



Photo by TED BROWN

Norm Biggar has probably been 'out standing in his field' before, after 15 years as a crop farmer but last week he was recognized as Halton's Outstanding Farmer of the Year. Presenting the award at the Acton Legion is Ed Segsworth (right), whose family sponsors the annual award.

## Crop grower harvests farmer of the year award

By TED BROWN  
Special to The Champion

When it comes to farming, nobody does it better than Norm Biggar. And he has the plaque to prove it.

More than 250 people gathered last Friday night at Acton Legion to see Mr. Biggar named Halton's Outstanding Farmer of the Year for 1990.

The 9th annual dinner honoured the Oakville area farmer with presentations from politicians and a plaque from Halton Region Federation of Agriculture.

A fifth generation farmer, Mr. Biggar joined his father's operation at Burnhamthorpe Road, west of Trafalgar Road in 1975. Together with wife Sandra and daughters Stacey, Lianne and Natalie, Mr. Biggar and his father run the Biggar Brothers cash crop business.

They grow 1,400 acres planted with soybeans, grain corn, oats, winter wheat, red clover and alfalfa. It's no ordinary cash crop operation however, the Biggars use new tillage and crop rotation methods and participate in the Land Stewardship Program.

The award winner has also been keeping rainfall records for the past 15 years to enable him to make the best use of the land. Mr. Biggar participates in the Regions sewage sludge program by fertilizing fields with this organic matter.

Active in farm organizations he's a member of the Halton Federation of Agriculture, has served as chairperson of the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee (HAAC) and the Wheat Committee. In 1984, Mr. Biggar was recognized as a regional finalist in the Jaycees' Outstanding Young Farmer Award program.

Ed Segsworth, a previous recipient of the Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award, and its sponsor, made the presentation to this year's winner. The award is given in memory of Mr. Segsworth's father Ross.

Mr. Biggar also received recognition from Halton Region Chairman Peter Pomeroy, and Halton Centre Liberal MPP Barbara Sullivan, who is a friend of the Biggars and reminisced about the day the award recipient was born.

Mr. Biggar is the ninth recipient of the award. Previous winners are (in order from 1982 to 1989): John McNabb of Georgetown; Richard Sovereign of Milton; Ed Segsworth of Burlington; Barbara Ford of Milton; Jim Livock of Oakville; James Reid of Hornby; Bruce Nixon of Norval; and George Bird of Georgetown.

The Halton Federation of Agriculture also presented the annual \$300 scholarship to Scott Bennett, son of Larry and Cathy Bennett of Walkers Line, Burlington. Scott is currently attending the University of Guelph in the agricultural diploma course.

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