**News Release** 

For Immediate Release

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It's all about the Ag, 'bout the Ag, 'bout the Ag!

Rhinebeck, NY.... For the 171<sup>st</sup> year, the Dutchess County Fair prepares to promote youth in agriculture through various educational and fun activities. The mission of the Dutchess County Fair is the preservation and promotion of agriculture and all related arts. Agriculture is showcased through educational opportunities throughout the fairgrounds. And the fair, opening on August 23 is proud of its commitment to maintaining and encouraging its agricultural roots.

Agriculture is showcased in a manner that is fun, educational and interactive. Fairgoers can see exhibits from agricultural goods and industry groups such as the New York Corn & Soybean Association, Future Farmers Pine Plains Chapter, Milk Inc. of Indiana and Farm Bureau of New York. Moo U Tours will be on hand to tour fairgoers throughout the grounds answering questions such as "Does chocolate milk come from brown cows, where does my food come from and where does New York rank in the crop industry?"

The Dutchess County Fair also features numerous livestock and horse shows, crop displays and 4-H exhibits throughout the fairgrounds. Farmers and their families will be grooming their livestock, baking their best recipes, sewing home crafts, harvesting their crops and looking forward to the social opportunity of seeing their near and far neighbors.

Over the years the 4-H has been an integral part of the Fair's Livestock Shows. While trends and space in recent years have seen 4-Hers raising smaller livestock, their shows continue to include, sheep, goats, cows and hogs.

This year's fair welcomes the cacophony of domestic and exotic birds to be heard all week in the Poultry Barn. 4-H rabbits and cavies are also housed with these beautiful creatures.

Livestock Hill, while offering all the beauty, vitality and scientific knowledge of the area's best farms, it is not the only place fairgoers can enjoy outstanding animals and a chance to be educated. The Infield offers the Salute to Agriculture, Dairy Birthing Center and the new AgVenture Tent where children (and their parents) through interactive, hands on experience, have the opportunity to learn about the importance of agriculture in their lives.

Be sure to check the schedule at <a href="www.dutchessfair.com">www.dutchessfair.com</a> for the day to day activities and location of livestock events and displays. For more information, visit the website or call 845-876-4000.