

I Love NY Agriculture Challenge

NY Farms!, in collaboration with Agriculture in the Classroom and the NY Farm Bureau Foundation for Agricultural Education, is pleased to announce the I LOVE NY AGRICULTURE challenge.

Are you looking for something different to do this summer? Children and parents, young and old will have fun participating in the I Love NY Agriculture Challenge.

With the "I LOVE NY Agriculture Challenge, NY Farms!, NY AITC and the NYFB Foundation are encouraging all New Yorkers to come spend a day in the country, visit a farm, celebrate at a fair and connect with NY agriculture and all it has to offer. It's an opportunity for farmers to do some informal education, and an occasion for consumers to develop a more personal relationship with those who grow our food. While the contest requires some proofs of purchase, long term direct sales and purchases of NY products is encouraged. It's a good opportunity to try NY products. This Challenge is a fun way to share and promote NY agriculture.

You can take the I LOVE NY AGRICULTURE Challenge beginning July 1 through November 30, 2005. Collect all 15 items listed to be eligible for drawings and a grand prize. Send collected items along with Name, Address, Phone, Fax or Email to: NY Farms! 125 Williams Road, Candor, NY 13743. Entries must be received by November 30, 2005. Open to all NY residents.

Items to be collected:

- A strand of horse hair and the type of horse it came from
- A puff of sheep's wool and the kind of sheep it came from
- A chicken feather and the kind of chicken it came from
- A rose petal
- A maple leaf and logo from a NYS maple producer
- An apple seed and the NYS Apple Country logo
- A pumpkin seed and the name of the patch it came from
- A list of NY Christmas tree varieties
- A Real Milk symbol
- The three legends from the NYS Cheese Makers Guild or a NYS cheese label from a guild member
- A Pride of NY Logo (as proof of purchase)
- Any 2005 NY Fair Ticket Stub (state or county)
- A farmer's market manager's signature and the market you visited
- A business card of a NY farmer
- A wine cork featuring a NY winery

Individuals who have submitted a complete entry will then be eligible for numerous separate drawings which will be held at the NY Farm Bureau Annual Meeting the first week of December. Prizes include:

- One entry to a NYS race track
- One wool cap
- Hand tied flies for fishing
- One rose bush
- One quart NY maple syrup
- Five pounds NY fancy apples
- One giant NY pumpkin
- One Christmas wreath
- A Drink Milk t-shirt
- A NY cheese sampler
- A NY gift basket with PRIDE of NY products
- A 2006 entry pass to the NYS Fair
- A \$25 farmers market gift certificate

GRAND PRIZE: An overnight stay at an on-farm Bed & Breakfast

What are you waiting for? Fair season is just around the corner and markets are nearing their peak. And if you're like many of us, some small voice will ask "What are we going to do today?" and you'll have the perfect answer!

*NY Farms! is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening NY agriculture and food systems through consumer education, the creation of farmer-consumer connections and the preservation of farmland. Contact Martha Goodsell at nyfarms@baldcom.net or 607-659-3710.

**NY Agriculture in the Classroom fosters an awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the total food and fiber system. Contact Nancy Schaff at nw3@cornell.edu or 607-255-9253

***NY Farm Bureau Foundation for Agricultural Education works to inform and educate all New Yorkers with regard to agriculture; to encourage and increase understanding between the farm and non-farm public through education; and more. Contact Sandra Prokop at nysprokop@fb.org or 518-436-8495.