For Release: Upcoming Workshop: Farmland Ownership 101 By: Jay Adam May 2013

Farms at Work is proud to unveil a brand new pilot workshop in farmland ownership. Designed as an introduction to the basic elements of owning farmland, this workshop is intended for first-time farm owners and those looking to make their first farmland purchase.

Developed and presented by Pat Learmonth, Director of Farms at Work, and with the generous support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, *Farmland Ownership 101* will guide participants through key considerations including: managing wells and septic systems; taxes (income and property); finding suitable farmer tenants and drafting leases; key laws and regulations affecting farmland; and the basics of farmland stewardship (caring for soil, water and trees).

Hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland are now owned by non-farmers who use the properties for recreational purposes or are looking for a rural lifestyle. Many of these first-time farm owners have expressed their need for information and support. Farms at Work has designed this full-day workshop with an emphasis on the importance of keeping farmland healthy and active for farming and food production.

The workshop will be held in Millbrook on Saturday June 1, 2013, from 9:30am – 3:00pm. Preregistration is required by May 27th and seats are limited. Tickets are \$100 each, or \$150 for two partners, and they include lunch.

Contact Jay Adam of Farms at Work for more details: <u>jadam.farmsatwork@gmail.com</u>, (705) 743-7671. To register, head to <u>www.farmlandownership.eventbrite.ca</u>.

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