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CONTACT: Emily Moose/Stephanie Wuorenma

Phone: 202-446-2138

Office: Terrebonne, OR (Pacific Time Zone)
Email: mediarelations@agreenerworld.org

Website: agreenerworld.org

TOP RECOGNITION AT NATIONAL FOOD COMPETITION CONTINUES TO SET AGW-CERTIFIED PRODUCERS APART AS INDUSTRY LEADERS

-- 2020 Good Food Awards recognition goes to products Certified Animal Welfare Approved by A

Greener World --

SAN FRANCISCO (JANUARY 17, 2020)— Three Certified Animal Welfare Approved by <u>A Greener World</u> (AGW) products received national recognition during the 2020 Good Food Awards for their leading contribution to creating sustainable, delicious and vibrant food economies across the U.S. This year's awards included three AGW-certified finalists and two winners.

- Sarah Hoffmann and the Green Dirt Farm team, including her daughter, Eliza Spertus, won a 2020 Good Food Award for 'Fresh - Plain' cheese made with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW sheep's milk.
- Rinske de Jong of Working Cows Dairy won a 2020 Good Food Award for 'Rinske's Farmstead Cheese' made with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW and Certified Grassfed by AGW cow's milk.
- Sam Suchoff of Lady Edison was a finalist for a 2020 Good Food Award for 'Fancy Country Ham,
 10 Month Reserve' made with Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW and Certified Non GMO by AGW pork from the North Carolina Natural Hog Growers Association.

The 2020 Good Food Awards ceremony took place on January 17 at the San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center. Winners were chosen from 417 finalists representing 43 states, selected from over 1,835 initial entries. Among the 48 finalists in the charcuterie and cheese categories, the following producers offering AGW-certified products were finalists for the 2020 Good Food Awards: Green Dirt Farm, Missouri; Working Cows Dairy, Alabama; Lady Edison, North Carolina.

In the last year AGW-certified farmers and products won over 25 major awards at regional and national food competitions, demonstrating the clear link between high-welfare, pasture-based management and the quality and taste of the dairy, meat and eggs the animals produce. AGW-certified products have received Good Food Awards every year since 2013.

The Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW label lets consumers know 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. Acknowledged by Consumer Reports as the only "highly meaningful" food label for farm animal welfare, outdoor access and sustainability, Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW has been ranked one of the nation's Top 5 fastest-growing food label claims according to SPINS, a leading industry analyst.

2020 Good Food Awards winner Rinske de Jong of Working Cows Dairy says,

"Our family is passionate about producing the highest quality dairy products, and our dairy herd is one of two in North America that hold both the Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW and Certified Grassfed by AGW certifications. I'm honored to receive this award as a marker of how hard we work to produce dairy products that are good for the health of the cows, the health of the environment, and our customers and their families."

A Greener World Executive Director Andrew Gunther says,

"We celebrate the AGW-certified finalists and award winners. They are industry leaders in farm animal welfare, environmental management and sustainability who, day in and day out, manage their animals to the highest welfare standards and produce food that is good for the land, the animals and their communities. With commitments like this, it is no coincidence that they continue to make delicious, award-winning food."

For more delicious, high-quality AGW-certified products, visit https://agreenerworld.org/shop-agw/product-search/.

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, Salmon Welfare Certified by AGW, Certified Grassfed by AGW and Certified Mon-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 <u>membership</u>, AGW offers a range of resources to help people make informed food choices, including an <u>Online Directory</u> of certified farms and products and <u>Food Labels Exposed</u>—a definitive guide to food label claims (available in print and online). For more information visit <u>agreenerworld.org</u>.

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