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Statz Brothers Farms selected as 2015 Dane County Farm Technology Days host

MADISON, Wis. (February 6, 2013) — The Statz Brothers Farms of Sun Prairie has been selected to host the 2015 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days (FTD) in Dane County.

Owned by cousins Joe, Troy and Wes Statz, Statz Brothers Farms milks more than 2,700 Holsteins and runs nearly 6,000 acres of corn, soybeans, forage and small grains. The farm has 75 full-time employees, including three generations of Statz brothers. Purchased in 1966 by Don and Richard Statz, the farm has grown from one location with a herd of 40 cows to what it is today with a new facility to be featured at the 2015 show.

“We felt it would be good for the community. I think Sun Prairie will benefit a lot from this,” Joe Statz says, adding that the opportunity to educate others – especially in a primarily urban environment – about agriculture and what it takes to get food from the farm to the consumer is what made this decision so easy for them.

“I think that the site and the quality of the land and buildings, but more importantly the quality of the family, exemplifies outstanding agriculture in Dane County,” Bob Wipperfurth, Chairman of the Dane County FTD Executive Committee, adds. “I think this is going to be a great educational opportunity especially with Dane County’s population being so diverse. I think this is an event that will draw people together, develop new friendships and invoke leadership development. It has many positive effects on the community on many different levels.”

The show is scheduled for August 25-27, 2015.

For more information visit www.danefarmtech.com.

About Wisconsin Farm Technology Days

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days is a three-day outdoor event showcasing the latest developments in production agriculture, including practical applications and recent research and technological developments. As the largest agricultural show in the

research and technological developments. As the largest agricultural show in the state, it welcomes more than 60,000 attendees, with more than 600 commercial and educational vendors.

About Agriculture in Dane County, Wis.

Dane county is Wisconsin's most productive agriculture county. It ranks first in both corn grain and corn silage production. It ranks second in soybean production and third in wheat production. Agriculture is a very important element of the Dane county economy. Ag-related sales are \$3.45 billion, ag-related employment accounts for 16,767 jobs and agriculture contributes \$1.2 billion to county income. Dane county's top agricultural commodities are milk, \$206.2 million; grain, \$109.4 million; and cattle and calves, \$46.4 million. Farms in Dane county number 3,331 covering 535,756 acres. Direct market sales are an important element of Dane county agriculture. These 246 farms generate \$2,684,000 through roadside stands, farmers' markets, community supported agriculture, produce auctions and pick-your-own operations.