



A GREENER WORLD
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OREGON FARMERS CELEBRATE 10 YEARS WITH LEADING FARM SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFIER

--Rob and Michelle Stokes of Circle O Livestock in Vale, OR, celebrate 10 years of certification with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW--



VALE, OR (AUGUST 13, 2019)--Rob and Michelle Stokes of Circle O Livestock in Vale, OR, are celebrating 10 years of certification with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World (AGW), the leading animal welfare and sustainability label across North America.

The Stokes met while at California State University in Chico. They were both animal science majors and had a shared interest of the outdoors and a dream of owning a ranch. After working for many years helping other ranch businesses grow, they bought Circle O Livestock in 2002 and they love being able to let their young daughters, Rylie and Teagan, help on the farm.

The Stokes achieved Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW certification for the herd of goats in 2009. They added pigs and laying hens in 2010 and more recently laying ducks. The Stokes received a

commemorative metal farm sign to acknowledge the decade of certification—and ongoing commitment to high-welfare, sustainable farming.

The Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW label lets consumers know farm animals are raised outdoors on pasture or range in accordance with the highest animal welfare standards in the U.S. and Canada, using sustainable agriculture methods on an independent farm. Consumer Reports has rated Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW as a “highly meaningful” label for farm animal welfare, outdoor access and sustainability—and the **only** animal welfare certification in which they have confidence. A recent report from the influential Hartman Group, a leading food and beverage market research company, reveals Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW label has the **highest impact** on consumer purchasing behavior of any food label.

AGW Executive Director Andrew Gunther says,

“We’re so proud to celebrate 10 years with Circle O Livestock and we applaud their commitment to good stewardship, community values and transparency. The Stokes have consistently been at the forefront of the growing market for verified sustainable products. As this market continues to expand, AGW farmers are leading—offering trusted and verified products to a public hungry for honestly labeled meat, dairy and eggs. We celebrate our shared successes over the last decade—and look forward to the next!”

Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW chicken and duck eggs, goat meat and pork from Circle O Livestock are available under the [Malheur River Meats](#) brand name at restaurants, Farmers’ Markets and retail outlets in Idaho and Oregon. For more information, contact the Stokes at malheurrivermeats@mindspring.com.

ABOUT A GREENER WORLD

A Greener World (AGW) identifies, audits, certifies and promotes practical, sustainable farming systems by supporting farmers and ranchers and informing consumers. AGW’s growing family of trusted certifications includes [Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW](#), [Certified Grassfed by AGW](#) and [Certified Non-GMO by AGW](#). Each program is designed to have positive and measurable impacts on the environment, society and animals, and to encourage truly sustainable farming practices. AGW’s standards and procedures are robust, transparent and achievable.

A nonprofit funded by public donations and [membership](#), AGW offers a range of resources to help people make informed food choices, including an [Online Directory](#) of certified farms and products and [Food Labels Exposed](#)—a definitive guide to food label claims (available in print, online, and as a smartphone app). For more information visit agreenerworld.org.

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