



Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Media Release

NSFA Announces Finalists of Environmental Farm Stewardship Award

November 19, 2010

TRURO- The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (NSFA) is pleased to announce 3 finalists who will receive special recognition for their dedication and commitment to protecting the environment. The Farm Environmental Stewardship Award promotes the actions of farmers who are participating in the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program and demonstrates the outstanding commitment Nova Scotia farmers have made toward healthy soils, improved water quality, diverse landscapes, and vibrant communities.

The following finalists are representative of the contributions made by many Nova Scotia producers in making our province a better place to live.

1. The Oulton Family
2. Dean and Catherine Manning
3. John and Cecilia Waalderbos

A presentation will be given at the NSFA annual meeting banquet on November 25th with one of these farmers being named the 2010 Environmental Farm Steward.

Richard Melvin, President of Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture says, “The EFP award is a good opportunity to raise awareness of the high regard Nova Scotia farmers have for the environment.” Mr. Melvin continued to say, “The fact that the majority of farms in Nova Scotia are family owned and operated insures farmers are leaders in taking care of the environment they and their families live in.”

Lynda Weatherby, EFP Coordinator says, “It is important to us [the EFP program] to continue to recognize farmers that positively contribute to the environment by taking a proactive approach to reducing their impacts.” “Stewardship of the land is essential to conservation and biodiversity efforts in NS – it is important for our communities to positively support NS farmers in protecting our water, soil and air” adds Weatherby.

The Farm Environmental Stewardship Award is a part of the Environmental Farm Plan Program. It was created through a partnership of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the NS Environmental Farm Plan Team and the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture. The Environmental Farm Plan Program is delivered by the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture as an initiative under the Canada-Nova Scotia Growing Forward Agreement.

Individual profiles for each of the finalists is available on our website: <http://www.nsfa-fane.ca/efp>

-30-

BACKGROUND

Every Canadian province delivers an environmental farm plan program that is unique to each province. These programs are voluntary initiatives where producers work with an agronomist to analyze their operations and implement measures to reduce their environmental impact. In Nova Scotia, the

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) process has evolved over the past several years. With a projected 195 EFPs to be completed this year, over 1500 farms will have completed EFPs in Nova Scotia.

For more information:

Richard Melvin
President, NSFA
Tel: (902) 582-7939

Wanda Hamilton
Communications Officer
(902) 893-2293
Email whamilton@nsfa-fane.ca

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture represents the interests of over 2300 farm families in Nova Scotia. Founded in 1895 to provide Nova Scotia's farm community with a single voice, the NSFA is the province's only general farm organization.