



**For Immediate Release**  
**U.S. Poultry & Egg Association**

Contact Gwen Venable, [gvenable@uspoultry.org](mailto:gvenable@uspoultry.org)  
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**Hesse Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence by  
USPOULTRY**

ATLANTA – Hesse Farm, Cole Camp, MO, was one of six farms across the United States to receive the Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award during the 2012 International Poultry Expo in Atlanta. U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, based in Tucker, GA, sponsors the annual awards in recognition of exemplary environmental stewardship by family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production.

Applicants were rated in several categories, including dry litter or liquid manure management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management techniques, and participation in education or outreach programs. Applications were reviewed and farm visits conducted by a team of environmental professionals from universities, regulatory agencies, and state trade associations in selecting national winners in six regions.

Hesse Farm is owned and operated by Tom and Gaylene Hesse. The farm is comprised of 290 acres in which turkey and cattle are raised and row crops are grown. The farm has three poultry houses that include one brooding and two growout barns. Flocks of 13,300 big toms are placed four times per year.

Hesse Farm utilizes a nutrient management plan for applying litter to their land, along with a composter for chicken mortality. Other aspects of their nutrient management plan include the introduction and placement of legumes in their hay fields, fenced ponds, the use of all-weather watering systems, cross fencing, and an intensive grazing program. To help enhance wildlife, Hesse Farm contains approximately 50 acres of woodland and small clearings with wet weather streams running through them.

Hesse Farm raises turkeys for Cargill Turkey Production.

Mark Waller, 2012 chairman of the board of U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, and sales and processing director for Ingram Farms, Cullman, AL, presented the award to the Hesse family.

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association is an all-feather organization representing the complete spectrum of today's poultry industry, with a focus on progressively serving member companies through research, education, communication, and technical assistance. Founded in 1947, U.S. Poultry & Egg Association is based in Tucker, GA.

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**Photo Caption:**

**Hesse Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence**

Tom and Gaylene Hesse received the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award at the 2012 International Poultry Expo. They were presented with the award and \$1,000 check by Mark Waller (left), USPOULTRY chairman.