



Celebrate Ontario Agriculture Week and Ontario's farming families

September 29, 2014 – Ontario is a province overflowing with nutritious and delicious food. So, from October 6 to 12, Farm & Food Care, Foodland Ontario and Ontario's 37,000 farm families will be celebrating the people that make that possible during *Ontario Agriculture Week*.

Our province is home to families who produce meat, eggs, dairy products, grains, fruits and vegetables for Ontarians during all months of the year. By supporting them and the food they produce, we all benefit economically, environmentally and socially.

There are many events being planned to celebrate the week, including a Breakfast on the Farm for 2,000 people near Newcastle; soup prepared by many great chefs in the Holland Marsh and a chance for 150 farmers to meet and thank 20,000 football fans for buying their food.

"I feel it's a great honour and privilege to feed my country. Ontario Agriculture Week is our chance to say thank you for buying our food," says John Maaskant, chicken farmer and chair of Farm & Food Care. "By supporting local food, you support farmers, the environment and stronger communities."

Wondering how you can celebrate Ontario Agriculture Week? Here are a few tips:

- Support your local farmers by choosing Ontario products all year long. Invite your friends and family over for a local dinner and celebrate.
- Share your love of local food and Ontario's farmers on social media using the #loveONTfood hashtag.
- Tour a farm virtually or find out more about how your food is produced here at home by visiting www.farmfoodcare.org.
- Visit www.loveONTfood.ca for a list of resources on Ontario food and farming and more ideas on how to join in on the Local Food celebrations.

Farm & Food Care Ontario is a coalition of farmers, agriculture and food partners working together to ensure public trust and confidence in food and farming. Farm & Food Care provides a coordinated approach and credible information on food and farming in Ontario.

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For more information, please contact:

- Crystal Mackay, Executive Director, 519-837-1326, extension 222;
crystal@farmfoodcare.org

Ontario Agriculture Week Special Features

- **Breakfast on the Farm** on October 4 at Wilmot Orchards in Newcastle, Ontario. Come enjoy a free local food breakfast and visit a real farm. Tickets are free for the first 2,000 attendees and can be reserved at www.farmfoodcare.org.
- **SoupFest** is being hosted October 4 in the Holland Marsh. Tickets and more details are available at www.hollandmarshsoupfest.ca
- A **Tribute to Farmers Night** will be held October 10 at the Toronto Argonauts vs. Hamilton Tiger Cats football game in Toronto. Over 150 farmers will meet and thank fans for buying their food.
- **Show your love for #loveONTfood** through a new **photo contest** where participants can show their #loveONTfood love by submitting photos taken with their favourite food provider – farmer, retailer, chef, restaurateur, butcher etc. Submit to contests@farmfoodcare.org and use the #loveONTfood hashtag on social media.