

CFR 0865

Mr. Benjamin F. Holdman

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) Mr. Benjamin F. Holdman

Your address: Star Route, Box 530 Pendleton, Ore. 97801
Street, Route, or Box Town Zip

Location of Farm: Star Route, Box 530, Pendleton Umatilla
Address County

To qualify as a Century Farm, a farm must have not less than 10 acres with a gross income from farm use of not less than \$500 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for Century Farm Honors. Does your farm meet this qualification? yes

Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm Holdman Brothers-Oro, Frank, Wade, and William (Oro made first purchase)

* Year founder settled on farm 1882 Where did he come from? Adams, Ore.
(Born in Wilbur, Ore.)

Who farms the land today? Holdman Ranches Inc. which is a family corporation
with Ben Holdman President and general manager

Relationship to original owners Grandfather and great uncles

Are any of the original buildings still in use? If so which ones? no

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago, please list:

Ran sheep. Started raising wheat in 1893

What do you raise on farm today? Wheat, barley and cattle

How many generations live on the farm today (Names)? two generations on the

premises--Benjamin F. and Christopher B., his son; Harold, Ben's father,
works at the ranch & commutes from Pendleton, making 3 generations involved
How many times has the original farm been divided? twice but still within the
family.

Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? yes

Please return form to:

Elizabeth W. Buchler, Field Historian
Oregon Historical Society
1230 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon, 97205

Ben F. Holdman
Signature of Owner

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In family records, the Holdman Brothers moved to the Holdman area and ran sheep from 1882 to 1893, at which time they switched to wheat farming. The first actual purchase of land was Dec. 7, 1885 when Oro Holdman purchased 155 acres from John Bishop. We assume they ran their sheep on leased land or on open range until the time of the first purchase. The brothers started homesteading and purchasing additional land around 1887. The town of Holdman was built between 1900 and 1906. It burned down in later years. *Now just 2 grain elevators and 4 houses and an old school bldg. remain, but it remains on maps.*

Benjamin F. Holdman is the grandson of Frank Holdman. The great uncles- Oro, Wade, and William had no children.

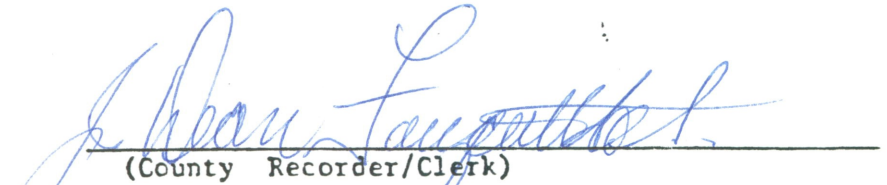
CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Benjamin F. Holdman

Star Route, Box 530, Pendleton, Oregon

(owner's Name and Address)

is applying for Century Farm Honors has been in his family
continuously for one hundred or more years.


(County Recorder/Clerk)
J. Dean Fouquette, Sr.,
Umatilla County Clerk

April 19, 1985

Date

VF Cent Farm

Umatilla

'Great industry'

Ben Holdman enjoys working for growers

Ben Holdman, Pendleton area farmer, was elected vice president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League at the annual convention and took over the position at the Jan. 3, 1991 meeting of the board of directors.

Ben was appointed to the position of secretary/treasurer last November when that position was vacated by Paul Schanno, who assumed the vice presidency when K.C. Loiland resigned.

Ben and his wife, Nora Lee, and their son, Chris, raise wheat and barley on their Century Farm northwest of Pendleton. What started as a 155-acre sheep ranch in 1882 is now 5,200 acres. The farm was started by Ben's grandfather, Frank, and three great-uncles: Ora, Wade and William.

Holdman, 59, grew up in Pendleton and after a stint in the Navy and duty in the Philippines, attended Eastern Oregon State College. It was here that he met Nora Lee Temple.

In 1956, Ben and his wife and new daughter moved to Holdman, where they tore down the old blacksmith shop and built a house using the wood from the old United Brethren Church.

Ben and Nora Lee enjoy traveling and it was at Ben's urging that Nora Lee retired from her teaching position in Helix after 17 years to allow them more time to travel. "Then times got tough and put a stop to that. Now, we do travel as much as we can and try to go somewhere every year," he said.

Don Peterson, past OWGL president, asked Ben to come in as a committee chairman a few years ago.

"And the next thing I knew I was chairman of the NAWG committee and then I was requested to run through the chairs," Ben explained, "and I thoroughly enjoy it.

"IT'S A GREAT industry. I'm very proud of it!"

Ben is chairman of the Internal Finance Committee of the OWGL and will be overseeing, with the staff, the



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development of an improved management accounting system.

He was chairman of the Economics and Finance Committee and was founder and president of the Umatilla County Marketing Club.

Chris Holdman is current president of the club.

"I'm a strong believer in education. That's why I have promoted the marketing club so much and helped establish the farm management class at the college (Blue Mountain Community

College).

"I testified on behalf of it and worked to get it. We have participated in the farm management program for 10 or 12 years and still do," Ben said.

Serving his third term as chairman of the Commodity Futures Committee of the National Association of Wheat Growers, Ben is also a member of the board of directors of NAWG.

Public service is not a new mantle for Ben. He formerly was on the budget committee of Blue Mountain Community College for 11 years (two as chairman), budget committee of Helix School District, Pendleton Grain Growers board of directors, past exalted ruler of the Elks Lodge, member of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer vestry, and past state president of the National Farmers Organization.

THE HOLDMANS also have three daughters: Pam, a claims adjuster for Safeco in Portland; Vicki, a CPA with Kaiser Permanente; and Robyn, special assistant to the director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. **B**