director of National Pork Producers Council for 7 years, and member of pork committee of the National Livestock and Meat Board for 6 years. Serves on numerous advisory boards and has received many honors including selection for the Minnesota Livestock Hall of Fame.

DEAN BIERY, Rawson, Ohio

Nominated by the Ohio Pork Improvement Association. Raised commercial hogs after graduating from Ohio State prior to starting his purebred Duroc herd of about 50 sows in 1968. Emphasizes central test station in purchase of herd sires and own program. Has placed two to three pens each season for seven years in the Ohio Test Station and has participated in on-the-farm testing program since 1972. Places a great amount of emphasis on herd improvement by performance testing. Active in local and state pork production activities including serving as President of OPIA.

RICHARD HUGHES, London, Ohio

Nominated by Ohio Pork Improvement Association. Manager of Double E Farms using a computer based record system for monitoring production figures on a weekly basis for his 350 sow commercial herd. Since 1971 has purchased 80 performance tested boars from the Ohio Test Station and herd efficiency has improved substantially. Active leader in community activities and speaker for statewide events.

ARNO MOENNING, Dodge Center, Minnesota

Nominated by the Minnesota Pork Producers' Association. Started breeding purebred Hampshires in 1939 as a 4-H project. Since the late 1950's has operated a total herd testing program for his 100 sow herd stressing performance and carcass merit. Has centrally tested and sold boars in central test and on-farm performance tested sales. Organizer of the Dodge County Pork Producers and leader in numerous local, state, and national swine organizations, including NSIF. Recipient of the 1975 Minnesota Honorary Pork Producers Award and Top Performance Pen Award, New Ulm Test Station.

DICK NASH, Sharpsville, Indiana

Nominated by the Indiana Boar Test Station. Responsible for supervising the breeding program for the William G. Nash and Sons purebred Hampshire and Yorkshire herds. Was the top Hampshire recorder in 1977 with 2621 hogs and top the first 10 months of 1978 with 225 litters and 1420 pigs. Obtain performance tests on about 600 boars each year. Has served on the test station advisory board and has provided leadership at both state and national levels. Active in numerous swine organizations, has judged at many county, state, national and breed swine shows. Was selected as Indiana's Pork All American in 1974.

JEAN V. PICKART, Camden, Indiana

Commercial producer nominated by the Indiana Boar Test Station. Operates Fairacre Farms, Inc. in partnership with his son Bill. Farrows about 200 sows and finishes out about 3100 hogs per year. Relies on production tested boars and all gilt replacements for their crossbreeding program are selected from within the herd. Uses growth rate, feed efficiency and sow mothering ability in breeding program. Active in the Carrol County Pork Producers since 1946. Provided primary leadership in the development of swine health programs for Carrol County and the state of Indiana.

JAMES VOLK, Battle Creek, Nebraska

Nominated by Nebraska SPF Swine Accrediting Agency, Inc. and supported by Farmland Swine Testing Stations. Started performance testing in his herd in 1948. Established his first SPF herd in 1960 and now has three herds totaling 120 Yorkshire sows and 60 Hampshire sows. Was instrumental in organizing the Farmland Testing Station at Clarkson, Nebraska in 1966 and helped start the SENEK Test Station at Wymore, Nebraska. Utilizes on-the-farm testing program and has had pigs at test stations for the past 21 years. Helped organize the Nebraska Swine Council and has served on numerous advisory committees. Recipient of numerous awards including selection as Nebraska's Pork All-American in 1970 and the Nebraska Pork Producers Purebred Breeder Builder Award in 1977.