

Edward W. Miller



Edward W. Miller, a native of Hampshire County, has been a member of the West Virginia tree fruit industry, general agriculture, and community development for many years. He is a part of the Miller clan which started fruit growing in the Eastern Panhandle about the turn of the century (1900), and established orchards in Berkley, Jefferson, Morgan, and Hampshire counties.

An operator of 600 acres of orchard, he continues, with his son, to produce, package, and market high quality fruit, both here and abroad. He pioneered the use of the trickle irrigation system for agricultural use in the Eastern Panhandle area. He has experimented with varieties of grass legumes for adaptation for cover and forage crops in the various orchards.

Mr. Miller has been cooperater with the Potomac Valley Soil Conservation District and has cooperated freely with research scientists in various departments at West Virginia University and the Experiment Farm at Kearneysville. He has maintained close contact with all phases of the orchard industry and is a member of the West Virginia Horticultural Society and the Hampshire County Fruit Growers. He has maintained state and national fruit grower and advisory groups.

A highly respected businessman, Mr. Miller provides employment for fifty persons on a year-round basis plus 100 or more seasonal workers. He has employed and trained many high school students in Hampshire County for many years in orchard work.

He is a dedicated conservationist and is alert to the adoption of new and improved agricultural conservation measures. Mr. Miller has initiated many proposals for the betterment of the fruit and agricultural industries and has offered advice and consolidation whenever called upon.

A modest man when discussing his accomplishments, Mr. Miller has always refused to be recognized for his outstanding service. He has always urged that such awards be made to his co-workers. Personally interested in welfare of his employees and the people of Hampshire County, Mr. Miller has made numerous contributions to the churches in his community and is a member of the Board of the Hampshire Memorial Hospital.