

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WCO website helps farmers locate their nearest Custom Operator

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DeForest, Wis. (December 28, 2015) — If hours in the day were unlimited, all farmers could manage crops, livestock and manure on their own. But sometimes, it is more efficient and cost effective to hire a custom operator.

This winter, as farmers make decisions for the upcoming growing season, they should also be making arrangements with their local custom operator.

The Wisconsin Custom Operators (WCO) is an organization comprised of individuals who derive their income from custom farming services. WCO and its members are committed to safety and professionalism. Many members participate in a safety certification program coordinated annually by WCO and its partners.

"WCO is committed to educating members on safety, the latest regulations and equipment innovations. Farming is risky enough and hiring a professional custom operator gives farmers peace of mind," says Kathy Vander Kinter, WCO President.

Farmers looking to hire a custom operator are encouraged to go to <u>www.wiscustomoperators.org</u> for a fully searchable list of WCO members. Contact information for each member is listed along with services that they currently provide. Members who participate in the WCO Safety Certification Program are noted with a special "WCO Certified" badge.

Custom operators usually operate larger equipment than the average farmer. They travel from farm to farm providing services like nutrient application and harvesting. As such, WCO is very focused on transportation and safety issues – especially when it comes to Wisconsin roadways. To learn more about WCO including membership and events, go to <u>www.wiscustomoperators.org</u> or email <u>execdir@wiscustomoperators.org</u>

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