

# Mystery Farm Home Number 38 Is Identified By Owner, Mason Rutland

Mason Rutland and his family live at Mystery Farm Home Number 38. This farm is located about 10 miles from Columbia, near Bunker Hill and is between the Bunker Hill and the Gates roads.

There are 100 acres in the Rutland Farm. Eighty acres are in cultivation and 20 are in woods and pasture.

Cotton, corn and cane were grown the past year by Mr. Rutland. He says he uses a one-row tractor but says you can get hurt by a tractor if you aren't careful.

He accidentally cranked his tractor one day while it was in low gear and it ran over him. It didn't break anything, he says, but it just about did. Any more, he added, and it would have broken his leg. He says you can't be too careful when working with machinery.

There are two stock ponds on this farm. Both have been stocked with fish and Mr. Rutland says he has caught some nice fish from these ponds.

Soil conservation is practiced on the Rutland farm. Mason says he really believes in soil conservation. It is keeping what you have and making it worth more.

Fire is kept out of the timbered land in order to protect the stand of timber.

The Rutlands were married April 27, 1951. Their son is about two and a half years old. His name is Jerry Glyn Rutland.

Mr. and Mrs. Rutland belong to the Good Hope Baptist church.

Mr. Rutland says his hobbies are farming, fishing and hunting. Mrs. Rutland sews and raises strawberries for her hobbies. He says she would grow more strawberries if she could get more work out of him, but he gets busy farming and forgets about the garden and strawberries more than he should.

Mr. Rutland is now working at the Harris Drug Company in Columbia. He has worked there before and at a drug store in Hattiesburg, in addition to having worked at A and P and at Columbia Cleaners.

Mrs. Rutland was working at Reliance when they were married. In all she worked there about five years.

Mr. Rutland says he is on his

father's old place. He has been there about twenty-eight years and is very much at home there.

The Rutlands keep up with the news by reading the Columbian-Progress and listening to station WCJU. He says he doesn't listen to the radio a lot because he isn't home to listen. Mrs. Rutland keeps the radio turned on most of the time.

Mrs. Rutland, the former Frances Delaney, finished at Columbia High School. Mr. Rutland finished at Bunker Hill.

Mr. Rutland says he was inside the house when the airplane came over that was making the aerial photograph for this series of Mystery Farm Homes.

He said his boy and another boy

on the plane got a kick out of seeing the airplane come over very low to take the picture. Mr. Rutland is the first person to say that he could tell that the men in the plane had a camera and were taking pictures. Several other Mystery Farm Home owners have said that they saw the plane and wondered if it was taking pictures.

Mr. Rutland says that he is running a row-crop farm. There is much work in running a row-crop farm, but he seems to enjoy it.

Farming with a tractor beats following a mule, according to this tractor farmer. He has a one-row tractor and all the necessary equipment. Hydraulic controls make tractor operation much easier than with manually operated equipment,

he says.

Although Mr. Rutland believes that mules have their place on some farms, he believes tractor farming is cheaper and easier and doesn't care to go back to farming with a mule. He says proper maintenance of tractors and farm equipment is what helps to keep down his farm expenses. Many expenses can't be controlled, but Mason says this is one place where he can save. It is good business to make equipment last as long as possible.

Mr. Rutland came by and picked up his mounted photograph last Saturday. Others identifying the Rutland farm were: C. B. Pace, Route 1, Columbia and Jessie Rutland, Route 3, Columbia.

