

August 25, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minnesota Farmers Share the Story of Farming Today at the Minnesota State Fair

Three farmers will present their stories, as part of the *Farming Today* program, at the Sustainability Stage in the Eco Experience building at the Minnesota State Fair. The Eco Experience building is presented by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and is designed to help inspire people to lead more sustainable lives. The Eco Experience building is located at the intersection of Cosgrove Street and Randall Avenue, and the presentations are free to the public.

Farming Today gives Minnesota farmers and Farm Bureau members an opportunity to tell non-farm audiences their own personal stories of the farming practices that bring safe, healthy and affordable food to the dinner table as well as economic strength to the community.

Chris Sukalski, farmer from LeRoy, will be presenting her family farm story on Saturday, August 27 at 11 am. Chris began farming in 1988, after working at dairy breed magazine in Columbus, Ohio. Chris wants to help show consumers the care and commitment that goes into producing their food.

Mary Faber, farmer near Sherburn, will be presenting her family farm story on Friday, September 2 at 2:30 pm. Mary helps on the family farm in addition to attending college at South Dakota State University, as well as remaining active in the community. Mary and her family value tradition and believe it is important to ensure that the farm remains sustainable and productive for generations to come.

Glen Groth, Dakota, Minnesota farmer, will showcase his family farm story on Saturday, September 3 at 4:30 pm. Glen has been farming full-time for six years. He is involved in his community as county Farm Bureau president, vice president of his local FFA alumni chapter, as well as many more associations.

About Farming Today

Forty farmers throughout Minnesota have volunteered to share their farm stories in order to help consumers and business groups better understand the business and life of *Farming Today*. They hope to engage with consumers and show non-farm groups that farmers are just like them, with the same concerns for their food, their family, the environment and their animals. The *Farming Today* program is sponsored by the the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation and the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council (MSR&PC).

About Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council

The MSR&PC is an elected board of 15 soybean producers from across the state. They direct the investment of soybean checkoff dollars in international marketing, research, promotion and domestic marketing programs designed to increase the profitability of Minnesota soybean farmers.

About Minnesota Farm Bureau

Minnesota Farm Bureau *Farmers • Families • Food*, is comprised of 78 local Farm Bureau associations across Minnesota. Members make their views known to political leaders, state government officials, special interest groups and the public. Programs for young farmers and

ranchers develop leadership skills and improve farm management. Promotion and Education Committee members work with programs such as Ag in the Classroom and safety education for children. Join Farm Bureau today and support our efforts to serve as an advocate for rural Minnesota, www.fbmn.org.

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For more information on the Minnesota Farm Bureau log onto fbmn.org or the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council log onto mnsoybean.org/MSRPC/