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OHIO POULTRY ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES NEW DAY FARMS
Recipient of U.S. Poultry and Egg's Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Poultry Association (OPA) congratulates New Day Farms of Raymond, Ohio in Union County on its recent national recognition as the U.S. Poultry and Egg's Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award winner. The honor is awarded annually to family farm owners who practice environmentally responsible farming in poultry and egg production.

A third-generation family farm, New Days Farms has taken several steps to create an environmentally friendly farm operation, including the addition of field buffer strips, stream restorations, storm water wetlands, and land application of process water. Through their innovative composting process, the farm creates certified organic compost that is shipped for use on ground from the Rockies to the White House. The farm is a true zero-discharge facility, keeping 100 percent of litter produced on the farm out of waterways.

“We're proud to be recognized for our environmentally friendly practices,” said Steve Bliesner, general manager of New Day Farms. “We take environmental responsibility seriously because it's so important not only for our business but also for our communities and our consumers. That's why this award means so much to us.”

In addition to this most recent honor, New Days Farms is the recipient of OPA's 2009 Environmental Stewardship Award. Beyond using environmentally responsible on-farm practices, recipients of the award also take steps to improve relations with farm neighbors and communities and promote a positive image of poultry and egg farmers.

“All across Ohio, egg and poultry farms like New Day work hard to care for the environment and their animals,” said Jim Chakeres, OPA executive vice president. “Our farmers are always looking for ways to refine their techniques and do what's right for the environment. We're proud to see New Day Farms recognized for their particularly great work with the U.S. Poultry and Egg Environment Excellence Award.”

Since 2000, seven Ohio egg and poultry farms have received the annual U.S. Poultry and Egg Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award, including New Day. Applicants are rated in several categories, including dry litter or liquid manure management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management techniques, and participation in educational or outreach programs.

To learn more about Ohio's egg and poultry farmers, visit www.ohiopoultry.org.

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