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***Pro Farmer***

## **For Immediate Release**

### ***Pro Farmer Confirms Record Crops***

*Cedar Falls, IA (August 25, 2014)*—Professional Farmers of America, a division of Farm Journal Media, today reported its production estimates for the 2014 U.S. corn and soybean crops after reviewing information from the organization's *Pro Farmer* Midwest Crop Tour and other sources. The extensive crop survey confirmed favorable growing conditions across much of the Midwest with expected yields substantially higher than average for many areas.

*Pro Farmer* estimates that overall production will increase slightly for corn and almost 16% for soybeans compared to 2013. The 2014 U.S. corn crop is estimated to be 14.093 billion bushels, yielding 169.3 bu. per acre. For soybeans, the production estimate is 3.812 billion bushels (45.35 bu. per acre).

Crop Tour field scouts gathered more than 2,600 corn and soybean samples across seven Midwest states Aug. 18-21. The area surveyed accounts for about 70% of U.S. corn and soybean production.

"We confirmed record-breaking yield potential for both corn and soybeans in a large part of the Midwest," said Chip Flory, *Pro Farmer* Editorial Director. "There are some problem areas in the northern Corn Belt and elsewhere, but they are the exception and not widespread."

Brian Grete, *Pro Farmer* Editor, said, "States in the eastern Corn Belt are looking especially strong. Many of our Illinois yield checks were well above 200 bu. in corn. Almost all areas have soybean pod counts that are much higher than last year. We found fewer jaw-dropping numbers in the western Belt, but our crop scouts measured consistently good crops in much of Iowa and Nebraska."

The 2014 *Pro Farmer* Midwest Crop Tour was covered heavily by national media, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg* and *Thomson Reuters*.

Approximately 3,000 people attended Crop Tour's seven evening meetings sponsored by DuPont Pioneer, RCIS (Rural Community Insurance Services), DuPont Crop Protection, Farm Credit Services of America, Chevy Truck and Montag Manufacturing. The final evening report and meeting held in Rochester, Minn., attracted more than 600 attendees and included a panel report, which was featured this past weekend on Farm Journal Media's nationally syndicated television program "U.S. Farm Report."

Participating in the 2014 Tour were more than 120 volunteer scouts from 10 countries including growers, agribusiness, media, government and financial firms.

#### **About Professional Farmers of America**

Professional Farmers of America (PFA) is part of Farm Journal Media, the nation's leading agricultural media company. PFA provides news, perspective and analysis presented in a variety of formats including the weekly *Pro Farmer* newsletter, the nation's most widely circulated agricultural newsletter. The organization is also known for its seminars and live events, including the *Pro Farmer*

Midwest Crop Tour.

**About Farm Journal Media**

Farm Journal Media is the nation's leading agricultural media company. Its magazines are the 138-year-old flagship *Farm Journal*, *Top Producer*, *Beef Today*, *Dairy Today* and *Implement & Tractor*. The company produces and distributes "AgDay," "U.S. Farm Report," "Corn College" and "Leave a Legacy" national TV programs. The company produces the industry-leading website *AgWeb.com*, syndicated radio shows, "AgriTalk," "Market Rally" and "American Countryside," and recently launched two new divisions, Farm Journal Mobile and Top Producer Executive Network™—a national peer-to-peer advisory program for executive farmers and ranchers. Farm Journal Media licenses detailed industry data through its FarmReach database, publishes the *Pro Farmer* and *LandOwner* newsletters, produces numerous large-scale live events and provides extensive custom-publishing services.