

# Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program

*A program of the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education*

## SESQUICENTENNIAL AWARD 150 YEARS

### Application Guidelines



#### **Background**

The Century Farm & Ranch Program is a nonprofit, volunteer-led program to honor farm and ranch families with century-long connections to the land and recognize Oregon's rich agricultural heritage. The program is administered through the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education and is partially funded through a partnership with the Oregon Farm Bureau, the State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon State University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center, and community members throughout Oregon.

In 2008, a Sesquicentennial Award recognizing families who have sustained their family-ownership of an Oregon farm or ranch for 150 years or more was introduced. This new award is an outgrowth of the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program that began in 1958 on the eve of the Oregon statehood centennial.

All applications are added to the OSU Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center. They provide valuable information about settlement patterns, livestock and crop choices, building design and family history. Successful applicants receive a distinctive certificate, with acknowledgement by the governor of Oregon and the director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and metal roadside sign with special Sesquicentennial nameplate identifying their Sesquicentennial Farm or Ranch at a special awards ceremony at the Oregon State Fair.

#### **Qualifications**

1. Only the legal owner(s) of the property may apply for the Sesquicentennial Farm or Ranch status.
2. The farm or ranch must have been operated continuously in the same family for 150 years or more. A farm or ranch settled any time 150 years ago or earlier will be eligible if it meets other requirements.
3. The farm or ranch must have a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding the application.
4. If living off the farm or ranch, or if the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, the owning family must actively manage and direct the farming or ranching activity on the land. Contact 503-400-7884 or [cfr@oregonfb.org](mailto:cfr@oregonfb.org) if you have any questions about eligibility.
5. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, siblings, or nephews and nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with other descendants.
6. Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the Century Farm and Ranch Program with all questions completed. Applicants must submit a narrative of family history, two to three pages in length that adds to the information included in the application. Copies of historical and current photographs of the farm or ranch and family are encouraged. All information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries' – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please do not send in original photos and/or documents, as all items sent with your application are **NOT** returned. Please send in quality copies of documents that support your application. Applications should include 4-5 digital photos from your application and sent to [cfr@oregonfb.org](mailto:cfr@oregonfb.org) by **May 1**.

7. All applications must include verification of continuous ownership for 150 years. Acceptable forms of proof include a document (high quality photocopy) showing date of earliest ownership. This may be provided through a Donation Land Claim, Deed of Sale, or Homestead Certificate. Other records, subject to review, include a family Bible, diary entry, or correspondence.
8. Applications must be signed and certified by a Notary Public.
9. Deadline for returning applications is **May 1** of the current year and must be postmarked by midnight.

---

### **Researching Farm and Ranch History**

The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program website has tips on gathering information about farm and ranch history. The website is located at [centuryfarm.oregonfb.org](http://centuryfarm.oregonfb.org).

---

### **Completing the Application**

This application is a Word document. You can fill information in as you answer the questions. You may notice the page adjusting as you enter text. That is OK. You can also submit a completed photocopy of this form.

---

### **Fees**

A \$250 fee is required with each application. This fee covers administrative costs and includes one certificate and one roadside sign. Additional certificates may be ordered at the time of application at \$20 each and roadside signs at \$200 each. Make checks payable to **Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education**.

---

### **Where to Send Completed Application Packets**

Send the completed application (including the family history narrative, map and digital photos), Statement of Affirmation, your documentation, and sign and certificate order form, with fee payment, to:

**Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program**  
**Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education**  
**1320 Capitol St. NE, Suite 200**  
**Salem, OR 97301**

Do *not* send original documents, as they will not be returned. We recommend that you make a copy of your completed application before mailing. It makes a wonderful single source of farm information for years to come.

---

### **Review Process and Notification**

All applications are checked for completeness by the program coordinator and reviewed by the Program Board. All applicants will be notified about their status by July 1.

---

### **Honoring Ceremony**

Successful applicants, their families and neighbors are invited to a special ceremony at the Oregon State Fair to receive the certificate. The certificate has the name of the farm or ranch and is suitable for framing.

---

### **Still Have Questions About the Program?**

Contact: **Andréa Kuenzi, Program Coordinator, at 503-400-7884 or [cfr@oregonfb.org](mailto:cfr@oregonfb.org)**

Thank you for helping us preserve Oregon's rich agriculture heritage and the important role it plays in keeping the state a healthy and vital place for Oregon residents and visitors. For more information about the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program visit [centuryfarm.oregonfb.org](http://centuryfarm.oregonfb.org).



## Sesquicentennial Award Application - Continued

GPS (Global Positioning System) Coordinates, if known \_\_\_\_\_

---

*Please attach a map or drawing showing the location of the eligible property within the context of the family farm or ranch.*

### **Founder(s):**

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Founder(s) prior Country or State if not Oregon \_\_\_\_\_

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today? \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Clearly explain lineage from original ownership documents to current applicant. (See Application Qualification #7) \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres are included today in the farm or ranch? \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres are in agricultural use today? \_\_\_\_\_

If the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, please explain the owner's role in this relationship. For example, is the owner actively involved in the management of the land?

Year farm or ranch was awarded Century Farm or Century Ranch status, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

### **History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:**

What were the early crops or livestock?

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years?

What are crops / livestock raised on the farm or ranch today?

## **Sesquicentennial Award Application - Continued**

### **History of buildings:**

Are any of the original buildings still in use?  Yes  No

When was the first house built? If it is still in use, describe the changes that have been made.

What years were other structures built (examples: barns, silos, machine shops, coops, smokehouses, dryers, etc.). Describe the changes that have been made to them, including any demolition.

## **The family:**

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

List names and birth years:

## **The family history narrative:**

**Submit two or three pages of family history narrative, including, but not limited to generational transfers of the farm or ranch. Please also submit historical & current photos of the property & family, if available. Do *not* send original documents as they will not be returned. Digital format photos (at highest resolution [300 dpi]) are particularly desirable, so that they may be used in publications, the program's database or the web site. Submitted information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please send digital photos included with your application to [cfr@oregonfb.org](mailto:cfr@oregonfb.org) by **May 1**.**

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved from to farm or ranch
- Significant events in the family (births, deaths, marriages, etc.)
- Any major changes to operations (methods of production, etc.)
- Additional information on crops, buildings, other changes from the original farm or ranch
- Any special family farm or ranch stories you'd like to share, passing on techniques, interesting characters, & family folklore

*(Continue application on next page)*

# Sesquicentennial Award Application

## Statement of Affirmation

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
 hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_  
 has been owned by my family for at least 150 continuous years, as specified in the qualifications for the Century Farm & Ranch Program, on or before December 31 of the current calendar year. Further, I hereby affirm that this property meets all other requirements for Century Farm or Ranch honors, including that the farm or ranch has a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding making this statement. I understand that the application materials will become property of the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

Signature of Owner

Date

## Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of \_\_\_\_\_

Be it remembered, that on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named \_\_\_\_\_, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that \_\_\_\_\_ executed the same freely and voluntarily.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Notary Public for Oregon  
 My Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_

### Fees

Application Fee (*includes one certificate & Roadside sign, Note \$50 of this fee is non-refundable*) \$ 250.00

Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Signs (\$200 each)

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### For office use only

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

Approved? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Authorization \_\_\_\_\_

*Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator*

**Make checks payable to: Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education**

