For Immediate Release
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

Contact: Gwen Venable, 678.514.1971, gvenable@uspoultry.org
Abby Hopkins, 770.635.9057, ahopkins@uspoultry.org

Round Hill Poultry Recognized for Environmental Excellence by USPOULTRY

TUCKER, Ga. – Feb. 25, 2019 – Round Hill Poultry in Broadway, Virginia, was one of four farms across the United States to receive U.S. Poultry & Egg Association’s Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award during the 2019 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta. U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) 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 manure management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management techniques, and participation in education and outreach programs. A team of environmental professionals from universities, regulatory agencies and poultry trade associations reviewed applications and conducted farm visits to select semifinalists and the eventual winners for each subregion.

Round Hill Poultry is a family operation owned by Mike and Paula Thompson, who are the third generation of Thompsons to manage the farm. In addition to its turkey operation, Round Hill Poultry also produces corn, hay, small grains and soybeans. In 2018, they were awarded the Cargill Friends of the Environment Award for their excellent management practices, extensive conservation efforts and spirit of volunteerism.

A rock lined ditch system that surrounds the poultry houses catch and channel stormwater through a best management practice that reduces the runoff’s velocity and flow rate. Stormwater from the control structure discharges into an adjacent crop field that is capable of utilizing nutrients that may be incorporated in the runoff.

The Thompsons carefully maintain their farm’s environment, both in the preservation of an 8-acre wildlife habitat located on their property and careful management of their crop fields. Most of the farm’s composted litter is sold, and what is not sold is used as an organic fertilizer for the crops they produce.

Mike diligently pursues continuing education opportunities and is involved in community education efforts. He currently serves as the president of the Virginia No Till Alliance. He firmly believes that farmers must remain on the cutting edge of technology, observing that “…the world population is growing, and each acre of land or house full of poultry must be more prolific than ever.” His self-stated goal is straightforward yet motivating: “simply to leave what he has a little better than it was before.”

Greg Hinton, vice president of sales for Rose Acre Farms and vice chairman of the USPOULTRY board of directors, presented the 2019 Family Farm Environmental Excellence award to Mike and Paula Thompson.
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the all-feather organization representing the complete spectrum of today’s poultry industry, whose mission is to progressively serve member companies through research, education, communication and technical assistance. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Ga.

Photo Caption:
Mike and Paul Thompson received the USPOULTRY Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award at the 2019 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta. They were presented with an award to display at the entrance to the farm and a $1,000 check by Greg Hinton, vice president of sales for Rose Acre Farms and vice chairman of the USPOULTRY board of directors.