

 **News & Trends**

Sustainability Awards Highlight Excellence Across Dairy Supply Chain

The Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, in affiliation with the Dairy Research Institute, announces the U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards, a new program that recognizes dairy farms, businesses and collaborative partnerships for efforts that deliver outstanding economic, environmental and/or social benefit, thus helping to advance sustainability of the dairy industry.

The awards are divided into three categories: dairy farm, dairy processing/manufacturing and energy conservation/generation.

Nominations are being accepted at www.USDAiry.com/Sustainability/Awards through Dec. 1. There is no fee to enter.

Winners of the U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards will be announced in February 2012. In addition, honorees will share their stories and passion for sustainability on a national scale in forums and venues, and will be featured on www.USDAiry.com/Sustainability.

All nominations will be evaluated based on the program's or project's results as measured by triple bottom-line success — economic, environmental and social. Judges also will assess the potential for adoption of the idea by other dairy farms and businesses, demonstrated learning, innovation and improvement and scalability.

Judging will be completed by an independent panel, including Jim Carper, chief editor of *Dairy Foods* magazine, representing the full spectrum of the dairy supply chain, as well as academia, government, media, business and non-governmental organizations. The distinguished panel of judges will be announced in October.

For more information or to nominate, go to www.USDAiry.com/Sustainability/Awards. ■