

THE KRZMARZICK FAMILY was named the 2008 Brown SWCD Outstanding Cooperators. From left: Tony and Dorothy Krzmarzick, Jacque and Pat Krzmarzick.



Pat and Jacque Krzmarzick of rural Sleepy Eye have been named the 2008 Brown SWCD Outstanding Conservation Cooperators.

The family makes their home in Section 12 of Home Township. Pat graduated from Mankato State University in 1983 and married Jacque (Ladd) in 1986. Pat is a member of the St. Mary's School Board and is an independent insurance agent primarily associated with Stark Farmers Mutual of Sleepy Eye. They have five children: Adam, David, Kyle, Leah and Noah.

For the past 10 years, Pat and Jacque have been farming and gradually assuming some of the workload of Pat's parents, Tony and Dorothy, who are still involved in the operation.

Tony started farming in 1947 on the family farm where he was born and raised. Tony and Dorothy started to correct some of the soil erosion problems by initiating conservation practices in the early 1970s. Over the years, as Pat became involved in the operation, additional best management practices were installed.

The farm has 10,470 feet of terraces and diversions, one acre of sod waterways and 8.4 acres of filter strips in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). They also enjoy a 1.4 acre native prairie restoration.

The 800 acre farm consists of corn, soybeans and canning crops. Conservation tillage is practiced on these acres. Pat also finished 12,000 hogs per year for Christensen Family Farms. The hog manure generated is applied to cropland according to a nutrient management plan.

The Krzmarzicks were recognized for their land stewardship at the 2008 Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts Annual State Convention in St. Paul.