

EMPIRE FARM DAYS A GREAT SUCCESS

SENECA FALLS, NY--- The 2006 Empire Farm Days presented hundreds of opportunities for the thousands of Northeast farmers to see the latest and most advanced technology in agricultural equipment, products and services. The 2006 EFD saw some of the best weather in the last 20 years. "It was almost too nice," said Melanie Wickham, Show Manager. "I think a lot of farmers chose to take advantage of the first stretch of dry weather to make hay on Tuesday. But Wednesday and Thursday they made up for it." The '06 Show proved to be a well-attended, high quality crowd of interested buyers. Although attendance seemed to be a bit off the first day, farmers and companies who participated in the show were very pleased with the quality and quantity of visitors and exhibits. Held in August at the Rodman Lott & Sons Farm in Seneca Falls, NY the show was a great success. With close to 700 exhibitors, the 2006 show one of the best in its 73-year history. The show offered Northeast Farmers more than 3,000 brand names to look over. Exhibitors showcased the latest developments in technology and equipment to northeast agricultural professionals, face-to-face.

Farmers from across the US and Canada connected directly with manufacturers and representatives for the thousands of agricultural products and services available to today's farmer. Producers across the agricultural industry including dairy, livestock, crops, equine, fruit, vegetable, forestry, woodlot, specialty crops traveled to Empire Farm Days to see the latest innovations.

According to Wickham, exhibitors' attitudes following the show were positive. She credits exceptional exhibitors, the addition of seminars and specialty meetings, a targeted marketing approach, and site improvements for the continuing success of the show.

"We strive to find new and unique ways to provide farmers with opportunities to see innovation, learn about new techniques and creative ways to advance their businesses. The more we can offer farmers during the 3-day show, the more effectively we are able to meet their increasing business need. The show continues to change to meet new challenges and opportunities in the industry," said Wickham. Offering specialized programs and events to specific segments of the industry has proven to draw increasing numbers of agricultural customers. "As long as the exhibitors continue to bring their newest and best, and we continue to build an exciting arena to showcase them, farmers will come to the show."

Plans are already underway for next year's Empire Farm Days, scheduled for August 7, 8, & 9, 2007 in Seneca Falls, NY at the Rodman Lott & Son Farms.

EMPIRE FARM DAYS WINNERS ANNOUNCED

SENECA FALLS, NY---For attendees to this years' Empire Farm Days it truly was a "powerful experience" as they left with lots more than they came with. All visitors to 2006 Empire Farm Days had the chance to register to win a KUBOTA RTV900, Power Tools from Cook Iron Store, a Gold Coin, and a Pleasure Saddle.

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Carolyn High, Wolcott, NY was the big winner taking home the KUBOTA RTV900. She was one of thousands who registered to win the vehicle as an overall show promotion, sponsored by Empire Farm Days and Kubota. High farms with her husband, Kevin, and their 5 children, didn't miss a beat when notified. "Oh my goodness, my husband is going to be so excited., " said High. "He told me we were going to have to buy one if we didn't win it," she laughed. The 120-cow dairy producing family works 300 acres and it's no doubt that they will find many uses for the diesel-powered utility vehicle. "WE come to the show every year, but, this is our first Kubota," admitted High.

For the first time this year EFD visitors had the chance to win a GOLD COIN worth \$175. George Gafner, a livestock and corn producer from Rome, NY won the GOLD COIN valued at \$175. "I've been coming to the show since it was held at the Humphrey's back in the '60's, " said Gafner. "I'm always interested in seeing what's new."

Randy Bartlett, Elmira, NY signed up in Empire Farm Days' Equine Center and won the Pleasure Saddle given away by Empire Farm Days. The proud owner of 6 pleasure horses Bartlett is sure the saddle will come in handy.

Marv Bieber, a corn producer from Kendall, NY, took home the Power Tools and other goodies from Cook Iron Store. He and many others entered the drawing just for test-driving a compact tractor at Empire Farm Days. The giveaway and test drive area at Empire Farm Days was designed to give landowners the opportunity to compare many models of compact tractors, all in one place, all at one time. "I was shopping around looking to buy a tractor so it was a great opportunity to compare prices and options," said Bieber of his EFD experience." The show sure is a day-full. We come every year and we sure do learn a lot."

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all the companies who helped sponsored the giveaways!

The 2007 Empire Farm Days is scheduled for August 7, 8, & 9, 2007 at the Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY.