

New York Farms Operating 200 Years Sought For Recognition – July 31st Application Deadline

The New York State Agricultural Society recognizes the essential role of New York's farm families, and is seeking applications from New York farms in continuous ownership by the same family for 200 years or more. Since the year 2000, 36 Bicentennial Farms have been recognized by the Society. The farms selected from applications received will be honored as "Bicentennial Farms" at the New York State Agricultural Society's Annual Meeting on January 11, 2007, in Syracuse.

Since 1937 the Society has celebrated farms that have thrived for 100 years in the hands of the same family. In 2007, the New York State Agricultural Society's 175th Anniversary, the organization will honor family farms in continuous ownership and operation for 200 years or more.

"Recognizing Bicentennial Farms allows us all to appreciate and honor the wonderful heritage of agriculture in New York," said Society President Richard Peterson. To obtain an application, visit their web site <<http://www.nysagsociety.org/>>www.nysagsociety.org or contact the Society at (518)-384-1715. All completed applications must be received by July 31, 2006.

The New York Agricultural Society has been strengthening New York agriculture since 1832. The organization, which is over 600 members strong and growing, played an instrumental role in establishing agricultural organizations in New York, including the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences at Cornell, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Fair, and LEAD New York. The Society's mission is to improve our state's agriculture through education, leadership development and recognition programs. For more information, or to join the NYS Agricultural Society visit <http://www.nysagsociety.org/>>www.nysagsociety.org or contact Ag. Society Executive Secretary, Penny Heritage, at <mailto:penny@nycap.rr.com>>pennyh@nycap.rr.com , (518) 384-1715.