



For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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Pine Draft Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence by USPOULTRY

ATLANTA – Pine Draft Farm, Augusta, WV, 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.

Pine Draft Farm is owned and operated by Brian and Kelli Eglinger. The third generation farm is comprised of 162 acres in which chickens and cows are raised and fruit is grown. The farm has one poultry house with a total capacity of 7,800 birds.

Pine Draft Farm utilizes a nutrient management plan for applying litter to their land, along with a composter for chicken mortality. Litter is stored and applied on the farm in split nitrogen application as a water quality enhancement activity; and the poultry house, manure, and composting facilities were purposely built with grassy banks and ditches that spread out into wooded or grassy areas to buffer any possible runoff. To help enhance wildlife, Pine Draft Farm employs grazing management, has retrofitted watering facilities for wildlife escape, provides nesting structures, and has an established pollinator plot. The Eglingers have placed Pine Draft Farm in a permanent conservation easement, in which the property can never be developed and must remain as a farm or wildlife habitat for perpetuity.

Pine Draft Farm operates the broiler house for Pilgrim's Corporation.

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 Eglinger 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:

Pine Draft Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence

Brian and Kelli Eglinger 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.