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*Happenings  
in the  
local  
ag  
community*

# A Day in the COUNTRY

Century Farmers  
Sylvan & Evelyn  
(Hildebrandt) Jacobson

Star Eagle photo  
by Kathy Paulsen

**INSIDE:**

**Century Farmers' 60th Anniversary  
Apply for Value Added Grants**

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# It's a two-benchmark year for the Jacobsons

## Century Farm awardees celebrate 60th wedding anniversary

By KATHY PAULSEN  
Staff Writer

Sylvan Jacobson and his wife, Evelyn (Hildebrandt) had just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 1, and this year marks 100 years that the farm he lives on has been in the Jacobson family.

The Jacobson farm was recognized as a Century Farm during the 2016 Steele County Fair.

Sylvan heard of Century Farms, so he made some inquiries and was given a great deal of paper work to fill out, including the year the farm originally became a part of the Jacobson family. Then, the application was sent to the Minnesota State Agricultural Society and the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation.

It took some time for the Jacobsons to hear back, as it was first thought it had been sent to the wrong county. The Jacobsons' address, which is New Richland, complicated things—with a New Richland address, most assume that they live in Waseca County, not Steele County. After the review process, Sylvan and Evelyn were informed that they would be presented with a certificate acknowledging their Century Farm award during the Steele County Fair.

On August 16 they received with a framed, signed certificate, as well as a sign they could display on their farm.

Sylvan and Evelyn have a large aerial photo of their farm that was taken in the early 1990s that they proudly display in their home. The new Century Farm certificate and sign are displayed next to the photo.



**SYLVAN and EVELYN (HILDEBRANDT) JACOBSON proudly display their Steele County Century Farm award. The couple also celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary September 1.**  
Star Eagle photos by Kathy Paulsen

The certificate officially states that this year marks 100 years the farm has been in their family. It reads, "Let it be known that this farm owned by Jacobson Farms has been in continuous agricultural operation since nineteen hundred and sixteen, signifying more than 100 years of contributions to the community, state, nation and world."

The certificate is signed by Governor Mark Dayton, President of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society Sharon E. Wessel, and the President of Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation Kevin Paap.

There were two previous owners before Otto H. and Ella Jacobson purchased the farm in February 1916: Central Railroad first owned the property, and then an Enzenauer bought the land.

The Jacobson farm consists of 120 acres, plus a rented 320 acres from Paul Hogass, Ralph Johnson and Paul Martenson, bringing the total number of acres Sylvan farmed to 440. The Jacobsons raised corn, beans, and oats, as well as had 50 acres where they raised alfalfa for their cows. In those early years, they planted corn with a two-row planter.

Sylvan's dad, Otto, worked as a janitor at the orphanage in Owatonna in 1910. Otto and Ella were the parents of eight children—six boys, two girls. Orace lived in Wisconsin and would have been 100 years old in September; Beulah lived in Waseca; Eldo, Rochester; Luther was a pastor in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; Helmer, Ellendale; Inez was married to Orin Ribbe and lived in New Richland; Kermit died when he was six years old from spinal meningitis, an inflammation of the brain or

**Jacobsons continued on 3**

**Star Eagle "A Day In the Country" Special**

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Reed Waller, Editor • Tracie Rosacker, Advertising Manager

■ **Jacobsons**  
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spinal cord; Sylvan is the only one that remains.

Sylvan farmed his entire life and remembers driving horses, especially when it was time to cut hay for the cows, when he was just nine years old. Sylvan's oldest brother served in the Army and his next two brothers served in the Navy, which left him home to help his dad on the farm. Sylvan did what he could. Later, they had a bale thrower, and some neighbor boys helped out when it was time to bale hay.

Sylvan said that shocking corn was the worst thing he had to do on

the farm. They most generally did it at night because it was so terribly hot that time of the year. Working at night helped deal with the heat, but then they had to deal with the mosquitos, which could really get bad.

For 42 years, Sylvan raised 550-600 hogs, farrow to finish, and milked 29 Holstein cows for 28 years. Sylvan has suffered from arthritis since 1980 and decided to take part in the government dairy buyout program that was offered in 1986-87 and stopped milking cows.

Sylvan shared a great story about his dad's early years on the farm. One winter, as Sylvan's dad, Otto,

**Jacobsons** continued on 4



**THIS AERIAL PHOTO** of the Jacobson farm in Steele (not Waseca!) County was taken in the early 1990s.

**My Farm**

*My Farm to me is not just land  
Where bare unpainted  
buildings stand--*

*To me, my farm is nothing less  
Than all created loveliness*

*My Farm is not where I must soil  
My hands in endless dreary toil  
But where, through seed  
and swelling pod  
I've learned to walk, and talk  
with God.*

*My farm, to me, is not a place  
Outmoded by the modern race*

*For here, I think, I just see less  
Of evil, greed, and selfishness.*

*My farm is a haven --  
here dwells rest,  
Security and happiness --  
What ever befalls the world outside  
Here faith and hope and love abide.*

*And so my farm is not just land  
Where bare unpainted  
buildings stand--  
To me, my farm is nothing less  
Than all God's hoarded loveliness.  
—unknown*

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## ■ Jacobsons

from Page 3

was returning home to the farm when a terrible wind and snow-storm came up and he was having difficulty trying to get home. He knew his wife and children, who were ages seven, five, three and one at the time, were home alone and there was milking to do and pigs to take care of, so he hooked up the horses to the sled and crawled under the tarp he had covering his load. With good faith in God, and his horses, he hoped that he would be able to get back home again safe and sound—which he did, three and a half hours later.

Sylvan had to undergo back surgery in 2001 following all those years of hard work on the farm. After his surgery, his doctors told him it was time for him to quit farming. He rented out the farmland to Dan and Matt Wilkenson,

who lived just down the road and, with 100 head of feeder cattle, needed more land to feed them.

Sylvan lived on the family farm his entire life with the exception of the two years he served his country, 1957-59. He spent six months at Fort Chaffee in Arkansas, where he took basic training, and later became a clerk typist in the message center. He served 13 months at Fort Polk, Louisiana and finished out his last six months at Fort Hood, Texas. While in Texas, Sylvan was able to see Elvis and his white Cadillac, as well as Elvis's dad's red Continental.

Before Sylvan entered the service he worked for Super Structures in Albert Lea, Wengers in Owatonna, and the King Company in Owatonna.

Evelyn was from Waseca, one of seven children in her family: Ethel Mae, the oldest, is 91 and lives in Albert Lea; Leroy and Merlin lived in Waseca, but are both gone;

Dorothy lives in Texas. Next in line is Evelyn, then Helen, who lives in Wisconsin, and Robert lives in Waconia.

Evelyn worked at Herter's for 17 years, then worked for Manpower, SPX and Josten's, and ended her career working at the Owatonna Clinic in the medical records area. When she turned 72 she decided it was time to quit.

Sylvan and Evelyn were married on September 1, 1956 at St. Pauls' Lutheran Church in Waseca by Pastor Eifert. Pastor Omen Lyman, associate pastor at Pontoppidan, assisted.

Sylvan and Evelyn do not have any children of their own, but between the two of them there are 150 nieces and nephews whom they cherish.

Several farm buildings remain on the Jacobson farm site, but there are no longer any animals being raised there. Sylvan still has his first tractor, a 1956 Ford. He also has a 1972

Ford tractor that he can attach a snow blower and a cycle mower too, depending on the season. And he also has a 1964 Ford tractor for odds and ends around the farm. Sylvan is proud that he still has a 100-year-old anvil.

Sylvan loves to read and subscribes to the NRHEG Star Eagle, the Steele County Times, Owatonna People's Press, Waseca County News, Reader's Digest, etc.

Sylvan commented that Bob Hanson, who writes for the Star Eagle and was someone he went to school with, once said, "The best thing to come out of Iowa was I-35. I think that one of the best things is to be raised on the family farm!"

We congratulate Sylvan and Evelyn on 60 years of marriage, as well as congratulate them for their family farm being recognized as a Century Farm.

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**LET'S GET IT DONE!**

# Soil health meetings targeted women landowners

## Blue Earth meeting hosts MN women interested in soil and water quality

By LISA YOUNG

AgriNews

There are more female landowners in Minnesota, particularly older women whose farming husbands have passed and whose land now is farmed by their children or rented out. An organization called Women Caring for the Land is making a conscientious effort to reach out to non-operator female landowners to bring them up to speed on land considerations.

The organization held meetings this year across Minnesota to discuss soil health, including one May 24 at the Riverside Town & Country Club near Blue Earth, which drew several dozen women. The event was a joint effort between Women Caring for the Land, Renewing the Countryside and Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District and Planning and Zoning with representatives from local, state and federal entities on hand to basics and resources and answer questions.

### MAWQCP

Bridget Winkels, Area 6 certification specialist with the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program covering south central Minnesota, talked about the basics of the state's new water quality certification program. Winkels emphasized farming operations of all types and sizes can become certified under MAWQCP. Landowners or renters could have land certified. A requirement to become or maintain certification could be written into rental agreements.

### Soil health

Women often are left behind when male farmers go into their local service offices, and that shouldn't be the case, said Nobles County Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Stephanie McLain.

"I ask often 'Where is your wife? I know she's helping you make these decisions,'" McLain said.

In her work, McLain focuses on keeping the soil in one place.

"When a raindrop falls and lands, I want it to stay right there," McLain said. "This is one of those things in life you want to be selfish with. Rain can take your soil and your nutrients. You paid good money for that stuff!"

To get soil to stay, it has to be healthy, McLain said. Healthy soil has a healthy balance of organic matter, minerals, air and water. With the right mix of these components, rainfall will infiltrate into the earth rather than run off the land. Soil in higher tillage fields tends to have less air and so fewer places water can get into when it does rain. Changing practices can help improve such situations in a fairly short timeframe, McLain said.

Her tips for doing so:

--. Disturb the soil less.



-- Leave more on the soil. "If you yield to biology, it will take care of residue," McLain said.

-- Diversify crop rotation. At minimum, this could be adding a third crop to a corn and soybean rotation or adding a cover crop, McLain said.

-- Keep a living root in the soil as long as possible. This is where cover crops can come in handy.

-- Include livestock. "We're actually all feedlot owners," McLain said. "Our livestock just lives below ground."

\$228 to \$344 per acre in Martin County, marks that are competitive with rental rates.

For land that has to be decommissioned because of the Minnesota Buffer Law, CRP might be a way to retain some income from the land, Miranowski said. However, land along public waters would have to have a CRP contract approved before Nov. 1, 2017, to qualify. The qualification date is Nov. 1, 2018, for land along public ditches.

### Watershed basics

Faribault and Martin counties are largely part of the Minnesota River Basin, two of 39 counties that contribute to the water body. A lot is going on in all those counties that can help or hurt water quality, said Michele Stindtman, program administrator for Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District and Planning and Zoning.

"Someone else is dependent on what we do to the water every day," Stindtman said. "Everything drains into something."

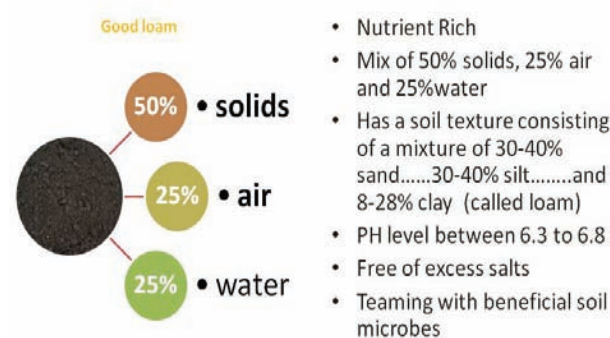
Blue Earth County, for example, has a sediment problem, Stindtman said. They would not at all mind sending some of the build up they have back up the Blue Earth, Le Sueur and Watonwan rivers to the fields the sediment came from. Where top soil is lost, nutrients also are lost. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is conducting total maximum daily load studies on the Le Sueur and Watonwan river watersheds to determine nutrient levels in the rivers.

The next step will be looking at practices that can be put on the land to reduce nutrients to allowable drinking water limits. Stindtman noted there isn't enough land in those watersheds to balance loads through cover crops alone, so a mix of active management practices likely will come into play.

The only thing an individual can fix is what's in his or her own backyard, so that's the place to start, Stindtman said.

Women with questions about how practices on their land affect water quality, they can call their local SWCD, Stindtman said. Personnel can provide technical help, guidance to financial assistance and answer questions.

### What Is Healthy Soil



### FSA

With flexibility in how much land can be enrolled, the Conservation Reserve Program can be a good option for landowners, said. Nicki Miranowski with the Faribault and Martin County Farm Service Agency.

Anything from one-tenth of an acre to hundreds of acres can be enrolled in the 10- to 15-year contracts the program offers. Landowners then get paid rent based on practices implemented on the reserved area. More than 30 practices are allowed in the area at this time, including windbreaks, waterways and bird or pollinator habitats. Establishing these practices might sound expensive, but rolled together with Environmental Quality Incentive Program funds from NRCS, it is possible to attain a 90 percent cost share, Miranowski said.

CRP pay rates depend on the practice, but range from \$220 to \$339 per acre in Faribault County and

## Farmamerica Names New Executive Director

The board of directors of the Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center at Farmamerica is pleased to announce the hiring of Jessica Rollins as Executive Director. Rollins comes to the position well-equipped to help lead Farmamerica into the future, building on a strong foundation portraying agriculture of the past while adding new educational materials and displays addressing the challenging issues facing agriculture today—such as rapidly changing technology, environmental concerns and shifting cultures.

Rollins previously worked in public relations with Farmer, Lumpe + McClelland, and in marketing and technical services with DuPont Pioneer. Rollins was raised on a farm in Fillmore County in southeastern Minnesota and currently resides near Pemberton. She will begin her duties October 3. There will be an open house opportunity to meet Jessica on October 17 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Farmamerica.

Farmamerica is a non-profit organization established by the Minnesota legislature in 1978 to provide educational opportunities for all to learn about rural life and farms of our past, present and future. To learn more, or to sign up



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as a member, go to [www.farmamerica.org](http://www.farmamerica.org).

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# Rural America is 'back in business in a big way'

## U.S. Secretary of Agriculture sees positive change taking hold

By **THOMAS J. VILSACK**

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

We know when rural communities do well, America does well. Rural America provides us with the food we eat, the water we drink and the energy we use, not to mention a disproportionate percentage the nation's military that keeps us safe from threat.

That's why it's good news that in all corners of rural America, we're seeing real, positive change take hold for the first time in the years since the Great Recession. Today, rural populations have stabilized, meaning more and more people - especially young families - are electing to stay in rural America rather than leave for the city.

Better job prospects are helping that trend. Rural counties added over 125,000 jobs in both 2014 and 2015, after job losses averaging 200,000 per year during 2008-2013. As a

result, the rural unemployment rate has dropped below 6 percent for the first time since 2007, which is impacting falling poverty rates.

From 2012-2014, we saw rural child poverty fall by 3 percentage points. And new data indicates that 7.9 million fewer people are struggling to provide adequate food for themselves or household members than when President Obama took office.

In fact, food insecurity for children is at the lowest level on record - meaning our children are able to access nutritious food in higher numbers than in the past. Taken together, these benchmarks of progress should give us great hope for the future.

Over the past eight years, the Obama Administration, led by USDA, has vigorously invested in the rural way of life, strengthening the small towns and rural communities that so many call home.

We've supported the heart of the American dream, helping more than 1.2 million families buy, repair or refinance a home in rural America, creating more home-ownership opportunities than any other previous seven-year period in USDA's single-family housing program's history.

We've invested in 8,350 critical community facilities like schools, libraries, hospitals and public spaces that improve the rural quality of life.

We've facilitated the 21st century basic infrastructure of broadband in areas that desperately needed it, enabling access to new or improved high-speed internet service for six million Americans who live and work in rural areas.

We've also set up the next generation of rural Americans by investing in a new economy focused on biobased products and manufacturing; lifting the potential of conservation and natural resources to expand

recreation and business opportunities; building a local and regional food system that supports millions of new jobs; and supporting the world's greatest production agriculture system which has produced record exports and record profits for our nation's farming families.

We've proven time and time again that an investment in rural America is a good bet. And to that point, we've helped unlock billions of dollars in private capital that is now flowing into rural businesses across the country.

I've always believed that the potential of rural America is limitless, but in these eight years, I've seen the proof. With the steadfast support of our partners across the nation, and historic investments from President Obama and his entire Administration, I'm proud to say that change has come to our rural communities.



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# Healthcare rate hike may heavily impact farmers

By **BRITA MOORE**  
AgriNews

Minnesota, Iowa and many other states will experience sharp increases in health insurance premiums for individual plans.

Rate increases are expected to range from 35 percent to 66 percent, a decision made by the insurance companies.

It's a difficult situation for farmers because they often purchase insurance on their own. They are among the 300,000 Minnesota residents who don't obtain insurance through an employer.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota has left the individual market, leaving people to scramble for options.

Many Minnesotans are concerned about the impacts of the existing healthcare model. Paul Sobocinski of the Land Stewardship Project is working to inform farmers of what's going on and decide what to do.

"Before you get to the exact solution, you have to get people to recognize there is a serious problem," he said. "Profit is driving the model rather than people's health. We need a system that's centered around people. We need much better insight and digging apart of this

problem by the Minnesota Legislature."

Ryan and Tiffany Batalden, farmers based in Lamberton, have been directly affected by the healthcare turmoil. Ryan has Type 1 diabetes and was covered through MCHA before it dissolved. The Bataldens switched to BCBS to allow them to continue seeing the same doctors.

"We were only on our new plans for about six or so months when we were informed that our premiums would be increasing 49 percent," Tiffany Batalden said. "We chose to stay with Blue Cross because they were the only provider that allowed us to keep similar benefits with our same doctors."

"And then, in July I received emails that both of our plans are being terminated Jan. 1, 2017. I am frustrated to say the least. I know that I have to find new coverage but I am not confident it will be comparable, or that we will be able to keep our doctors who have great knowledge of our health history. The proposed rate increases announced today are outrageous and unsustainable."

Sobocinski said rate increases will hit all farmers at a time when

crop prices are down and things are tough. Having to use more income to cover health insurance, he said, will have a negative impact on their bottom line.

"For some people, they and their family will qualify for MinnesotaCare if their income is low enough; they will be in good shape, but for a third of the people who have sufficient income or are in a better financial situation, they will see a drastic increase in premiums, which is not good for farmers," Sobocinski said. "It won't leave them dollars to reinvest in their businesses — buying machinery, equipment, things that are part of their farming operation."

Meanwhile, Minnesota Farm Bureau President Kevin Paap said he wasn't sure exactly what to expect from the rate increases, but that the BCBS decision to leave the individual market was an immediate concern, as the Bataldens experienced.

"Some people have gotten notice that they will no longer be eligible for insurance under their policy," Paap said. "It's a significant problem, and we have more questions than answers."

Sobocinski said while the ACA

affects the entire country, the federal law does allow states to work on their own solutions. He said one solution could be to raise the income level eligibility for MinnesotaCare.

"Right now it's at 200 percent of poverty level," Sobocinski said. "If we increased it to 275 percent, it would cover more people in crisis."

In the end, however, the biggest need, he said, is public oversight over the insurance companies at the corporate level.

The Land Stewardship Project, Minnesota Nurses Association and TakeAction Minnesota issued a statement Sept. 1:

"Today we are reminded once again of the need for an ongoing discussion about the state of health care coverage in Minnesota and how to ensure that all Minnesotans have quality, affordable health care. Blue Cross's decision to leave the individual market and today's premium increases show that insurers continue to try to avoid covering the people who need care the most. Our leaders must build a health care system that provides quality, affordable care to all Minnesotans. The system we have now is not working."

## Remember these tips when baling corn residue

by **JODI DEJONG-HUGHES**  
U of M Extension

**Baled corn stalks** While corn residue is incorporated or left on the soil surface in most fields, some producers harvest the residue for use as livestock feed and bedding. How much crop residue removal is too much? Soil productivity will be reduced if all of the corn residue in a field is removed and other sources of carbon are not added. Below are important factors to consider when determining which fields and how much residue can be removed while maintaining soil organic matter levels.

### Tillage

As less tillage is performed, more

residue may be removed from a field. Residue removal is best suited to conservation tillage or no-till systems.

### Crop rotation

As more biomass is grown, more residue can be sustainably removed. Corn grain crops produce more biomass than soybeans, small grains, edible beans, peas, potatoes, and sugar beets and are the best choice for residue removal.

### Method of residue removal

Various baling methods remove different amounts of residue. Chopping the stalks, raking and baling will remove 80 percent of the residue, while baling the windrow behind the combine will only

remove 50 percent of the corn residue.

When considering the economics of baling and hauling the crop residue, nutrient removal from the field should be included in the calculations. For example, a 1,200 pound bale of corn stalks would remove approximately 3.5 pounds of phosphorus, 11 pounds of nitrogen, and 19.2 pounds of potassium per acre.

While it is critical to maximize profitability from the land, short-term economics should be balanced with long-term sustainability. Consider these guidelines to maintain soil organic matter levels and protect fields against soil erosion when harvesting corn residue:

Target corn residue harvest in fields that will be planted to corn next year.

Rotate residue harvest among fields so that residue is not removed from the same field every year.

Reduce tillage following residue harvest.

To add carbon back into the soil, apply manure in addition or instead of commercial fertilizer.

Consider planting winter cover crops. Roots from winter cover crops are extremely effective at scavenging residual soil nitrate and adding carbon to the soil.

## Applications accepted for FY2017 Value Added Grants

### 23 Minnesota organizations received grants in 2016

Twenty-three Minnesota agricultural producers and processors have been awarded funding from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Value Added Grant program. The Value Added Grant program supports projects that will increase the sales of Minnesota agricultural products through added processing, marketing or manufacturing. The grant is part of the MDA's Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program, which administers grant funding to farmers, agribusinesses, schools, and more throughout the state of Minnesota.

By selling value-added products, farmers, producers, and processors can grow their businesses and create new jobs. The MDA's Value Added Grant Program is entering its fifth year of supporting new and established for-profit businesses.

"The Value Added Grant program has allowed us to expand our wine production capacity by nearly 100% and has helped us to diversify our packaging to

include single-serve bottles," said Tami Bredeson, president of Carlos Creek Winery and former grant recipient. "The ability to offer single serve bottles has made our product more appealing to Minnesota restaurants, resulting in a 200% growth in the number of placements of our wines on local restaurant menus."

Equipment purchases or physical improvement projects may be eligible for Value Added Grant funding, and up to 25% of the total project cost may be reimbursed with a maximum grant award of \$150,000 and a minimum grant award of \$1,000.

Applications are now being accepted for the Fiscal Year 2017 Value Added Grant program.

The Value Added grant supports Minnesota agricultural producers and processors to increase sales of Minnesota agricultural products by expanding markets.

Individuals (farmers) or businesses, agricultural cooperatives, and local government enti-



ties are eligible. All applicants must be in good standing (no back taxes, no defaults on Minnesota-backed financing, acceptable performance on past MDA grants, and in compliance with current state regulations). See RFP for more detail.

Grants are for equipment purchases or physical improvements and are intended to support businesses that will:

- Start, expand, or update livestock product processing businesses;

- Purchase equipment to start, upgrade, or modernize value-added businesses;

- Increase the use and processing of Minnesota agricultural products (required for all grants);

- Purchase equipment or facility improvement to increase food safety (ex. Implementing a food safety plan); and

- Increase farmers' processing and aggregating capacity to sell

to schools, hospitals, or other institutions.

Applications that have a meat processing, marketing to schools (or other institutions) component, or are addressing a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) or similar type of food safety plan will receive priority.

Grants will be awarded through the application and competitive review process.

The MDA anticipates awarding up to \$1,000,000 per round of applications through the Value Added Grant Program. Equipment purchases or physical improvements projects: Up to 25% of the total project cost may be reimbursed by the grant award; maximum grant award is \$150,000; minimum grant award is \$1,000.

The Fiscal Year (FY)2017 application periods are open from July 26, 2016 to September 27, 2016 and from December 28, 2016 to March 2, 2017.

## Number of organic acres in Minnesota slips slightly

Minnesota's organic farmers saw a 33 percent increase in sales from 2011 to 2015, but the number of acres tended by organic producers dropped during the same timeframe.

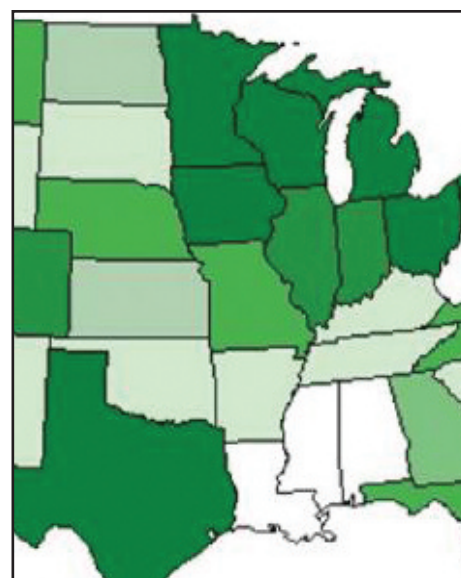
Minnesota had 431 organic operations with sales in 2015, compared with 396 in 2011. Acres dropped by 9,323 acres -- from 124,644 acres to 115,321 acres.

The state ranks tenth in total number of organic farms, and fifth in number of acres.

According to Minnesota Ag Stats, the state ranked second in certified organic corn for grain (14 percent) and soybean production (11 percent) in the U.S. in 2015. Twelve percent of the nation's organic oats were raised in Minnesota. Organic haylage, hay, dry edible beans and wheat had sales over \$1 million in Minnesota in 2015.

All organic vegetables, potatoes and melons grown in the open provided \$5.65 million in 2015.

Organic milk production in



Minnesota grossed \$41.775 million in 2015, while cattle sales were valued at over \$7 million. Turkeys brought in another \$3 million.

Minnesota produced 23 percent of the organic goat milk in the nation. The 2015 sales were \$544,310.

Complete results of the 2015 Certified Organic Survey are available at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

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