



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

02/06/23

Wisconsin Farm Receives Regional Environmental Stewardship Award

NEW ORLEANS – The joint operation of Huth Polled Herefords and S&H Livestock Enterprises, LLC, in Oakfield, Wis. was selected as one of seven regional winners of the 2022 Environmental Stewardship Award Program (ESAP).

The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA), a contractor to the Beef Checkoff, made the announcement during the 2023 Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show in New Orleans.

“Farming and ranching families across the country continue to incorporate practices that protect and preserve land and water resources for future generations,” said NCBA President Don Schiefelbein. “These regional winners represent the cattle industry’s commitment to environmental stewardship.”

Established in 1991, ESAP celebrates outstanding land stewards in the cattle industry. The regional winners will compete for the national award, which will be presented during NCBA’s Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., April 24-27, 2023. The 2022 Environmental Stewardship Award Program Regional Winners are:

Region I: Lamb Farms, Inc., Oakfield, New York
Region II: Carter Cattle Company, LLC, Pintlala, Alabama
Region III: Huth Polled Herefords and S&H Livestock Enterprises, LLC, Oakfield, Wisconsin
Region IV: Parks Ranch, Goliad County, Texas
Region V: Mannix Brothers Ranch, Helmville, Montana
Region VI: Fulstone Ranches, Smith, Nevada
Region VII: Jorgensen Land & Cattle Partnership, Ideal, South Dakota

“Jerry and Josh are exceptional examples of a beef cattle operation focusing on long-term sustainability,” said Brady Zuck, Wisconsin Cattlemen’s Association president. “They have





demonstrated an approach for other operations to emulate regarding sustainability of operations, transitioning ownership and securing the viability of the cattle operation, and they have focused on managing the land with grazing cattle to improve the environment.”

Over the past 60 years, Jerry Huth has established a reputation for genetics and cattle which are productive and profitable in their environments. Josh Scharf first joined the operation as an employee then transitioned into ownership through S&H Livestock Enterprises. Together, their expanded enterprise required more pasture, leading the team to pursue utilizing 130 acres of state-managed public land that borders the farm. The public-private partnership to graze state land has been beneficial to the sustainability and expansion of the operation while also providing environmental and habitat benefits to public land. Jerry and Josh ensure pastures maintain good soil health by effectively managing stocking rates and resting pastures. These practices produce nutritious, dense and high-energy vegetation for cattle and reduce erosion and water runoff.

“Our main goal is to maintain and improve the quality of the environment for future generations while producing a quality, profitable product,” said Jerry Huth of Huth Polled Herefords. “We partner with various organizations to continuously improve our farm and enhance our sustainability efforts.”

The Wisconsin Beef Council nominated Huth and Scharf for this honor.

ESAP is sponsored by companies and federal agencies who share the cattle industry’s commitment to caring for the environment and protecting natural resources. Sponsors including U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, Corteva Agriscience, McDonald’s, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service partner with NCBA to promote environmental stewardship throughout the beef supply chain. For more information, visit www.environmentalstewardship.org.

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The Wisconsin Beef Council is a producer-led non-profit organization funded by the \$1.00 per head Beef Checkoff. Half of the dollar remains in Wisconsin for local beef promotion, while the other half is used by the Cattlemen’s Beef Board to fund national projects. The purpose of the Council is to fund beef promotion, research and consumer education activities to grow beef demand and support Wisconsin’s \$2.1 billion beef industry. The WBC operates under the guidance of its Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of representatives from cattle-related organizations around the state of Wisconsin.

