

1980 NSIF Distinguished Service Award
Le Roy Faint, Mt. Vernon, Iowa
Presented by Bob Casey, Farmland Industries

It is my pleasure to announce that LeRoy Faint has been named your 1980 winner of the NSIF Distinguished Service Award. We, in Iowa, feel that LeRoy has an illustrious career in Swine Improvement and we would like to share with you a few of his accomplishments. He comes from a family that has long been noted for their ability to raise and show both breeding stock and excellent market hogs. We could spend the rest of the evening talking about the various shows that LeRoy and brother Bob won during the 40's, 50's and 60's. They showed and won at local, regional, national and international hog events. It is fair to say that they won as many carcass shows as live events indicating their interest in the amount of meat in the carcass.

LeRoy's interest in swine improvement came along with the event of the test station programs in Iowa during the 50's. He was a pioneer participant in the tests with Ames and Eagle Grove where he evaluated both Hampshire and Berkshire hogs. He served on many committees in an advisory capacity to the test stations and was also President of the Iowa Purebred Swine Council.

He was the first manager of the Farmland Test Station at Lisbon, Iowa and continued as manager from the opening in 1963 until 1975. During that time 3,800 boars and barrows were evaluated. He managed 46 auction sales. Since that time, he has served as on-farm evaluator for Farmland. During the past 5 years, he has weighed and scanned over 50,000 hogs for breeders in eastern Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois.

We would be negligent in our duties if we didn't tell you about LeRoy's love for working with young people, especially those connected with 4-H and FFA. You can really sense this when you see him talk to each young exhibitor when he is judging a hog show. He has served as judge in well over 100 county hog shows plus many state and national shows and even a few breed conferences.

Le Roy has received many service awards but he is especially proud of the fact that he was named 1979 Iowa Honorary Master Pork Producer. He is considered by his peers in the pork industry to be one of the most knowledgeable people in our swine industry. We would like at this time to present LeRoy Faint of Mt. Vernon, Iowa as the 1980 winner of the NSIF Distinguished Service Award.