

# MINNESOTA CENTURY FARM RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the 2026 Minnesota Century Farm recognition program, sponsored jointly by the Minnesota State Fair and the Minnesota Farm Bureau.

**Please fill out the application completely; incomplete applications will not be considered.** All of the qualifications must be met at the time the application is submitted.

**The annual application deadline is the first Monday in March (March 2, 2026),** and must be **received** by the Minnesota State Fair by that date (this is not a postmark deadline). Qualified applications received after March 2 will be considered for 2027.

Qualifications for inclusion are as follows:

1. The farm must be at least 100 years old by the end of 2026 according to abstract of title, land patent, original deed, county land records, court file in registration proceedings or other authentic land records.
  - a. The applicant should verify that the farm qualifies as a Century Farm, but we do not require direct proof.
  - b. **Please do not send supporting documentation, only the completed application.**
2. Farm is family-owned for 100 years or more.
  - a. "Family" defined as
    - i. parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, first cousins and direct in-laws (father, mother, brother, sister, daughter, son-in-law).
3. Family ownership **must be** continuous.
4. Continuous residence on farm is **not** required.
5. The farm should consist of 50 or more acres (intrastate Minnesota).
6. Farm must be currently involved in agricultural production.
7. A farm may be recognized only once.

Please return the completed application to:

Minnesota State Fair  
Century Farm Program  
1265 Snelling Avenue North  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

Qualifying farms will receive:

1. One personalized certificate of recognition, signed by the Governor of Minnesota, the President of Minnesota Farm Bureau, and the President of the board of the Minnesota State Fair.
2. One weather resistant sign, measuring 6 inches by 17.5 inches, proclaiming the farm is a "Century Farm."



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Recognition ceremonies are handled by the local county fair where this milestone may be celebrated with friends, family and neighbors. Certificates and signs will be sent to the representative at the county fair responsible for administering the Century Farm Program for the county fair.

If your county fair **does not** have a ceremony, your certificate and sign will be sent directly to you in June. Only one sign and certificate will be awarded per farm.

While the Minnesota State Fair does not conduct a recognition ceremony during the Minnesota State Fair, we encourage those who have been awarded a Century Farm this year to visit the Minnesota Farm Bureau booth where your application may be viewed and you may request a special commemorative Century Farm rosette.

The Century Farm status is only conferred on a farm one time. New owners from the same “family” after a farm has already been designated a Century Farm, may not reapply or request a new certificate.

The Minnesota State Fair and the Minnesota Farm Bureau thank you for your interest in the Century Farm program.

## SESQUICENTENNIAL FARM PROGRAM

In addition to the co-sponsoring of the Century Farm Program, the Minnesota Farm Bureau honors Minnesota families who have owned their farms for at least 150 years, are at least 50 acres in size and are currently involved in agricultural production.

For information on Sesquicentennial (150 years) Farm Program, contact Pam Debele at [pam.debele@fbmn.org](mailto:pam.debele@fbmn.org) or 651-768-2111.



# MINNESOTA STATE FAIR CENTURY FARM APPLICATION - 2026

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY

DEADLINE: MARCH 2, 2026

Main contact name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Main contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(area code) (phone number) (email address)

Main contact address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Present owner of the farm: \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate wording: "Let it be known that this farm \_\_\_\_\_ has been in  
(name of farm)  
continuous agricultural operation since \_\_\_\_\_ signifying more than 100 years of contributions to the  
(year of original purchase by family)  
community, state, nation, and world." Information on certificate will appear exactly as you have printed here.

Farm address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Farm section: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm township: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm county: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres in the farm now: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of original purchase by a member of your family: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the farm previously been registered as a Century Farm? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_

Legal description of land (from deed, abstract, tax statement, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

## PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF FAMILY OWNERSHIP

Name	Years of Ownership	Relationship to ORIGINAL owner
Original family owner		
Next owner		
Next owner		
Next owner		
Next owner		

**Please do not send originals or copies of records.** Continuous family ownership is taken from one or more of the following records (mark all that apply):

- ☐ Abstract of title      ☐ Land patent      ☐ Court file in registration proceedings  
☐ Original deed      ☐ County land record      ☐ Other

I hereby certify that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of present owner)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any information you can add to this form will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are only a guide. Feel free to add other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

From whom was the farm purchased? \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres were in the original parcel? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the cost of the land per acre at time of original purchase? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was the first family owner born? \_\_\_\_\_

Did he/she engage in any trades or occupations other than farming? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Was this a homestead? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the original home, any portion of it, or any other original buildings still standing? \_\_\_\_\_

When was the present home built? \_\_\_\_\_

What were the farm's major crops or products? \_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to attach any additional files if you have run out of space above.

*Mail application to:*

**Minnesota State Fair  
Century Farm Program  
1265 Snelling Avenue North  
St. Paul, MN 55108-3003**

**Questions? Email: [centuryfarms@mnstatefair.org](mailto:centuryfarms@mnstatefair.org) or call: 651-288-4417**

