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TOP NATIONAL FOOD AWARDS PROVE SUSTAINABLE FARMING EQUALS GREAT FOOD

--Big Picture Farm in VT wins Gold and Silver at the 2020 sofi™ Awards--



TOWNSHEND, VT (AUGUST 28, 2020)--Certified Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World (AGW) goat milk caramels from Big Picture Farm received Gold and Silver awards at the 48th Annual 2020 sofi™ Awards, in recognition of their high-quality, delicious and innovative products.

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Lucas and Louisa Farrell of <u>Big Picture Farm</u> in Townshend, VT, won both Gold and Silver in the Confectionary category at this year's sofi™

Awards for their Maple Cream Farmstead Goat Milk Caramels and Rasberry Rhubarb Farmstead Goat Milk Caramels, delicious confections made using milk from their pasture-raised Certified Animal Welfare

Approved by AGW dairy goats.

Consumer Reports rated Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW as the only "highly meaningful" label for farm animal welfare, outdoor access and sustainability--and the only animal welfare certification in which they have confidence. Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW is also one of the nation's Top 5 fastest growing food label claims. In 2019, AGW-certified farmers and products won over 20 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.

The Specialty Food Association completed its 2020 sofi™ Awards judging amid the pandemic. Thanks to a partnership with Food Innovation Center at Rutgers University (FIC), the Specialty Food Association (SFA) persevered through the more complicated process, and produced its 48th annual sofi™ Awards competition, resulting in 157 winners across 49 categories from around the world.

2020 sofi™ Awards winner Lucas Farrell of Big Picture Farm says,

"When you spend so much time and labor and effort and love moving your goats from pasture to pasture to ensure that they get the best food, that their diet is super diverse, and that the land is properly managed -- it sure is nice for that to be recognized. Recognized not only for being sustainable and creating happy goats, but also for producing the most delicious confections in America. We are super proud of our goats and our team that make this possible."

AGW Director of Communications and Outreach Emily Moose says,

"It's no coincidence: High-welfare, sustainable farming equals great tasting, award winning food. These awards demonstrate the link between high levels of animal care, good environmental management and the quality of food produced."

For more information about Big Picture Farm visit <u>bigpicturefarm.com</u>. For more information about the SOFI Awards--and a full list of 2020 winners--visit <u>specialtyfood.com/awards/sofi/winners</u>. For more information about A Greener World, visit <u>agreenerworld.org</u>.

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 Regenerative 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 donations, 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>.