

VERMONT CENTURY FARMS

Since 1953, the Vermont State Grange and the Vermont Farm Bureau have jointly sponsored the Vermont Century Farms Program. In doing so, the two organizations have continued a project begun in 1951 under the leadership of Dr. Arthur Wallace Peach, who was the director of the Vermont Historical Society.

The intent of the program has been to give recognition to farm people of this state who have maintained the home farm in the same family for 100 years or more.

Vermont State Grange and Vermont Farm Bureau have shared the expenses of the program and each organization, in alternate years (odd-numbered years are Farm Bureau; even-numbered years are Grange,) provides time during its fall Annual Meeting for the awarding of plaques and the reading of citations. (In order to award the best applications, the Farm Bureau and Grange judges may hold the option to award a limited number of farms per year.)

To qualify for recognition, a farm must have been owned continuously for a century or more by the same family, must have been occupied at all times by a direct descendant of the original settler, must be engaged in the production of agricultural products and several generations of the family must have been active in community and/or state affairs.

Application forms are made available through the Vermont Farm Bureau, 117 West Main Street, Richmond, Vermont 05477. Phone number: (802) 434-5646.

Deadline note: Applications must be received by **October 1, 2015** in order to be judged, recognized and have the plaque awarded during the Vermont State Grange Annual Meeting.

Contact the Vermont State Grange for information about bicentennial farm awards, for farms under continuous family ownership and operation for 200 or more years.

The Vermont Farm Bureau and the Vermont State Grange are pleased to be a part of this tradition that recognizes our valued Vermont farm families and their agricultural heritage. Congratulations to those families, friends and neighbors!