

For Immediate Release

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December 9, 2024

LONG GREEN FARMS TO SHARE THEIR STORY DURING PRODUCER SHOWCASE KEYNOTE SESSION AT PA DAIRY SUMMIT IN FEBRUARY

The PA Dairy Summit Will Feature Four Keynote Sessions, Including Two Producer Showcases

Harrisburg, Pa. – The 2025 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit is centered around the idea that designing our futures in the dairy industry begins with the decisions we make today. Hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Center for Dairy Excellence, the PA Dairy Summit is scheduled for February 5-6, 2025 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College, Pa. The two-day conference is nationally recognized as one of the best conferences for dairy professionals and offers inspiration, education, and networking for dairy farmers in all types of production.

Several dynamic speakers, including speakers from two progressive dairy operations in the Northeast, will lead keynote sessions at the 2025 PA Dairy Summit. Caleb and Alice Crothers, of Long Green Farms in Rising Sun, Maryland, will share their story during one of the Producer Showcase keynote sessions titled "Building for Tomorrow Today."

"The keynote speakers at this year's Dairy Summit will not only dive into what the future of the dairy industry looks like, but they will share tangible steps and decisions we could be making today to start designing our future," said Jared Kurtz, the 2025 PA Dairy Summit Chair and dairy farmer from Berks County, Pa. "Caleb and Alice Crothers both have a fascinating story, with nontraditional journeys and careers that eventually led them back to their family's eighthgeneration dairy farm. They plan to share their experience interfacing with consumers, farming with sustainability and heritage in mind, and their mindset for achieving goals."

Long Green Farms Inc. is a 330-cow dairy operation in Rising Sun, Maryland. As a bicentennial farm, Long Green Farms is one of the oldest operating dairies in the state. Caleb Crothers is the proud owner/operator of Long Green Farms Inc. Alice is the Treasurer of Long Green Farms and has shared her passion of Long Green Farms' heritage and sustainability journey in TIME, Progressive Dairy, Maryland Public Television, Lancaster Farming and more.

"When it comes to designing your tomorrow, the pathway to chasing dreams and achieving goals is never linear. The conditions will never be perfect. Success requires a plan, patience, perseverance, partnership, and permission to pivot, plan and perform," said Alice Crothers of Long Green Farms.

In addition to Alice and Caleb Crothers, the following keynote speakers will join the PA Dairy Summit stage in February:

- What's Exciting About Dairy's Future with Peggy Coffeen from Uplevel Podcast
- Farming for the Future in a World Where People Know Their Farmers: Producer Showcase with David Moser of Oakridge Dairy
- Today's Ideas, Tomorrow's Reality: A Panel Discussion on New Opportunities in Fluid Milk

In addition to the keynote sessions, the PA Dairy Summit will include 12 breakout sessions for all size operations and all members of dairy teams. Breakout sessions will cover four specific tracks: Herd and health; feed, forages and energy; people and potential; and outcomes and opportunities. Many of the breakout sessions will be led by dairy producers from Pennsylvania and beyond.

Visit www.padairysummit.org to save the date and view conference information, including sponsorship opportunities that are now available. Registration is expected to open in the coming weeks. Contact the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit Business Office with questions or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities. Call 814-355-2467 or email info@padairysummit.org.

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PDMP is a not-for-profit, farmer-driven organization advancing the State's dairy industry through improved productivity and economic viability with continued stewardship of our animals, environment, and community. Programs offered by PDMP are designed by dairy producers, for dairy producers. For more information on PDMP, visit their website at pdmp.org.

The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more at <u>centerfordairyexcellence.org</u>.