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# FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION

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*For more information, contact:*

Lesly Weber McNitt, Director of Government Relations  
and Program Development

Telephone: (202) 412-1578

Email: [lwmcnitt@farmjournal.com](mailto:lwmcnitt@farmjournal.com)

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Farm Journal Foundation Expands its Advocacy Team**

*Washington, D.C.* (June 6, 2014)—The Farm Journal Foundation is pleased to announce that Dr. Stephanie Mercier has joined the D.C. office as Senior Policy and Advocacy Adviser. Her work and experience are closely aligned with Farm Journal Foundation and the goals of its anti-hunger platform, Farmers Feeding the World, and will undoubtedly add an invaluable breadth of expertise to Foundation activities.

Dr. Mercier served for 14 years as chief economist of the Democratic staff of the Senate Agriculture Committee from 1997 to 2011. Previously, she served as team leader for the Trade Policy and Programs area of the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. After retiring from the Committee in 2011, she worked as an independent consultant on various projects in the areas of U.S. and international agricultural policy. An Iowa native, Dr. Mercier has a bachelor's degree in economics from Washington University in St. Louis and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Iowa State University.

“Stephanie has been involved in Farm Journal Foundation activities since she left the Senate Agriculture Committee,” said Charlene Finck, Farm Journal Foundation President. “We are thrilled to formalize her association with our team. Her Capitol Hill experience, policy expertise and dedication to hunger and agriculture issues will be a great asset to the Foundation’s mission.”

As an employee in the Farm Journal Foundation’s Washington, D.C., office, Dr. Mercier will run the day-to-day implementation of the Farm Team program as well as conduct policy analysis, develop advocacy content and engage in coalition building for Farmers Feeding the World. She currently resides in Alexandria, Va.

#### **About the Farm Journal Foundation**

The Farm Journal Foundation is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to sustaining agriculture’s ability to meet the vital needs of a growing population through education and empowerment. The Foundation houses the Farmers Feeding the World platform to rally the agricultural community around the fight against world hunger. For more information, please visit [www.FarmersFeedingTheWorld.org](http://www.FarmersFeedingTheWorld.org).