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**NEW JERSEY FARM BUREAU URGES SWIFT PASSAGE OF FARM BILL**

**Trenton, NJ (May 15, 2008)** – “The Farm Bill, passed by the House yesterday and being voted on by the Senate today, represents a good balance between needed farm program reforms and maintaining the crucial safety net our farmers need,” said Richard Nieuwenhuis, president of the New Jersey Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau strongly supports the bill and urges New Jersey’s senators to vote in favor of its passage.

“We are disappointed to hear that President Bush intends to veto this bill,” Nieuwenhuis said. “But we hope we can count on the support of New Jersey’s delegation for a bill that strikes a balance between the needs of not only our farmers, but all of our state’s citizens.

“The bill includes increases in support for both conservation and nutrition programs, while also continuing and improving beneficial programs for farm producers. We urge Congress to pass this bill,” Nieuwenhuis concludes.

**Farm Bill**

The Farm Bill is a five-year authorization bill in Congress that sets the framework for federal farm policies and contains funding for food and nutrition programs as well.

**New Jersey Farm Bureau**

The New Jersey Farm Bureau is a non-profit member organization of 15,000 farmers and farm-related individuals within the Garden State. It is the only organization solely dedicated to representing the grass-roots interests and directives of its members in educating all levels of government and the public on the farm community’s policies and positions. The Farm Bureau also takes a lead in seeking out initiatives, activities and ventures to enhance the profitability of producer members and ensure the viability of agriculture in New Jersey -- *the Garden State for Good Reason -- our farms.*

For further information, contact the New Jersey Farm Bureau, at The Farmhouse, 168 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608. Phone 609-393-7163; fax 609-393-7072; email [mail@njfb.org](mailto:mail@njfb.org); website [www.njfb.org](http://www.njfb.org)

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