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SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS CELEBRATE 10 YEARS WITH LEADING FARM SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFIER

--Gail and Mike Cooley of Patient Wait Farms in Piedmont, SC, celebrate 10 years of certification with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW--



Photo Credit: Patient Wait Farms

PIEDMONT, SC (SEPTEMBER 25, 2019)—Gail and Mike Cooley of Patient Wait Farms in Piedmont, SC, 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 Cooleys are first-generation farmers whose interests in farming and sustainability inspired them to pursue farming as a family business. The Cooleys achieved Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW certification for the flock of Narragansett turkeys in 2009. Since that time, they have expanded their farming business to include Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW laying hens, laying ducks, meat

chickens and dairy goats to provide verified high-welfare food for their community. The Cooleys received a commemorative metal farm sign to acknowledge the October 12th anniversary of their decade of certification—and their 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.

Gail Cooley of Patient Wait Farms says,

“AGW has been there for us—answering technical questions and offering support. As first-generation farmers, we do not have the benefit of knowledge passed down but instead have the good people of AGW, along with our other mentors in the farming community, to walk with us. We are so proud of our decade of Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW certification!”

AGW Executive Director Andrew Gunther says,

“We’re so proud to celebrate 10 years with Patient Wait Farms and we applaud their commitment to good stewardship, community values and transparency. The Cooleys 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!”

For more information about Patient Wait Farms, visit patientwait.com, stay connected with the farm’s [Facebook page](#) and contact Gail Cooley at info@patientwait.com and **864-947-8881**.

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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