TO: Dairy Industry Partners

FROM: Selection Committee, MSU Dairy Farm of the Year

RE: Nominations for 2025

The Department of Animal Science is seeking nominations for the MSU Dairy Farm of the Year. Since 1958, the recognition has been awarded to the dairy farmers who exhibit outstanding management of their dairy farm business and leadership in the Michigan dairy industry or their community. The awardee(s) should be recognized by others in the Michigan dairy industry for the successes of their dairy farm business and for their leadership.

Selection criteria follow below:

1. Nominees must be actively engaged in dairy farming. Where a partnership or corporations exist, two or more individuals may be honored as joint recipients.
2. The nominees should be outstanding managers of a dairy farm operation. Their operation should have statistical averages that are above those of Michigan state averages and be considered by others in the dairy industry as being an elite dairy operation.
3. The nominees should have demonstrated leadership in dairy industry-related or community organizations.

Please complete the form with the expectation that the Selection Committee is not familiar with the nominee. Additional material that strengthens the nomination can be submitted by expanding the space provided or including more pages. The nomination form is a guideline for the information sought, but not all information is required for the nomination. Submit the completed applications by mail or electronically by September 15 to Miriam Weber Nielsen (msw@msu.edu).

(Criteria adopted 3/1982; amended 11/1985; amended 8/2018, 6/2020)

Date:

NOTE: For multiple nominees from a farm, please complete this page separately for each person that is to be nominated.

1. Personal Data

Nominee:

Address:

County:

Phone #: Email: ­­­­

Birth Date: Location:

Length of time Nominee has been involved in operation:

1. Description of Farm Business:

 When Farm was Established:

 No. Acres Farmed:

 Crops Grown:

Dairy Herd Data:

 Milking Herd No. (total cows): Young stock No:

 Breed:

 Other Livestock:

DHIA or equivalent herd data for current year. Please provide the herd averages for the following information. Leave blank if information is not available. DHI herds can provide their herd code and RAC/password if on DRMS system instead of completing this information.

Annual Averages (past 12 months) for cows in milk:

 Bulk tank average Milk Fat % lb. Protein % lb.

DHIA SCC Average or Bulk Tank SCC Average

Number of cows culled

Number of cows that died or were euthanized

Percentage of herd bred AI

NM$ of service sires

 Age at first calving

 Percentage of stillbirths (birth - 24hr)

Percentage female calf death loss (24 hr - 12 months)

Percentage death loss in heifers (12 – 24 months)

Pregnancy rate

Pregnancy rate for most current month

Change in Past 5 Years: Milk Fat lb. Protein lb.

Monthly averages per cow for each of the past 12 months for (these can be put on a separate sheet or from a computer printout):

 Daily milk

Fat%:

Protein%

SCC

1. Industry and community leadership

Describe the nominee’s impact in or how the nominee contributes to the dairy industry and to the community.

Membership in organizations and leadership roles:

(List by organization and chronologically - include leadership responsibilities and significant accomplishments attributed to the nominee. List separately for each nominee if nomination includes multiple nominees.)

Awards Bestowed on Nominee(s):

1. Description of Management of Dairy Farm Operation

Dairy Herd/Farm Awards: (list chronologically)

Please provide a brief description of the dairy operation (less than 500 words).

Describe the roles/responsibilities nominee/nominees have with operation (less than 500 words).

How has this dairy farm operation progressed in the past 3-5 years as a result of the nominee(s) management abilities and leadership (less than 500 words)?

Please indicate why you are nominating this individual or these individuals. What is outstanding about management of this dairy farm? How is the dairy farm owner(s) a positive example to others in the industry? (Less than 500 words):

Please include the names and contact information for a) local legislative representatives and b) newspaper(s) for use in publicizing the award.

Nomination Submitted by:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Please list 2 references with contact information. Include professionals who work with the nominee such as veterinarians, feed consultants, extension educators and industry leaders.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email: