

Bardsley, Baxter and Hadlow Place scoop the silverware in Paddock Wood Competition.

Once again the Goudhurst and Paddock Wood NFU Fruit Spraying & Orchard Management Competition will see the silverware in the hands of a few stellar growers; Bardsley & Son, J.L. Baxter & Son and Hadlow Place Farms feature as major Class and prize winners.

Winner of Class 1 in the Competition was River Farm, near Staplehurst, owned by Bardsley & Son. It will receive the Dow AgriSciences Trophy and the FAST Trophy for this Class. Bardsley's Heronden Farm also took the Willis Corroon South Ltd Trophy jointly with J.L. Baxter's Elphicks Farm for the second highest marks in Class 1.

Pride of place goes to Hadlow Place Farm and

Amsbury Farm (J.L. Baxter & Son) in Class 2 of this Competition. Hadlow Place's management will receive the KEF Trophy for the highest marks in this Class, along with the Group Secretary's Award for the highest marks for management. Hadlow Place also receives the EO Moss Trophy as runners up in the entire Competition.

J.L. Baxter's Amsbury Farm was awarded the Drake & Fletcher Trophy for the highest marks in the pest and disease section of Class 2. Mole End Farms Ltd scooped all the major prizes in the Young Orchards Class, pride of place going to Paul Chittenden, the employee at Mole End Farms responsible for their young orchards, who

will receive the Lambert & Foster Trophy. Mole End Farms receive the ADAS Trophy as winners in this Class, along with the J.A. Prall Trophy for the highest marks for a single young orchard, and the Sheppey Trophy for the highest marks for management.

Mole End Farms caught the judge's eye to receive the UAP Trophy for the Most Meritorious Entry in the Competition, and the LEAF Trophy for their integrated farm management.

The Bardsley's prodigious capability to acquire silverware in the fruit industry's major competitions was confirmed in their awards of the BASF Trophy, as

the overall winner of the Competition, and the BASF Trophy for the grower with the greatest increase in marks from the previous year's Competition, a joint winning of the Bayer UK Trophy for being third in the entire competition (shared with J.L. Baxter's Elphicks Farm), and the special UAP Bicentennial Bramley Prize for River Farm, with the highest average Bramley mark throughout the entire Competition.

The Mike Freed Trophy was awarded to G.H. Chambers of Northiam Farm for the highest marks achieved in the Competition over the previous 5 years.

