NEWS RELEASE
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Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
Awards Century Status to 15 Farms & Ranches and 5 Sesquicentennial Farms & Ranches in 2019

(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 2019 ceremony will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2019, at 11:00 am at the Oregon State Fair. The public recognition ceremony and awards celebration will be held in the Picnic Grove Area. Please join us for this special event that celebrates Oregon’s agricultural heritage.

Fifteen farms and ranches will be honored this year as Century Farms or Ranches and Five farms reached Sesquicentennial status from 15 different Oregon Counties, bringing the total number of Oregon Century Farms and Ranches to 1,227 & Sesquicentennial to 46.

The Century Farm and Ranch families being honored in 2019 are:

**Schrepel Family:** Founded in Washington County in 1919 by Oliver Schrepel. Applicant is Mark & Schrepel

**Saunders Ranch:** Founded in Baker County in 1915 by George G.B. Saunders. Applicant is Walter S. Saunders Jr.

**Box T Ranch:** Founded in Grant County in 1915 by John & Margaret Masson. Applicant is Roger and Meredith Ediger
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Phillips Pioneer Farm: Founded in Polk County in 1894 by E.C. Keyt & George Washington Myer. Applicant is Kathryn Phillips

Wilfred Hamann Farm: Founded in Union County in 1918 by Arthur Hamann. Applicant is Wilfred Hamann

Klann Farms: Founded in Jefferson County in 1905 by Seth Leulling. Applicant is Klann Farms- The Klann Family (Seth Klann)

Kaser Family Farm: Founded in Wasco County in 1913 by Julius Kaser. Applicant is Phillip Kaser

Ellett’s Green Ridge Tree Farm: Founded in Wasco County in 1919 by C.E. & Iva Belden. Applicant is Fritz Ellett

27 Bar Ranch: Founded in Jefferson County in 1917 by William (Bill) Nartz in 1917. Applicant is James Nartz

Doz Ag LLC: Founded in Marion County in 1919 by John & Regina Dozler. Applicants are Marty & Amy Dozler

Fletcher Family Farm: Founded in Hood River County in 1919 by Leonard & May Fletcher. Applicant is Jill L. House

Gingerich Farms: Founded in Clackamas County in 1919 by Fred & Katie Gingerich. Applicant is Richard L. Gingerich

Cremer Farm: Founded in Marion County in 1904 by Frank & Catherine Cremer. Applicant is John Beitel

Hewitt’s Greenwood Gardens: Founded in Polk County in 1919 by Guy Glenn (G.G.) Hewitt. Applicant is Brian Hewitt

E. Neuschwander Farm: Founded in Linn County in 1919 by Emry P & Lydia Neuschwander. Applicants are Noel & MaryAnn Neuschwander

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. Forty-six (46) families have now received this prestigious sesquicentennial award.
This year’s family being honored is:

**Thompson Farm:** Founded in Marion County in 1868 by Alexander Thompson. Applicant is Tim Thompson

**Heller Century Farm:** Founded in Coos County in 1869 by Louis Heller. Applicants are Russ and Debbie Heller

**Charlton Farm:** Founded in Multnomah County in 1848 by Joseph and Mary Charlton. Applicant is Betsy Charlton Powell

**Ingle Butte Ranches:** Founded in Grant County in 1867 by W.D. Ingle. Applicant is Kim Lemmons

**Nusbaum Farms LLC:** Founded in Benton County in 1869 by George Humphrey. Applicant is H. Frank Nusbaum

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.
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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.

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 2020 is May 1.

The 2019 family narratives are included in the press release.

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