

# Farming documentary to air on WHYY

DOVER – A new documentary on the history and future of Delaware agriculture will air next weekend on WHYY-TV, in time to kick off the Delaware State Fair.

“Delaware Agriculture: Farming the First State,” a 30-minute documentary, will be broadcast at 5:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. July 19, 11 a.m. July 21 and 5:30 p.m. July 22. The documentary will also be released online in a series of weekly installments at [contentdelaware.org](http://contentdelaware.org), starting July 19, and copies are being made available to agricultural and community groups for screenings.

The film was created and produced by Wilmington-based [TELEDUCTION](#) and its nonprofit initiative, Hearts and Minds Film. It is sponsored by the [Delaware Department of Agriculture](#) and the [Delaware Humanities Forum](#), and the [Delaware Farm Bureau](#) and [MidAtlantic Farm Credit](#) also provided support.

The film introduces viewers to the history of the state’s agricultural industry and the depth and breadth of modern-day farming, with decades of historic photographs and new interviews with six Delaware farmers.

“We hope that this documentary will help educate Delawareans about the long and proud history and heritage of farming here in the First State,” said Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee, an agricultural historian who narrates the film.

Initial funding for the film was provided by the Delaware Humanities Forum, a nonprofit educational grant-making organization that is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The documentary features farmers Stanley C. West of Milford, a lima bean grower; Jim and Janet Mitchell of Woodside Farm Creamery, Hockessin; Curt Fifer of Fifer Orchards, Camden-Wyoming; Charlie Smith of T.S. Smith & Sons, Bridgeville; Mark Collins of DMC Farms, Laurel, a watermelon grower; Charles Postles of Milford, a poultry farmer; Larry and Mike Jester of Jester Farms, grain farmers from Middletown; and Brandon and Ashley Bonk of Wheel of Fortune Farm, Leipsic.

Contact:

[Dan Shortridge](#)

Chief of Community Relations

[Delaware Department of Agriculture](#)

302-698-4520