



P.O. Box 389  
25 Government Drive  
Newton, North Carolina 28658-0389  
Telephone: 828-465-8200  
Fax: 828-465-8392

**For Release:** September 22, 2017

**CELEBRATION HELD AT HUNSUCKER FARMS IN HONOR OF  
OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION FARM FAMILY AWARD**

NEWTON – A celebration event was held today at Hunsucker Farms in Conover to recognize Commissioner Dan Hunsucker and his family for their receipt of the 2017 Outstanding Conservation Farm Family Award from the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The event featured a recognition ceremony, lunch, and tours of Hunsucker Farms.

Dignitaries who participated in the ceremony included Steve Troxler, North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture; Randy Isenhower, Chair, Catawba County Board of Commissioners; Jimmy Gentry, North Carolina State Grange; Chris Hogan, North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts President; Susie Devine, Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District Chair; Laura Parnell, Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District Vice Chair; Steve Killian, Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor; and Rev. Scott Johnson, St. John's Lutheran Church.

According to the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Outstanding Conservation Farm Family award recognizes farmers and farm families who are actively taking the initiative to implement sound, innovative and cost-effective conservation techniques and are actively involved in conservation education.

Every year the division helps judge farms entered in the association's competition. Subject matter experts from federal and state agencies, North Carolina State University, farm organizations and association members choose area and regional winners before selecting the state-level Outstanding Conservation Farm Family.

The division helps organize a celebration event to recognize the family and the soil and water conservation district that partners with the family to implement conservation practices on the farm.

For more information about the Outstanding Conservation Farm Family Award, visit [http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/farm\\_family.html](http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/farm_family.html).

###

**PHOTO CUTLINE:** Dignitaries gathered at Hunsucker Farms Sept. 22 to celebrate the Hunsucker family's receipt of the 2017 NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Outstanding Farm Family Award. Pictured L-R: Catawba County Commission Chair Randy Isenhower; NC Association of Soil and Water Districts President Chris Hogan; NC Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler; Dan and Kathy Hunsucker and family; and Jimmy Gentry, NC State Grange.

**Media Contact:** Amy McCauley, Communications & Marketing Director, (828) 465-8464,  
[amccauley@catawbacountync.gov](mailto:amccauley@catawbacountync.gov)