



## *Inside Ag* *September 5, 2007*

### **Colorado Farming and Ranching History Honored During 2007 Colorado State Fair**

Nineteen new farms and ranches have been added to the list of Colorado's Centennial Farms during the 21st Annual Centennial Farm Award Ceremony.

On Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, nineteen Colorado families who have owned and operated their farm or ranch for at least 100 years were recognized. All of the families have maintained their family's farm or ranch through, growth, drought, economic hardship and changes in agricultural technology. Honorees received a certificate signed by Governor Bill Ritter, as well as a sign to display on their property.

"The Colorado State Fair is proud to host the Centennial Farm Awards," comments General Manager Chris Wiseman. "These families deserve to be honored for their long lasting ties to Colorado and its agriculture."

The Colorado State Fair, the Colorado Department of Agriculture, the Colorado Historical Society, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation respect the important contribution that these farm and ranch families have made to preserving Colorado's history. Historic agricultural structures are disappearing around the nation; and these families have found a way to hold on to their heritage throughout many decades.

Ten of the 19 families will also receive a Historic Structures Award. The National Trust for Historic Preservation provides this additional honor to families who have demonstrated exemplary stewardship of their historic agricultural sites by maintaining four or more structures on their property that have reached the 50-year mark.

The 2007 Colorado Centennial Farm Awardees are:

- Bauder Farm (1907) - Fleming, Logan County
- Collins Ranch (1907) - Kit Carson, Cheyenne County
- Currier Georgia Mesa Ranch (1906) - Molina, Mesa County
- DeLong Farm (1889) - Rocky Ford, Otero County
- Engler Ranch (1904) - Ignacio, La Plata County
- Gerstenberger Brothers Farm (1907) - Byers, Arapahoe County
- Gourdin Ranch (1902) - Bon Carbo, Las Animas County
- Helling Brothers Farm (1907) - Idalia, Yuma County
- Hughes Homestead (1907) - Stratton, Kit Carson
- Klann Farms (1906) - Arriba, Lincoln County
- Lanckriet Custom Farms (1907) - Julesburg, Sedgwick County
- Lykkeholy Farm (1907) - Otis, Washington County
- Matthies Farm (1907) - Burlington, Kit Carson County

- Mikita Family Ranch (1905) - Calhan, El Paso County
- Mountain View Ranch (1907) - Steamboat Springs, Routt County
- Smelker Family Farm (1907) - Stratton, Kit Carson County
- Souser Farm (1907) - Otis, Washington County
- Stanko Ranch (1907) - Steamboat Springs, Routt County
- Wilson Ranch (1907) - Wray, Yuma County