

Producer of the Month

June 2010

This month's "Producer of the Month" is Bob and Tim Carlson. The Carlson's farm is located west of Quimby, Iowa. Bob started his farming career west of Quimby in 1960. The farm has been in the family since the mid 1930's. Today, they grain farm 1200 acres and are also stockholders in Willow Ridge Pork, a 2000 sow farrow-to-wean unit. They receive approximately 5000 weaner pigs annually from the sow unit.



Bob and Judy recently celebrated their 49 year wedding anniversary. Bob and Judy have five children (three boys and two girls) and are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren.

Tyler, the third oldest, is a carpenter and custom feeds grower-finisher pigs for the farming operation. Tim, the oldest, started raising his first group of pigs when he was a Junior in high school. He graduated from Western Iowa Tech in Sioux City, Iowa and

joined the farming operation in 1980. He and his wife Lisa have two children (a boy and girl). Tim's son, Austin, is a senior at Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, Iowa. He plans to return to the Carlson farming operation after he graduates in May 2011.

Bob and Tim are feeding the UltraCare® nursery feeding program as well as the EcoCare® grower-finisher program with NEWtraStart™ Feed added. They keep detailed records and utilize the tools made available by their Land O'Lakes Feed Swine Consultant (i.e., balanced rations, financial projections, feed budgets, close-outs, etc.). Tim commented, "Since switching to the Land O'Lakes Feed programs, pig performance has measurably improved." They feel feeding the Land O'Lakes Feed programs with NEWtraStart™ Feed has really helped reduce the wean-to-finish death loss.



Bob and Tim are both involved in community activities. Bob is active in his local church and other group activities. Tim is active in his local church functions and also, as a board member for his local coop. Bob plans to gradually exit the hog operation and spend more time with his wife, grandkids and fishing. Tim plans to grow the business by expanding grain acres and adding more finishing space.

Prepared by: Doug Davis, Land O'Lakes Cooperative Swine Consultant at First Cooperative Association in Cherokee, Iowa.

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