Farm Bureau Endorses Farmers, Hunters Feeding Hungry

RANDALLSTOWN, Md. -Maryland Farm Bureau agreed recently to endorse the venison donation program known as Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. This program pays the cost of processing donated deer, and then distributes that deer to organizations such as food banks, churches, and soup kitchens who help feed Maryland's hungry.

"Maryland Farm Bureau welcomes the opportunity to work with the Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry program," said Maryland Farm Bureau President Stephen Webber. "Our organization believes this is a very worthy program and looks forward to building a solid alliance to help those who are less fortunate.'

Deer are plentiful in the state of Maryland and meat is the least available, most expensive food item for organizations such as soup kitchens. Farmers are not only taking deer during the regular deer seasons, but also

out of season through crop damage permits. These permits are issued to farmers by the Maryland Department Natural Resources because deer damage do enormous Maryland crops.

Under this system, where deer are being taken year round, venison can also be donated vear-round.

Rick Wilson, program coordinator for Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry, said this is a way for his organization and the Maryland Farm Bureau to "join together in the common goal of transforming an overpopulation of deer into a renewable God-given food resource to feed the hungry."

For more information on Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry program, for a list of participating meat processors, or to make a donation, contact Rick Wilson at (301) 582-4506 or visit the program's web site at www.hfth.org.



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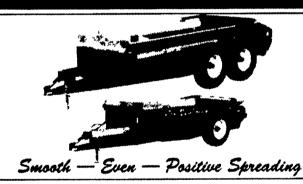
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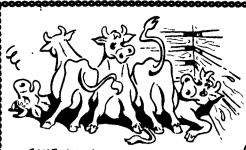
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