



## **NEWS FROM NEW YORK FARM BUREAU**

Contact: Peter Gregg, (518) 692-2204, [pgregg@nyfb.org](mailto:pgregg@nyfb.org)

FOR RELEASE  
IMMEDIATE, Thursday  
December 10, 2009

### **FARM BUREAU HONORS LINCOLN FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE**

**ROCHESTER, N.Y.** – John Lincoln of Ontario County was honored for Distinguished Service to Agriculture, New York Farm Bureau's most prestigious award, on Wednesday evening of the organization's State Annual Meeting held this week in Rochester.

In presenting the award, Farm Bureau President Dean Norton said, "The Distinguished Service Award is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed on a member of the agricultural family. I cannot imagine anyone more deserving than John Lincoln."

Lincoln was not raised on a farm, but his impact on the farm families in New York State and throughout the nation is a phenomenal story of how one person truly can make a difference in agriculture.

Lincoln graduated from Cornell University and started Linholm Dairy Farm with his wife, Anne, in Ontario County. His interest, not only in ensuring that his farm succeeded, but that the farms of his neighbors succeeded, was an overriding passion that called him away from farm and family to spend countless hours attending meetings and providing service to the community through early-career leadership positions in Upstate Farms Cooperative and town government.

Lincoln rose through the ranks at Farm Bureau, starting with early leadership on the Ontario County Farm Bureau board of directors and then ascending to the New York Farm Bureau board of directors as a District Representative, then Vice President, and then as President for 14 distinguished years.

During his time as President of New York Farm Bureau, Lincoln was successful in helping to secure the adoption of significant property tax savings that were essential for farmers. He also had a tremendous impact on funding for agricultural education and

applied research, supporting Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences by serving on their Agricultural Advisory Board and helping to establish the New York Farm Viability Institute.

Just as important to New York farmers were Lincoln's actions at the federal level. He served on the Board of Directors of American Farm Bureau Federation and the time he spent representing New York significantly shaped the national organization's viewpoints and advocacy on trade, immigration, and dairy issues. In fact, Lincoln was appointed a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Trade Advisory Committee, in addition to serving on numerous congressional officials' advisory groups.

Lincoln's legacy within his own family farm operation and within the agricultural community will be widely felt for decades to come.

###

*New York Farm Bureau is the statewide lobbying/trade organization that represents thousands of farm families. Its members and the public know the organization as "The Voice of New York Agriculture." New York Farm Bureau is dedicated to solving the economic and public policy issues challenging the agricultural community.*