Raffaelli and Krumms Cited For Sugar Beet Production

Mike Raffaelli, Jr., of Imperial, was honored as the top sugar producer in the Sterling Factory District of the Great Western Sugar Company during special awards ceremonies in Sterling Tuesday evening.

Henry Krumm and Eugene Krumm of Champion were recognized among the high ten in yield of sugar per acre. Henry and Eugene were also honored as high yield producers at both the Andrews station west of Imperial and the Brandon station. They raised beets on the Arlyn Cox farm in the Champion area and on the Hughes farms in the northwest part of the county.

This year the high ten growers produced an average of over 8,000 pounds of sugar per acre. This is the first time in the history of the factory that the average for the top ten went over the 8,000 pound figure.

Unlike many of the farmers in the Sterling district, most of the beet growers in Chase County have large acreages. It is much more difficult to compete in average yield production when larger acreages are involved.

Mike Raffaelli, Jr., produced 11,614 tons of beets on 792.8 acres. His average percent of sugar was 15.45 which means that he produced 3,589,088 lbs. of sugar. The Raffaeles moved to Chase County from the Sterling area in 1968. This year Mike raised beets on the Averill Hudnall, Delbert and E. D. Bussell, Arnold and Orville Kunnemann, Wilfred Miller, R. J. Schille, Eugene Haarberg, and George Newman farms. Although hail cut down yields to Chase County from the Sterling area in a number of fields, Mr. Raffaelli was still able to produce the award winning highest total pounds of sugar in the Sterling district. The award of an electric knife set and citation was presented by Jim Gonyou.

Henry Krumm has grown sugar beets for over 30 years and Gene Krumm has been involved in the business since he was a boy. This is the first year they have been recognized in the coveted top ten category.

Growers are required to have a contract of at least 15 acres to qualify for entry in the top ten awards program. Henry and Gene raised a total (continued on page 10)
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of over 250 acres of beets this year, although the award winning contract was for only a portion of that total.

Average yield of the Krumms' award winning contract was 26.1 tons per acre with 15.38 percent sugar for a total of 8,022 pounds of sugar per acre. These beets were grown on the Arlyn Cox farm in an area where no hail damage was received.

The Gene Krumms came to Chase County in 1968 and Henry Krumms moved to the area the following year. They had resided in the Ovid, Colo., area before coming here. The award of a silver sugar bowl was presented by Robert Gray, Great Western agriculturalist for this area.

Other growers recognized in the top ten of the Sterling district included:

- Jake M. Schell, factory station, 27.0 tons, 15.48 percent, 8,361 pounds.
- Guido and Attilio Facchinello, Ford station, 25.6 tons, 16.12 percent, 8,236 pounds.
- Melvin W. Armstrong, Crook station, 23.0 tons, 17.67 percent, 8,119 pounds.
- Leo and Basil Stieber, Iliff station, 24.7 tons, 16.35 percent, 8,076 pounds.
- Herman Gerk, Iliff station, 26.9 tons, 14.95 percent, 8,031 pounds.
- Jerome and Richard Schell, factory station, 26.1 tons, 15.36 percent, 8,007 pounds.
- Edward Raffael, Jessica station, 24.0 tons, 16.62 percent, 7,891 pounds.

A large delegation of Chase County people attended the banquet and awards program at the Elks Lodge in Sterling Tuesday evening. The event was sponsored by the Great Western Sugar Company. District Manager Lester Garner served as master of ceremonies.

Advertising in The Imperial Republican pays.