



**Press Release**  
**June 2010**

**Contact: See last paragraphs**

## **Empire Farm Days: A Family Tradition for Lott Family**

Seneca Falls, NY - The Rodman Lott family has hosted Empire Farm Days at their farm southwest of Seneca Falls, NY each August since 1988. The event that covers 300 of the farm's 4,300-acres will be held August 10-12, 2010, and is expected to draw 70,000 farmers and more than 600 exhibitors representing 3,000 agriculturally-related entities.

"Empire Farm Days is like a third crop for us in the summertime. We grow corn, soybeans and the show. My dad took it on in 1988 and now my sons are helping," says Rodman's son Ralph Lott. "We've been doing this for so long now that it's fairly easy."

Ralph, his wife Shirley, and their children Nicole, Benjamin and Rodman, and his wife Tara, have all been involved with Empire Farm Days over the years, and, although "retired," Rodman and Ellen still help on the farm and at the event.

"Empire Farm Days is a great way for farmers to go to one place to see all the latest and different equipment available to them. If it's made, it's here. The Ride and Drive Experience offers the opportunity to learn how to drive a GPS-equipped tractor and all the brands will be here," Ralph says.

Ralph says he adopted a new zone tillage system that he saw at one of the Empire Farm Days held elsewhere. He says, "The first year we hosted Empire Farms Day on our farm we were using the tillage system we had seen demonstrated at an earlier show. This show is the place to learn what you need to do to be more efficient and more profitable."

The Lott family farming history starts with Rodman and Ellen's crop operation from 1954 to 1968 in Pennsylvania. In 1960, they also had a 400-acre soybean farm in Delaware. In 1968, they moved to Florida's Panhandle to raise peanuts, beef cattle and pigs. In 1980, they settled in Seneca Falls, NY. They hosted their first Empire Farm Days in 1988.

Today, Empire Farms Days is the Northeast's largest outdoor three-day agricultural trade show. For more details, contact show manager Melanie Wickham at 877-697-7837, [mwickham@empirefarmdays.com](mailto:mwickham@empirefarmdays.com). #

***Reporters: Want to ask Ralph Lott how many hours he spends on Empire Farms Days while still operating a 4,300-acre farm or what happens to the 300-acre site after thousands of people have walked on it for 3 days? Ralph will be at the event all 3 days: reach him at 315-277-0863.***

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Empire Farm Days is hosted By: Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY  
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