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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:

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PRO-DAIRY Presents the PRO-DAIRY Agriservice Awards **Kerry Adams and Jan Bitter are Recognized**

NYS Agriculture Commissioner Darrel Aubertine and PRO-DAIRY Director Thomas Overton presented the PRO-DAIRY Agriservice Awards to Kerry Adams, Blackbrook Farm, and Jan Bitter, Farm Credit East Vice President and Branch Manager, at Dairy Day at the NYS Fair on August 26, 2013. These awards are given in appreciation and recognition of outstanding contributions to NYS agriculture through support of the PRO-DAIRY program.

“We are very pleased to recognize the leadership of Kerry and Jan. Kerry’s involvement in many aspects of industry leadership and willingness to involve her farm in pilot programs from PRO-DAIRY has enhanced our New York dairy industry. Jan has contributed in shaping several new programs for our dairy industry, and is thoughtful in approach and service-minded relative to the dairy industry at large,” Dr. Overton said.

Kerry Adams, along with her husband Hal, owns and operates Blackbrook Farm in Shortsville, NY. She has demonstrated leadership, advocacy and the ability to represent the dairy industry in her work with the Northeast Dairy Producers Association and related industry-level activities including last year’s Yogurt Summit, the Grow NYS Dairy Workgroup, the PRO-DAIRY advisory committee, and the New York Dairy Task Force, which has benefitted the New York dairy industry greatly.

Jan Bitter is Vice President and Branch Manager for Farm Credit East in Homer, NY. Her leadership and ability to represent Farm Credit East in the context of a variety of industry-level activities including the PRO-DAIRY advisory committee and New York Dairy Task Force has benefitted the New York dairy industry greatly by shaping these programs and creating new ones. Her willingness to have direct involvement in regional PRO-DAIRY programs such as DairyFAST and support for Cornell programs such as the Dairy Farm Business Summary has made these programs better and more effective for the NY dairy industry.

PRO-DAIRY’s mission is to facilitate New York State economic development by increasing the profitability and competitiveness of its dairy industry. PRO-DAIRY specialists have made a positive impact on the technical knowledge, management skills and economic strength of New York State’s dairy industry since 1988. Visit PRO-DAIRY online at <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/index.html>.

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