



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers Annual Picnic Held in Kent County *Nominations Now Accepted for Young Farmers Achievement and Excellence in Ag Awards*

Davidsonville, MD (June 23, 2015) – The Kent County Young Farmers Committee hosted the annual Maryland Farm Bureau (MFB) Young Farmers state picnic on Saturday, June 20 at Andelot Farm in Worton, MD.

More than 50 Maryland farmers and non-farmers between the ages of 18 and 35 gathered at Andelot Farm for lunch after a morning of farm visits around Kent County. Tours were held at Monsanto in Galena, Jones Family Farm in Massey, Willard Agri-Service in Worton, and Angelica Nurseries in Kennedyville. Attendees learned about plant breeding, dairy farming, making fertilizer and seasonal flowers at the tours.

“We had a great turnout this year at both the tours and the picnic,” said Chris Price, chair of the MFB Young Farmers Committee. “There’s so much valuable information you can learn by visiting local farms and experiencing how the industry produces our food. I encourage anyone from 18-35 to attend next year and ask our farmers your questions.”

The farm visits and lunch were free to all guests thanks to our generous sponsors: (Gold) Atlantic Tractor, DuPont Pioneer, The Delmarva Farmer, (Silver) CNB, Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit, Delmarva Feed, Crow Insurance Agency/Nationwide Agribusiness, Grand View Farms, (Bronze) Kent Soil and Water Conservation District, Lepter Farms, Jay and Pat Hill, Crop Production Services, Willard Agri-Service, UMD Agriculture Law Education Initiative, and Final Touch.

Members of the MFB Young Farmers Committee also announced the application period for the Young Farmers Achievement and Excellence in Agriculture Awards. Nomination applications are open now until Friday, October 2, 2015. Any Maryland Farm Bureau voting member between the ages of 18 and 35 can be nominated for the awards.

The ideal candidate(s) for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his or her income subject to normal production risks. The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence for Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who is a non-production agriculturalist (less than 50% of income acquired off the farm) that promote the agricultural industry through his or her daily routine.

Nominated candidates will be notified in October and have until Friday, November 6, 2015 to complete the application. Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers will request the top candidates attend the MFB Annual Convention held in Ocean City, MD from December 6-8, 2015 where finalists will conduct an interview with judges to determine a statewide winner. The winner will be sent to the National AFBF Convention in Orlando, FL from January 10-13, 2016 to compete for national honors.

For more information about MFB's Young Farmers Committee and to find the award nomination applications, visit www.mdfarmbureau.com or call 410-922-3426.

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Maryland Farm Bureau is a private, non-profit membership organization. It is controlled by its members through the democratic process and is financed by voluntary membership dues. Its strength comes from the active participation of over 36,000 member families that belong to the state's 23 county Farm Bureaus.