Nebraska

Hometown: Lexington, Nebraska Nominated by: Dawson County, Nebraska Cooperative Extension

Year Inducted: 2002

Harold M. Stevens - Dawson County Extension Agent, Retired

4-H Efforts: Nebraska 4-Her. Overseas People to People Tours, Heritage Tours to the eastern US, major Cattle Feeder Tours in the Midwest, National Western Champion Livestock Judging Team, President - Nebraska University 4-H Club. Recognized work for Groundwater Recharge legislation, county/state irrigation issues, soil testing legislation, Initiating/developing county cattlemen, corn growers, pork producers and sheep/wool commodity groups.

<u>Honors</u>: USDA Award of Superior Service, Agricultural Builders of Nebraska charter member, NE Hall of Agricultural Achievement, NE Block and Bridle Hall of Fame, NE Agribusiness Award.

"Of all the crops produced in Dawson County, our 4-H youth are our top crop."

Harold Stevens grew up in the "Dirty Thirties." With money short, 4-H was the affordable way to be with other youth, set the stage for leadership development, and expand Harold's background beyond a rural Nebraska farm. After high school, Harold farmed for 3 years in the drought conditions of Southwest Nebraska.

After attending National 4-H Camp in Washington in the summer of 1939, Harold's County Agent encouraged him to go to college, where he majored in Vocational Agriculture and Animal Science. This encouragement and Harold's love for 4-H prompted him to serve as Dawson County Extension Agent, a position he held 42 years until retirement.



4-H Clubs are involved in many projects throughout the year.



Youth Animal Science Tour conducted by Harold Stevens.



National Champion 4-H Livestock Loss Demonstration Team