

# Conservation Farm of 2007

Pickaway SWCD recognized Scherer Farms as the Conservation Farm of 2007. Bob and Peggy Scherer own the 300 acre farm located in Jackson Township along the Scioto River.

Bob farms on the halves with Tim and Tom Hartsock, who share his desire for conservation of the land.

Ten years ago, Bob enrolled land along the river in the Conservation Reserve Program and planted native warm season grasses for habitat and conservation before the practice was popularized by the Scioto Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.



L-R Julie, Peggy, Bob, & Tom Scherer  
Tom and Julie are Bob and Peggy's son and daughter-in-law.

Bob installed one of the first modern irrigation systems in Pickaway County. The system consists of 2 center pivot computer controlled units fed by river water. Irrigation is particularly useful in improving the quality of the very droughty soil.

He enrolled all borders and corners of the irrigated fields into the Quail Buffer Program, planting additional native warm season grasses. This replaced the habitat that was lost when over a mile of fence was removed to add the irrigation systems, and to improve the efficiency of the farming operation.

A crop rotation plan, including multiple years of alfalfa, adds to the conservation practices on the farm.

Bob is one of the founders of the Deercreek Chapter of Pheasants Forever and he has a passion for hunting upland game. By enrolling his land in conservation programs he is making an effort to bring back pheasant and quail to the area.

Bob and Peggy were very surprised and appreciative to receive this award. They thanked Doug Gorby, Farm Bill Biologist, the District, and the Hartsocks for their assistance with the conservation programs.

Table of Contents	
Annual Banquet Highlights	pg 2
Conservation Security Program	pg 3
Soil Productivity	pg 4
Calendar	pg 5

