For Immediate Release
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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Ryan Looten Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence by USPOULTRY

TUCKER, Ga. – Feb. 25, 2019 – The Ryan Looten Farm in Olean, Missouri, 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.

Ryan Looten’s family has been in the agricultural industry for three generations. Originally dairy farmers, they made the shift to raising turkeys for Cargill in 1998. Ryan and his siblings grew up helping their parents manage their turkey operation, as well as helping with their aunt’s farm, which Ryan eventually bought after graduating from the University of Missouri with a BS in Animal Science. At only 25 years old, Ryan has used both his education and love for agriculture to ensure that his farm stays on the cutting edge of industry technology and practices.

The facilities have been completely renovated since Ryan’s return from college. Ryan has systematically combed through his facilities to identify ways to reduce energy demand. By replacing outdated stoves and barn drinkers with high efficiency, labor-saving machinery, Ryan has dramatically reduced propane usage and lowered emissions generated from the combustion of propane gas.

Ryan attends meetings and classes that offer the opportunity to learn about new farming technology and environmentally friendly practices. He takes his responsibility for maintaining his farm and safeguarding the future of agriculture seriously, remarking, “I want to ensure that future generations of my family will be able to feed generations of Americans. I do my best in ensuring this by managing resources both for what is needed today and what will be right for tomorrow.”

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 Ryan Looten.

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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:
Ryan Looten and Morgan Koetting 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.