



CONSERVATION *Showcase*

Carmichael Family Honored for Stewardship

The Society for Range Management's (SRM) South Dakota Section annually recognizes outstanding managers for their outstanding range management each year in four SRM areas across the state.

The Society honored Pete and Ann Carmichael of Timber Lake, SD, with the 2008 Society for Range Management's (SRM) Excellence in Range Management award. It is customary for the award winners to host a grazing tour that following year. The Carmichael's tour was held in late June with haying and heat having a good turnout with close to 35 people present. Root Beer and Coke floats were handed out which helped ease the heat.

The Carmichaels bought their ranch in 1983, which consisted of cropland, rangeland, and wetlands. Pete approached the Natural



Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in 2004, with the idea of seeding the cropland back to grass, installing some cross fences, and installing a water system for an intense rotational grazing system.

Former Timber Lake District Conservationist Kent Baumberger worked with Pete to come up with the right plan for his operation.

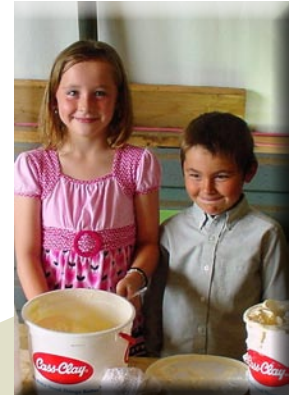
The result was a well watered, 11 pasture rotation between two herds, which the Carmichaels graze with approximately 450 head of ewes and

lambs rotating them every few days to every couple of weeks, precipitation/production dependent.

Pete's lifelong experiences, knowledge of range management, his good stewardship and family, have all contributed to making the Carmichael operation successful.

Pete and Ann have five children who assist in their operation: their youngest daughter, Heidi, and son-in-law, Deb Allen Ducheneaux, and their grandchildren Morgan, Brandt and Cole with the daily





chores and management of the ranch. Do not forget Pete's working dogs – his prized herd of Border Collies. Their contributions to managing livestock are much appreciated. Not only is Pete Carmichael distinguished for his good

grazing management, he is also renowned for the breeding and training of working Border Collies. He has been all over the United States competing in cattle and sheep dog trials and has won numerous awards and acclamations.

A special thank you goes out to all the tour sponsors: Biegler Equipment/NAPA, Country Market, Dakota Roundup Restaurant & Lounge, Moreau-Grand Electric Co-op, Jack Anderson, Schlosser Ditching and Plumbing, the Richters,

the Swifts, and Western Dakota Bank. Thank you to all the guest presenters: Dwight Tober, Kent Baumberger, Mike Huber and Rod Voss and for all the behind the scenes helpers!

Thank you to the Carmichaels for hosting this grazing tour and stock dog demo, and for sharing knowledge, words of wisdom, and all hospitality. You are commended for your outstanding grazing management!



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