



Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association

Media Release

For immediate Release

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SSGA Recognizes the Importance of Environmental Stewardship 2010 TESA Winner Announced

The Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) is pleased to announce that Glen and Dawn Ekert of Moosomin, Saskatchewan are the 2010 recipients of The Environmental Stewardship Award (TESA).

“The Ekert’s have been innovators in their land and herd management techniques. They are a family that understands the connection between environmental stewardship and profitability and that is the embodiment of this award,” says Chad MacPherson, General Manager of SSGA. “Producers, like the Ekert’s, play an important role in the stewardship of prairie landscapes and the SSGA feels it is important to acknowledge the efforts of those who have demonstrated innovative and successful approaches to livestock production.”

The fourth generation farmers are aware of the impact their operation has on the land. They took over the family farm in 1983 and have successfully adapted their management practices to improve of their operation while at the same time improve the environment. What was once a grain operation has evolved into a certified organic cattle ranch. The couple use a holistic management approach to produce a premier product that they market directly to individuals, stores and restaurants.

The Environmental Stewardship Award (TESA) has been presented by the SSGA in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada and RBC Royal Bank since 1995 as recognition of excellence in the area of environmental stewardship within the ranching industry. Nominees whose main source of income is cattle production are selected from across Saskatchewan and are considered by the awards committee based on the merit of sustainable practices that have been implemented on the operation.

Throughout the 97 year history of the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA), the organization has been involved in the delivery and promotion of environmental stewardship programs and practices in the province

TESA nomination conditions and forms are available on the SSGA website at www.skstockgrowers.ca. Both members of the SSGA and non-members are able to nominate ranches and are encouraged to submit nominations **before the August 31st, 2010 deadline**. Nominees will be honoured and the winner announced during the banquet at the SSGA 98th Convention & Annual General Meeting in June 2011. Provincial TESA award winners qualify to compete for the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association National TESA award.

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