INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (September 24, 2012) — Nominations are now being accepted for the Beck's Hybrids Beyond the Fence Awards, which honor individuals for their outstanding service and contributions to Indiana agriculture.

For the third year, the awards are sponsored by Beck's Hybrids of Atlanta, Ind., in conjunction with the Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) and the Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA). Applications will be accepted until December 14, 2012.

"We are delighted to honor four individuals who go above and beyond to promote the significance of Indiana agriculture," said Scott Beck, vice president of Beck's Hybrids. "It's a privilege to recognize farmers, friends, media and educators whose outstanding work has had a positive effect on agriculture."

The winners for the awards will be announced during the 2013 Livestock Forage and Grain Forum on February 11, 2013 at the J.W. Marriott in Indianapolis.

"We know there are people out there doing great things for agriculture, and they deserve to be recognized," said Gary Lamie, ICGA president and a farmer from West Point, Ind. "Now is the time to show these individuals that what they are doing really matters. It's our hope that people will take the time to nominate someone who they think has made a difference."

This year, nominations are being sought for the following categories:

- **The Beck's Friend of Indiana Agriculture Award** is for an individual who has made a contribution, but isn't directly involved in agriculture. (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/friendofag2012)

- **The Beck's Agricultural Education Outreach Award** is for an individual who has made a contribution through his/her role in Indiana agriculture education. (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ageducation2012)

- **The Beck's Community Betterment Award** is for a farmer whose contribution to the community has been seen through philanthropic, service, volunteerism, and/or leadership projects. (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/commbetterment2012)

- **The Beck's Ag Media Award** is for an individual in media who has achieved excellence in reporting about Indiana agriculture. (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/agmedia2012)

Nomination forms can be found online at the links above or by visiting www.indianasoybean.com/becks .

For more information on the awards, contact Indiana Soybean Alliance Public Affairs Program Manager, Katie Thomas, at kthomas@indianasoybean.com or 317-644-2797.

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The Indiana Soybean Alliance works to enhance the viability of Indiana soybean farmers through the effective and efficient investment of soybean checkoff funds and the development of sound policies that protect and promote the interest of Indiana soybean farmers. The ISA is working to build new markets for soybeans through the promotion of biodiesel, livestock, international marketing, new soybean uses, aquaculture, and research. ISA is led by an elected farmer board that directs investments of the soybean checkoff funds on behalf of more than 28,000 Indiana soybean farmers and promotes policies on behalf of the ISA's 950 dues-paying members.

The ICGA board, which works with the state and federal governments to develop and promote sound policies that benefit Indiana corn farmers, consists of 15 farmer-directors who provide leadership to the organization on behalf of the nearly 600 ICGA members statewide.
This communication was NOT funded with Indiana corn or soybean checkoff dollars.

Beck's Hybrids is a family-owned and operated seed company that serves farmers in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Kentucky. According to a recent media survey, Beck's ranks as the sixth largest seed company in the United States and the only one in the top six that is family-owned, making Beck's the largest retail, family-owned seed company in the United States.

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