



# TENNESSEE CENTURY FARMS

The Land • The People • The Legacy

A joint program of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Summer 2010

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## Tennessee Farmland Legacy Conference

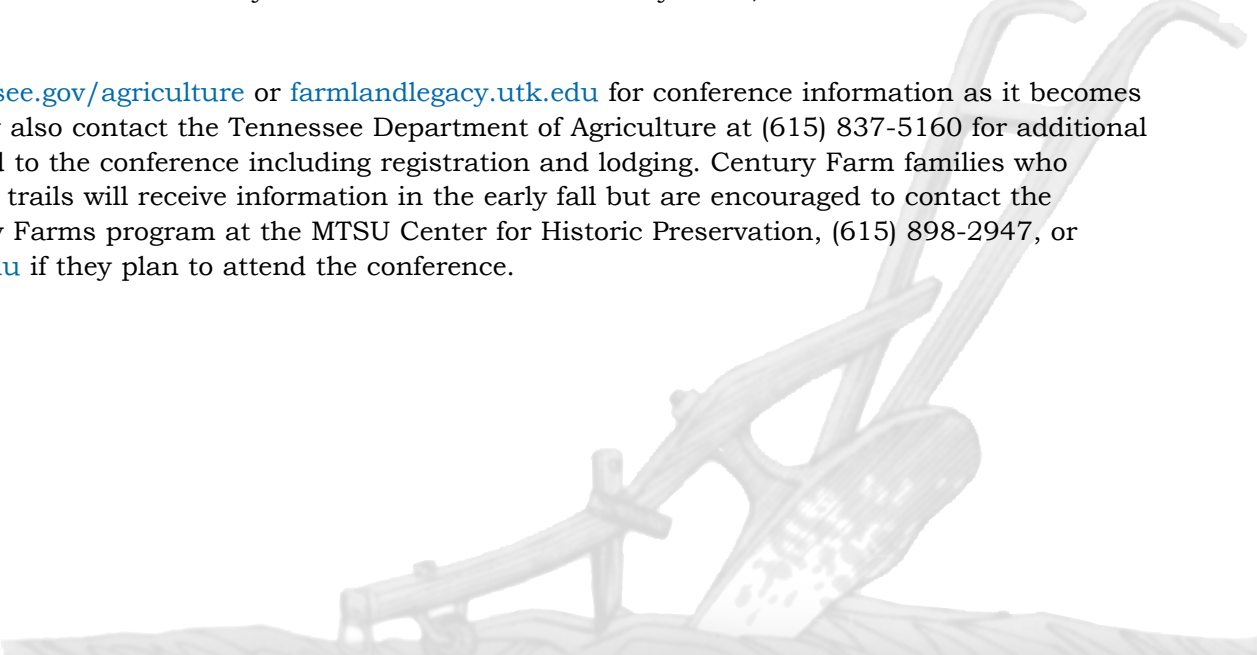
Mark your calendar now for November 11 and 12, 2010, and plan to attend the Tennessee Farmland Legacy Conference, "Planning Today for Tomorrow's Farms," at the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center in Pigeon Forge. The conference will provide information on how farmers can improve their profitability and plan for their farm's future. Farm owners, community planners, and officials are encouraged to attend to learn about and discuss successful tools that preserve farmland while allowing measured and smart growth. Dr. Ron Hanson, back by popular demand from the 2008 conference, will discuss planning for your farm's transfer from one generation to another.



Mrs. Marcella Epperson of Knob View Farm in Washington County is among Century Farm owners, who also participate in quilt trails, scheduled to be honored during the Farmland Legacy Conference luncheon November 12.

Century Farmers who participate in quilt trails, including the Appalachian Quilt Trail, will be the special honorees at a luncheon on Friday the 12th. Combining traditional farming practices with agritourism and heritage tourism, these farm families support the quilt trails that wind through several counties. Special guest speaker for the luncheon will be Blythe Semmer of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. Ms. Semmer's family farm is the McMahan Century Farm, founded in 1850 in Sevier County.

Go to [www.tennessee.gov/agriculture](http://www.tennessee.gov/agriculture) or [farmlandlegacy.utk.edu](http://farmlandlegacy.utk.edu) for conference information as it becomes available. You may also contact the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at (615) 837-5160 for additional information related to the conference including registration and lodging. Century Farm families who participate in quilt trails will receive information in the early fall but are encouraged to contact the Tennessee Century Farms program at the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, (615) 898-2947, or [chankins@mtsu.edu](mailto:chankins@mtsu.edu) if they plan to attend the conference.



## Century Farms Certified Since Fall 2009

*Please help us keep information about your farm current in our files and on our Web site by letting us know when changes occur.*

Congratulations to the owners of the following farms which were certified since the fall 2009 newsletter. While farms may have more than one owner, we list only the first owner of record, as supplied on the application by the family, because of space limitations. Farms certified after June 30 will be listed in the fall 2010 newsletter.

### **AKERS/STARBUCK FARM**

County: Perry  
Owner: Jessie R. Tiller  
Date Founded: 1834

### **B. & G. FARM**

County: Sullivan  
Owner: Glen T. Pecktol  
Date Founded: 1880

### **BIG SAND SPRING**

County: Madison  
Owner: William D. Thompson  
Date Founded: 1850

### **BURNETT/WHITE FAMILY FARM**

County: Grundy  
Owner: Janice B. White  
Date Founded: 1888

### **CARR CREEK CARR FARM**

County: Macon  
Owner: Ida C. Tucker  
Date Founded: 1797

### **CARTWRIGHT FARM**

County: Williamson  
Owner: Martha S. Cartwright  
Date Founded: 1898

### **CHILDRESS FARM**

County: Dyer  
Owner: Don W. Childress  
Date Founded: 1906

### **CHARLIE AND FLORA HIRE FARM**

County: Macon  
Owner: Brenda H. White  
Date Founded: 1909

### **FLEENOR FARM**

County: Sullivan  
Owner: Alice G. Fleenor  
Date Founded: 1884

### **GRANT FARM**

County: Montgomery  
Owner: Kevin P. Grant  
Date Founded: 1888

### **GREGSON FARM**

County: Henry  
Owner: Larry Q. Gregson  
Date Founded: 1901

### **HALL FARM**

County: Gibson  
Owner: James M. Denton  
Date Founded: 1894

### **THE HOMEPLACE**

County: Gibson  
Owner: Tina C. Smith  
Date Founded: 1881

### **HOWELL CENTURY FARM**

County: Dickson  
Owner: B. G. Howell  
Date Founded: 1860

### **HYDER FARM**

County: Putnam  
Owner: Karen H. Hawkins  
Date Founded: 1812

### **JACKSON-MOSS FARM**

County: Robertson  
Owner: Billy M. Jackson  
Date Founded: 1862

### **JACKSON-WINFIELD FARM**

County: Robertson  
Owner: Billy M. Jackson  
Date Founded: 1834

### **MORRELL FARM**

County: Sullivan  
Owner: Edward J. Morrell  
Date Founded: 1904

### **THE OLD MYERS FARM**

County: Jackson  
Owner: Billy W. Myers  
Date Founded: 1835

### **REDLAND FARM**

County: Greene  
Owner: Barbara A. Belcher  
Date Founded: 1881

### **RICE FARM**

County: Wilson  
Owner: Phillip D. Robinson  
Date Founded: 1800

### **RICHLAND-ELK RIVER VALLEY FARM**

County: Grundy  
Owner: Richard D. Bonner  
Date Founded: 1892

### **ROCHELLE FARMS**

County: Madison  
Owner: Frankann N. Cox  
Date Founded: 1906

### **SCOTT'S ORCHARD**

County: Lincoln  
Owner: James L. and  
Thomas A. Scott  
Date Founded: 1901

### **STUBBLEFIELD FARMS**

County: Warren  
Owner: Carolyn W. Stubblefield  
Date Founded: 1814

## Century Farms continued

### SUN ROSE DAIRY

County: Lincoln

Owner: Martha Jane Johnson

Date Founded: 1909

### SWAIN FARM

County: Wilson

Owner: James C. Swain

Date Founded: 1909

### WALKER-FREEMAN-BELL FARM

County: Gibson

Owner: Peggy Bell

Date Founded: 1907

In the fall 2009 newsletter, the owner of Kings Chapel Farm in Gibson County (founded 1909) was incorrectly identified. The owner is Emerson T. King. We regret this error and congratulate Mr. King and his family on their Century Farm certification.

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## Sara Rieger Is Century Farms Assistant

Sara Rieger, graduate assistant at the Center for Historic Preservation, is primarily responsible for the maintenance of the Century Farms Web site and for helping process applications. Ms. Rieger is from Union City (Obion County) and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee–Martin. She is studying for the M.A. degree in Public History at MTSU. She has participated in many travel studies throughout her academic career, visiting Hawaii, Italy, and Spain and, most recently, the small island of Peleliu to learn about the Pacific theater of WWII. Ms. Rieger is very excited about working with the Tennessee Century Farms program; she's had experience in agriculture since 2002 when she started working for Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Union City. This opportunity allowed her to blend her love for agriculture and travel while working for Pioneer in Puerto Rico for three months in 2009.



Rieger in Toledo, Spain

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## Century Farmers Honored at Special Events

Each year, more counties are recognizing their Century Farm families at special events. Several county and regional fairs are now hosting these events as part of their annual schedules. This year, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture is offering reimbursement grants to 18 county fairs that applied for assistance to recognize local Century Farmers. Check with your county fair board to see when they are honoring Century Farm owners. If this is not yet part of your county fair or other annual agricultural event, suggest that Century Farms recognition be a part of the planning for next year.

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## FYI!

Of the 1,322 certified Century Farms, 595 are over 100 years old, 594 are over 150 years old, and 133 have been in the same family for more than 200 years. Of those farms that are 200 years or older, 48 are Pioneer Century Farms, a special designation for farms that were founded before or in 1796 when Tennessee became a state. Several farms are added to the rolls each month, and farms founded in 1910 are now eligible.

# Counties with the Most Century Farms

**Wilson – 74**

**Greene – 47**

**Smith – 47**

**McMinn – 36**

**Blount – 34**

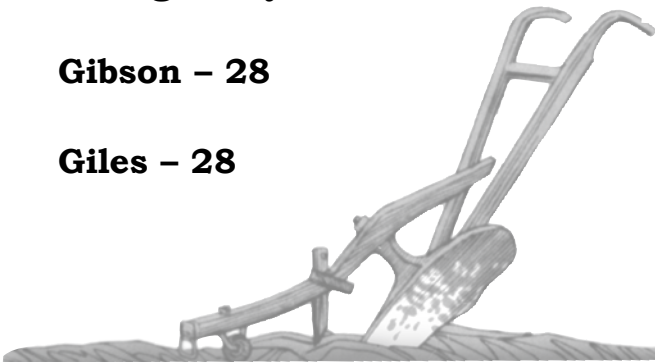
**Williamson – 30**

**Claiborne – 29**

**Montgomery – 29**

**Gibson – 28**

**Giles – 28**



The Tennessee Century Farms program, a public service of the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, documents, recognizes, interprets, and supports the conservation of working farms that have been in the same family continuously for at least 100 years. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture partners with the program by providing a commemorative sign to each Century Farm family.

**Please direct comments and inquiries regarding applications, existing farm files, the Web site, and this newsletter to**

CANETA HANKINS  
 Director, Tennessee Century Farms Program  
 Center for Historic Preservation  
 Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
[chankins@mtsu.edu](mailto:chankins@mtsu.edu)  
 (615) 898-2947

**Please direct questions about Century Farm signs to**

LYNNE WILLIAMS  
 Tennessee Department of Agriculture  
 Ellington Agricultural Center, P.O. Box 40627  
 Nashville, TN 37204  
[Lynne.Williams@state.tn.us](mailto:Lynne.Williams@state.tn.us)  
 Fax: (615) 837-5194

Visit the Century Farms Web site at  
[www.tncenturyfarms.org](http://www.tncenturyfarms.org)

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