

Around Dakota Ag

Dakota Digest

Montrosses, Williams honored for cattle work

Bob and Nancy Montross, DeSmet, N.D., received the Trailblazer Award, and Myron Williams, Wall, S.D., was recognized as a finalist for the Beef Industry Vision Award at the 2007 Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show. The Trailblazer award recognizes achieve-



DON TANAKA

ments in beef promotion. The Vision award, sponsored by Micro Beef Technologies, recognizes individuals, businesses and organizations in the cattle industry that have incorporated innovation into their operation.

Zero-till conference recognizes Tanaka

Don Tanaka, a soil scientist with the USDA Agricultural Research Service's Northern Plains Research Laboratory, Mandan, N.D., received the Zero Till Non-farmer of the Year Award at the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Conference.

Young farmer-rancher award goes to Paul Thomas

Paul Thomas, Velva, N.D., recently won the North Dakota Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancher Discussion Meet competition. Thomas and his wife, Karen, began farming full time in 2004. Kevin Moore, Arthur, N.D., was runner-up.

Fonder farms join Organic Valley

The Fonder brothers and cousins have become the first certified organic dairy farmers from South Dakota to join Organic Valley Family of Farms. The families involved include Rick and Helaine Fonder, Matt and Eileen

Fonder, John and Sander Fonder, and Bill and Jeanine Fonder, all of Milbank, S.D., and Paul Fonder, and Steve and Mara Fonder, of Big Stone City, Minn. Among the four farms that they operate together, the Fonders milk 211 Jersey, Normandy and Holstein cows.

Roghair named Premier Seed Grower

Henry Glen Roghair of Okaton in Jones County has been named Premier Seed Grower of the Year for 2007 by the South Dakota Crop Improvement Association. Roghair accepted the award at the South Dakota Ag Horizons Conference in Pierre.

North Dakotans to serve on national committees

Three North Dakota Farm Bureau members have been chosen to serve on several advisory committees for the American Farm Bureau Federation. Producers Peter Lovas, Allen Tucker and Bruce Frietag will each be serving one-year terms on their respective committees. During their term, they will set priorities and make policy recommendations to AFBF, the nation's largest general farm organization, regarding their agricultural crops and enterprises. Lovas, from Traill County, will be serving on the Feed Grains Committee. Alternating for Lovas is John Heaton from Driscoll, N.D. Heaton currently serves as the District 5 director for the North Dakota Farm Bureau. Allen Tucker from Pembina County will be serving on the Sugar Committee. The alternate for Tucker will be Dan Delahoyde from Cogswell. Delahoyde currently serves as the District 3 director for the North Dakota Farm Bureau. Serving on the Wheat Committee is Bruce Frietag from Bowman County. Alternating is Doyle Johannes from Underwood. Johannes is the District 6 director for the North Dakota Farm Bureau.

Keller wins excellence award at N.D. ag department

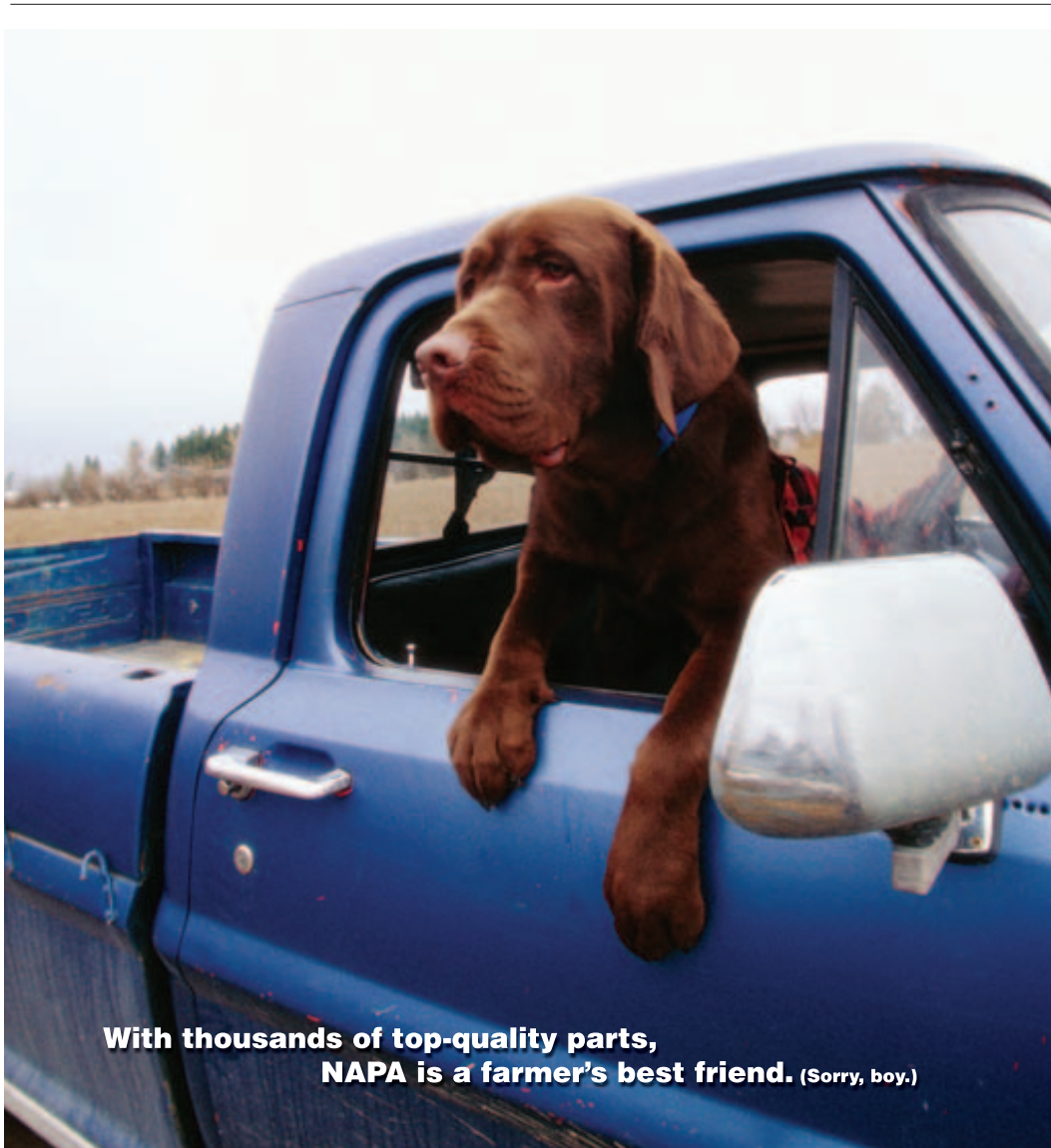
Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson presented the Commissioner's Award for Professional Excellence to Susan Keller at the recent annual staff seminar of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. A native of Corning, Kan., Keller was raised on a beef, dairy and crop farm. She earned both a bachelor's degree in animal science and a doctorate in veterinary medicine from Kansas State University. She and her husband, Dwight, operate Countryside Veterinary Clinic on the ranch south of Mandan.

SDCIA honors inspectors for crop improvement work

The South Dakota Crop Improvement Association honored three field inspectors for decades of service to crop improvement work in the state. Those honored were Walt Johnson of Spearfish, a field inspector for 52 years; Calvin Pietz of Mitchell, a field inspector for 33 years; and Dewayne Siebrasse of Aberdeen, a field inspector for 31 years.

Metzger named to dairy education chair

Lloyd Metzger was appointed associate professor and Alfred Chair in Dairy Education at South Dakota State University. He will also continue as the director of the Midwest Dairy Foods Research Center.



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