For immediate release
Date: November 23, 2011
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NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2011 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE COUNCIL AWARD

Vermont's Sustainable Agriculture Council is seeking nominations for its 2011 award. The Council is interested in recognizing efforts to promote the vitality of Vermont's food system, and is looking for innovative team practices in accomplishing this. In this case, a team is defined as having:

- at least 1 farm or farmer (but could be more), plus
- an agency or not-for-profit or business or grassroots effort.

For example, an eligible team could be one or more farms working with a school; a food hub sponsored by a not-for-profit working with farms to distribute their product; or a farmers market (and its farmers) working with a local Chamber of Commerce to promote the area.

In your nomination, please indicate:

- Who are the partners?
- What is the problem being addressed by the team?
- How is the problem being addressed?
- What are the results (please consider economic, environmental and/or social benefits)?
- Whether or not we have permission to post the information submitted in your nomination (your answer will not influence our decision).

Criteria used to evaluate each nomination will include the extent to which it demonstrates:

- enhanced economic viability of Vermont farms;
- community engagement;
- environmental benefits;
- a social justice emphasis; and
- strong collaboration.

Self-nominations are acceptable. Nominations should be no longer than 500 words. Nominations are due by 5 pm EST on Friday, December 9th.

The selection committee is comprised of representatives from the Sustainable Agriculture Council and others. The council advises the Vermont Legislature, the University of Vermont and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and
Markets on sustainable agriculture issues.

Please submit nominations to:

Sustainable Agriculture Council Award
c/o UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture
106 High Point, Suite 300
Colchester VT 05446
cheryl.herrick@uvm.edu

Past recipients of the Sustainable Farm of the Year award include: Post Oil Solutions, Does Leap Farm, Bakersfield; Shelburne Vineyards, Shelburne; Shelburne Orchards, Shelburne; Harlow Farm, Westminster; Intervale Community Farm, Burlington; Butterworks Farm, Westfield; Lilac Ridge Farm, West Brattleboro; and Adams Farm, Wilmington; Golden Russet Farm, Shoreham; Blue Spruce Farm, Bridport, Someday Farm in East Dorsett, La Platte River Angus, Shelburne and Choiniere Family Farm, Highgate.

Established in 1994, the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture provides timely information to Vermont communities and the UVM campus. The Center cultivates partnerships, supports innovative research and practices, and informs policy to advance sustainable food and farming systems.

For more information, contact Linda Berlin at the Center: 656-0669 or linda.berlin@uvm.edu.

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