



Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program

A program of the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education

NEWS RELEASE

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Awards Century Status to 11 Farms & Ranches and 5 Sesquicentennial Farms & Ranches in 2015

(Salem, OR) – At the annual awards ceremony at the Oregon State Fair, families from across the state will receive recognition for operating as Century or Sesquicentennial (150-year) Farm or Ranch. The 2015 ceremony will be held on **Saturday, August 29, 2015, at 11:00 am at the Oregon State Fair**. The public recognition ceremony and awards celebration will be held in the **Garden Tent on the west side of the fairgrounds**. Please join us for this special event that celebrates Oregon's agricultural heritage.

Eleven farms and ranches from nine different counties will be honored this year as Century Farms or Ranches and five farms reached Sesquicentennial status, bringing the total number of Oregon Century Farms and Ranches to 1,175 & Sesquicentennial to 33. The Century farm and ranch families being honored in 2015 are: Brent Cheyne, Cheyne Farm: Klamath County; Aart & Charlene Falk & Steve & Jana Falk Moore, Louis & Anna Falk Farm: Linn County; Aart & Charlene Falk, Charles Ludwig Falk Farm: Linn County; Evelyn Hynes Trust, Hynes Farm: Marion County; Joseph & Jennifer Finegan, Taghon Farm: Washington County; Evelyn Fisher & Kathy Fisher Patterson, Fisher Patterson: Marion County; Hubert & Carolyn Christensen, Christensen Farm: Linn County; Greg L. Harris & Richard Bell, McCready Ranch: Klamath County; Deanna Padget, Padget Ranches: Sherman County; Joseph Fisher & Madeline J. Hall Fisher, Gentleacres: Polk County; & Gregory L. Bingaman, Bingaman Enterprises: Union County.



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The Sesquicentennial Award program began in 2008 in honor of Oregon's 150th birthday celebration. Sesquicentennial awards recognize Oregon families who have continuously farmed portions of their original family acreage for 150 years or more. Thirty-three families have now received this prestigious sesquicentennial award. This year's families being honored are Harlan & Beverly Flint, Mid Valley Farm: Washington County, George W. & Alicia L Smith, George W. Smith Ranch: Coos County; Charles W. & Richard C. Hemphill, James Monroe Hemphill Farm: Umatilla County; A. Brooks Lieuallen, Lieuallen Century Ranches: Umatilla County; & John W. Adams, John F. Adams Farming Enterprise: Umatilla County.

Every Oregon farm and ranch has a unique history and special family story. The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch program encourages agriculture families to share, with a broader audience, these stories. By promoting family stories, rich cultural heritage is passed down to future generations while educating Oregonians about the social and economic impact of Oregon agriculture.

The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program began in 1958 to honor farm and ranch families with century-long connections to the land. To qualify for a century or sesquicentennial award, interested families must follow a formal application process. Members of the Application Review Committee review each application against the qualifications, which include continuous family operation of the farm or ranch; a gross income from farm use of not less than \$1,000 per year for at least three years out of five prior to application; and family members must live on or actively manage the farm or ranch activities. Application documentation may include photos, original deeds, personal stories, or other historic records. These records help support Oregon's agricultural history by providing valuable information about settlement patterns or statistics on livestock and crop cycles. All documents are archived for public access.

Award winners receive a certificate signed by the Governor and Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Historic roadside signs are imprinted with the founder's name and the year the ranch or farm was established.



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The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program is administered by the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education. It is supported by a partnership among the Oregon Farm Bureau, the State Historic Preservation Office, OSU University Archives, and by generous donations of Oregonians. For information about the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program, contact Andréa Kuenzi, Program Coordinator, at 503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org. The application deadline for 2016 is May 1.

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