### Lester and Annabelle Brinkman Farm

**Established:** Lester Brinkman started farming this farm for Arthur Wolf in 1953.

**Township:** Highland

**Owners:** Dave and Lois Brown, Denny Brinkman, and Judi Clymer

**Operators:** Milo Crockett and Dave Rieke

**Grow/Raise:** Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Pygmy goats, Boer goats, and Lambs for 4-H projects

**Past Grown/Raised:** Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Oats, Tomatoes, Dairy cows, Pigs, Rabbits, and Lambs

**Brands of Equipment:** Allis-Chalmers, International, Ford, Oliver, John Deere, and Gleaner

**Generations:** Currently in 2nd generation of Brinkman's

In 1953, Lester and Annabelle Brinkman and family moved into the home and Lester began farming for Arthur Wolf, owner of the home. Arthur visited the farm frequently and grew and cared for a fruit orchard growing fruit such as apples, peaches, pears, cherries, and red raspberries. Lester and Annabelle purchased the farm in 1966. The farm was put into a Life Lease Estate. Lester and Annabelle moved to Defiance, and then David and Lois Brown purchased the house and buildings in 1997. Upon the deaths of Lester and Annabelle, this farm was then inherited by Lois Brown, Judi Clymer, and Denny Brinkman. Dave and Lois take the most pride in the neatness and cleanliness of the almost weed free fields and the trimming and upkeep around the fields. They also take pride in the care and upkeep of the house and buildings and the well mowed lawns including the lanes. They are also very proud of their vegetable and flower gardens. Lois feels very blessed to have grown up on this farm and now to be part owner of the property. They always worked together on the farm with their mom and dad. In the summer, they would all go to the soybean field and hoe the weeds row by row. Lester would always tell his kids that they need to care for the things that the Good Lord gave us. The family had many great discussions in the bean field and had a good work ethic. This is the reason Lois is so proud of this farm and pays tribute to her parents and siblings by keeping it neat and clean.