
FARMJOURNAL FOUNDATION

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For Immediate Release

U.S. Agriculture Secretary to Address 16th Farm Journal Forum

Washington, D.C. (November 24, 2014)—The Farm Journal Foundation announced today that Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack will be the luncheon keynote speaker at the 2014 Farm Journal Forum. Vilsack, one of the two longest-serving members of President Obama's cabinet, is likely to address USDA's accomplishments on behalf of agriculture in President Obama's second term, touch on USDA's progress on 2014 farm bill implementation and reflect on agriculture's role in achieving global food security.

The 2014 Farm Journal Forum, which is focused on "Globally Positioned Agriculture: Farming Smarter in the Face of New Challenges and Opportunities," will take place Dec. 10-11 at the Loews Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C. Beginning with an evening reception on Wed., Dec. 10, the event kicks into full gear with its newsmaker breakfast followed by a full day of high-level speakers on Thurs., Dec. 11.

Vilsack's speech will be his second appearance at the Farm Journal Forum. "At the 2012 Farm Journal Forum, Secretary Vilsack delivered a rousing speech on changing consumer perceptions of agriculture, calling on the industry to proactively remind the public of its relevance and value to all of our daily lives," said Lesly Weber McNitt, Farm Journal Foundation Director of Government Relations and Program Development. "We welcome him back as the eighth U.S. Agriculture Secretary to address the Forum audience, building on the Farm Journal brand's strong tradition for making news and serving as a platform for dialogue between farm country and USDA."

Other confirmed Forum speakers include: Mike Stern, President and COO of The Climate Corporation; A.G. Kawamura, Co-Chair of Solutions from the Land and former California Secretary of Agriculture; Dennis Dimick, Executive Editor of National Geographic; Ellen Terpstra, President and CEO of International Food and Agricultural Trade Policy Council; Nicholas Giordano, Vice President and Council for International Affairs, National Pork Producers Council; Greg Peterson of The Peterson Farm Brothers; Stephanie Mercier, Senior Policy and Advocacy Adviser, Farm Journal Foundation; John Paul Pendergrass, Pendergrass Cattle Company; Jerry Stahr, Stahr Farm; Dr. Yemisi Jeff-Agboola, AWARD Fellow at University of Missouri; Donavon Taves, Taves Bayou Planting; and Sara Wyant, President of Agri-Pulse.

The Farm Journal Forum is widely recognized as one of the premier food and agriculture policy conferences in the nation's capital and is known for convening a diverse audience of farmers, policymakers, industry leaders, academics, non-profit representatives and other key stakeholders in food and agriculture. The 2014 Farm Journal Forum is made possible by support from premier sponsor Monsanto Company, supporting sponsors DuPont and Verdesian, media partner GW Planet Forward and Forum CONNECT partner CropLife America. Funds exceeding the cost of the event are donated to the Farm Journal Foundation. To register and find additional information, please visit www.FarmJournalForum.com. Take part in the dialogue via Twitter with the hashtag #FJForum14.

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 through

programs including the Farm Team, HungerU and Food Forums. For more information, please visit www.FarmersFeedingTheWorld.org.