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Oregon Farms and Ranches To Be Honored at State Fair

Century Farm and Ranch Program recognizes properties with over 100 years of family ownership

(Portland, Ore.) – Celebrating Oregon’s agricultural heritage, 13 family-owned farms and ranches will be honored by the Century Farm and Ranch Program in ceremonies to be held at the Oregon State Fair in Salem. Signed by Governor Kitzhaber, certificates will be presented to family members designating their property as a Century Farm or Century Ranch, recognizing 100 or more years of family ownership and involvement. Through 1999, the Century Farm and Ranch Program has honored a total of 935 properties, and marks the first year to specifically include ranches as a distinct program category, as well as a return to the previous tradition of awarding certificates during State Fair festivities.

Administered by the Oregon Historical Society, the Century Farm & Ranch program began in 1958 as a prelude to Oregon’s statehood centennial the following year, and certificates were traditionally awarded by the Governor as part of State Fair Activities. The 1999 ceremony will take place **Saturday, September 4, at 2 p.m. in the Dairy Show Ring, Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem.** Family members accepting the award will be given the opportunity to share brief remarks about the history of their property.

“This has been a remarkable year for the program,” says Rick Read, OHS Field Services Coordinator and program manager. “We’ve designed a wonderful new certificate, and we’re returning to the State Fair for the awards ceremony, which is really an ideal place to recognize the importance of Oregon’s farms and ranches in the settlement and economics of the state. And perhaps most significantly, the program has officially changed its name to reflect this year’s inclusion of ranches as honored properties. Ranching has been a traditional cornerstone of Oregon’s agricultural prosperity and history, and we’re proud to welcome three family ranches as part of this year’s honorees.”

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A formal application process, conducted each year, is required for farms and ranches to be considered for the program. Application materials are preserved in the OHS Library and provide useful information for researchers investigating the history of agriculture in Oregon, along with valuable data on farming techniques, livestock production, immigration and settlement patterns, and farm buildings. Century Farm and Century Ranch designees may also erect, at their own expense, a metal highway sign to mark their historic property. To qualify, a property must meet a total of ten criteria, including the following:

- The farm must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more. If the farm has ever been rented or leased, it will not qualify.
- The farm must have a gross income from farm use of not less than \$1,000 per year for three years out of the five years immediately preceding application.
- Family members must live on the property, or actively manage and direct the farming of the land.

1999 Century Farm & Ranch Program Honorees

(* Ranches denoted by asterisk)

<u>County</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Year Founded (& Founder)</u>
Clackamas	Cathlene L. Deininger	1896 (John F. Deininger)
Coos	Gary and Kathleen Larsen	* 1890 (Lloyd Spires)
Coos	Anna T. Waterman	1899 (C.F. Waterman)
Jackson	Carl R. Offenbacher	1898 (Fred Offenbacher)
Klamath	J. Randall Pope	* 1898 (Fred L. Pope)
Linn	Frank and Charlene Kizer	1898 (Horton and Mary Kizer)
Marion	Francis and Dolores Etzel	1899 (Joseph and Katherina Etzel)
Umatilla	Bruce Brogoitti	1898 (Charles McAlavy)
Umatilla	Ferdie Hudemann	1889 (Julius Hudemann)
Umatilla	Jack A. Johnson	* 1898 (Alick Johnson)
Umatilla	Patricia Terjeson	1899 (Julius Hudemann)
Wallowa	Donald and Leola Davis	1897 (James F. Davis)
Washington	George and Mary Zimmerman	1895 (George Zimmerman)

For more information on the Century Farm and Ranch Program, contact Rick Read of the Oregon Historical Society at (503) 306-5215, or by email at: rickr@ohs.org.

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