



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2017

Contact: Anne Marie Moss, [annemarie@oregonfb.org](mailto:annemarie@oregonfb.org), 503.399.1701

## **Tillamook County's Chad Allen Earns Farm Bureau's Service to Agriculture Award**

January 27, 2017, SALEM, OREGON: Chad Allen, a dairy farmer from Tillamook County, was honored with an Oregon Farm Bureau Service to Agriculture Award during the 84th Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) Annual Meeting in Salem.

The Service to Agriculture Award is for an individual or group outside of Farm Bureau that has dedicated an extraordinary amount of time, resources, or expertise on projects that benefit Farm Bureau members and Oregon agriculture as a whole.

"Chad Allen represents the best of his rural community on the Oregon coast," said OFB President Barry Bushue. "A lifelong dairy farmer and active advocate for agriculture, Chad strives for collaboration when tackling complex regulatory issues. He reaches out to state agencies, conservation groups, and local farmers so all stakeholders can have a voice."

Most recently, Allen worked with Farm Bureau and state officials to champion Senate Bill 1517, which passed the 2016 state legislature.

This bill allows farmers to be at the table from the start when a conservation easement is in the siting process. The bill makes Tillamook County a pilot project, the first of its kind in Oregon -- and the entire nation -- for requiring that the state gets input from local landowners and community members when considering the development of a new wetland. The impacts on farm operations will finally be considered from the start.

"Chad feels strongly that it's in the interest of every Oregonian to evaluate what regulations are serving society and what ones are hindering growth and prosperity, including impacts on the production and processing of our food," said Bushue.

A member of the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association and Tillamook County Planning Committee, Allen is a full-time dairy farmer and the father of five kids.

- See full list of awards given at the 84<sup>th</sup> OFB Annual Meeting: <http://oregonfb.org/media/press-releases/>

###

\* Note to Editors: “Farm Bureau” is a registered trademark; please capitalize in all cases

Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is a grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit, general farm organization representing the interests of farming and ranching families in the public and policymaking arenas. First established in Oregon in 1919, Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 counties and has 7,000 farm and ranch family members.

Oregon Farm Bureau President Barry Bushue is a third-generation farmer raising a variety of vegetables and berries at a nearly century-old farm near Boring, Oregon. He is OFB's 15th president.

