



From left, Keith, Marvin, Tina and Wendy Hill received the Delaware Century Farm Award for their 100-year-old farm in Milford Hundred, Del. Keith is the fifth generation of the family to till the farm, which now grows bedding and vegetable plants, herbs and potted plants.

"For the Hill family, diversity is the name of the game," said Sheppard.

State Representative Bob Walls presented the Hills with one of the tributes to the family from the Delaware House of Representatives. He said, as a child, he had lived three-fourths of a mile from the Hill family farm, in Milford Hundred, Del.

"I helped do lima beans when George I. (Hill) ran the farm," Walls said.

Marvin and Tina Hill received the historic structures award and the century farm award. The Hill family resides on the back part of the farm and son Keith is the fifth generation to till the 100-year-old acreage.

The Hills have preserved the farmhouse, smokehouse, granary, barn and shed from the 1800s. The granary was used to store sweet potatoes; the barn housed a dairy herd in the late 1950s and hogs in the '70s and '80s.

The Hills began a produce market in 1996. They have three greenhouses on the farm and grow bedding and vegetable plants, herbs and potted plants.

"Farming is our No. 1 enterprise, may we never forget that," said Sen. Joseph Booth, who presented Senate recognition awards to the families.

Delaware has 114 farms enrolled in the Century Farms program, including the Oct. 18 honorees.

The program began in 1987.