

NEWS RELEASE



**Ohio
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ST Genetics Receives Cattlemen's Environmental Stewardship Award

(MARYSVILLE, Ohio) –The Ohio Cattlemen's Association (OCA) awarded ST Genetics of South Charleston, Ohio, the Environmental Stewardship Award at the OCA awards banquet held Jan. 11, 2020 at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center in Lewis Center, Ohio.

In an effort to recognize individuals who excel in preserving and protecting the environment associated with their farm, OCA and *In Ohio Country Today* jointly sponsor the Environmental Stewardship Award. The award presentation featured a video of the ST Genetics that was generously sponsored by the Ohio Beef Council.

ST Genetics of South Charleston, Ohio houses 550 dairy animals and employs 60 employees at the Ohio Heifer Center. Paul Detweiler, general manager of the facility, stated they are a full functioning ordinary dairy doing extraordinary things. Initially, in 2010, ST Genetics exported pregnant dairy animals to Turkey and Russia. The facility is the largest permitted cattle farm by the Ohio Department of Agriculture with maximum capacity at 9,800 head. The Ohio Heifer Center prioritizes producing feed efficient animals through the ecofeed program, using reproductive technologies that increase the effectiveness of sex semen usage, and being environmental stewards in housing and welfare. Their focus on sustainability is implemented through their bedding process. The base of their bedding is removed when spoiled, recycled, and replaced in the pen. Sustainability is encouraged in every single part of the operation on the operation.

The Ohio Cattlemen's Association is a non-profit membership organization that represents the business interests and way of life important to farm families that raise cattle. It serves as the voice and issues manager for all of Ohio's beef cattle business including cattle breeders, producers and feeders. It is the beef industry's grassroots policy development organization and is an affiliate of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. The Ohio Cattlemen's Association strives to maintain profitability and growth of Ohio's beef industry, while providing consumers with safe and wholesome beef.

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Cutline- *ST Genetics, Ohio Heifer Center was honored with the Environmental Stewardship Award at the OCA Banquet. Pictured from left to right are Aaron Arnett and Paul Detweiler.*