

For Immediate Release

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NOMINATE PA DAIRY INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS FOR AWARDS BY NOV. 15

Nominations Are Open for Three Pennsylvania Dairy Industry Awards

Harrisburg, Pa. – The deadline to submit nominations for the annual Pennsylvania Dairy Industry Award program is November 15, 2019. Sponsored by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania, the Center for Dairy Excellence and the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, the award program recognizes dairy professionals who are shaping the future of the industry through leadership, service and innovation.

"If you work with a dairy leader who provides outstanding leadership and innovation to drive Pennsylvania's dairy industry toward a brighter future, the Dairy Industry Awards program is a meaningful way to recognize their dedication and celebrate the true impact of their work," said Dave Smith, Executive Director at the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association.

For individual dairy producers or farm enterprises that have demonstrated superior management capabilities within their own dairy business, the **Pennsylvania Distinguished Dairy Producer Award** category celebrates their leadership and service to the industry.

The **Pennsylvania Dairy Service Award** category recognizes individuals who serve the greater interest of Pennsylvania's dairy industry and dairy farms.

Individuals or business entities that are advancing the marketplace and creating new opportunities for innovation on the farm are ideal candidates for the **Pennsylvania Dairy Innovator Award** category. This award honors individuals or businesses that provide tremendous innovation to progress dairy across the Commonwealth.

"We look forward to recognizing the three recipients of these awards at the 2020 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit on February 5-6 in State College, Pa.," said Smith. "The goal of the Summit is to reignite positivity and passion for dairy, so there's no better place to celebrate the individuals who are advancing Pennsylvania dairy and committing to excellence."

Nominations are offered to Pennsylvania residents only and must be received by November 15, 2019 to be considered for this year's awards. Nominations must include the completed application form and one letter of support outlining why the candidate is qualified to receive the award.

Visit <u>centerfordairyexcellence.org/awards</u> to submit a nomination and view past award recipients. Individuals who are nominated will be notified in late November with a request for information due in December 2019. Selected recipients will be notified by January 2020.

Qualified applicants stay in the nomination pool for three years after being submitted for consideration. Nominators can update the nomination each of the two years following their original submission. Once a candidate is honored as a winner in an award category, they or individuals representing them are not eligible to win in any other category for two subsequent years.

Contact Heidi Zimmerman at (717) 346-0849 or via email at https://doi.org/nc.nc/hz/mmerman1@centerfordairyexcellence.org with questions or to submit a nomination application.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more at centerfordairyexcellence.org.

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