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**Contact Person:** Michele Grove, Eastern PA Coordinator

 717-705-2121, mgrove@pafarmlink.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Farm Succession and Transition Workshop Slated**

Do you own a farm business and are looking towards the future, perhaps retiring, scaling back from farming or transitioning from a farm business to take on another adventure? If so you will want to mark your calendar to attend this “Farm Succession and Transition” workshop on Tuesday, April 7th at Hilton Garden Inn, Kennett Square, PA. The workshop is being sponsored by PA Farm Link, a non-profit dedicated to “linking farmers to the future”, and will provide information on various aspects of creating a farm business succession/transition plan. Last year, 250 people attended similar workshops held throughout the state of Pennsylvania.

American Farmland Trust estimates that at least 230 million acres of farmland will change hand in the next 20 years, or a quarter of all farmland. Many people think about the “next step” but taking it is often a bigger task then they first thought. Determining a plan to transition the farm business from the current owners to a next generation, be that family or non-family, can be intimidating but there are organizations and professionals available to provide guidance and options. Farm owners and families who would like more information on forming a farm succession/transition plan to continue their farm business into the future, are encouraged to attend this workshop.

Topics covered will include: Succession/transition from a legal perspective; Estate planning and necessary documents; Farm family communication dynamics & challenges; Family meeting guidelines; and Generational challenges & strategies. Breakouts will be held for both landowners and next generation to discuss their challenges, with a time of brainstorming solutions and strategies to address the issues. Certified International Farm Transition Network facilitators will be available to assist families in planning the next steps. Speakers will include: Jared Grissinger, PA Department of Agriculture; Attorney Jay Clark, James Clark & Associates; and Darlene Livingston, PA Farm Link.

Included in the workshop is a copy of: “Planning the Future of Your Farm” Pennsylvania edition (normally sold for $10.60 per copy). Participants will be encouraged to ask questions, and will be given a list of potential resources in the area to provide future assistance with a farm succession/transition plan. This PA Farm Link Farm Succession and Transition Workshops is supported by PA Department of Agriculture and AgConnect. This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2012-49200-20031 and funded in part by a grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development’s Discovered in PA, Developed in PA program.

Registration, due March 24, is $15 per person or $10 each for two or more people from the same farm or business. The registration fee includes lunch. The workshop will begin with registration at 9:15 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Reservations can be made online at [www.pafarmlink.org](http://www.pafarmlink.org) or by calling 717-705-2121.