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For Immediate Release (Photos available upon request)

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2014 Champion Christmas Trees Named By PCTGA

HARRISBURG, PA – The Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association (PCTGA) recently announced the winners of the 2014 tree contest. The entries were displayed at the 2014 Farm Show where the thousands of visitors who attended that event voted for their favorite tree. The trees were also displayed at the organization’s winter meeting.

The Grand Champion was a Turkish Fir grown by Darryl Bowersox of Hill View Tree Farm in Middleburg. The Reserve Grand Champion this year was a Fraser Fir grown by Christopher Botek of Crystal Spring Tree Farm in Lehighton. Awards were presented to both farms at the PCTGA winter meeting held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The Christmas tree display is the only commodity at the Farm Show where the public gets to choose the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion, after selections are made by professional judges. It has been a popular activity for visitors since the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers initiated the practice in 1997. The winners have the opportunity to compete at the national level through the National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA). The winner from the NCTA competition then provides the Christmas tree to the first family at the White House that year.

Trees in the competition must have been grown in Pennsylvania on land owned and operated by the exhibitor and must be within six to eight feet. Trees may be either naturally grown or sheared and shaped by the exhibitor. This was the first year that tabletop trees were a part of the competition. These trees also must have been grown in Pennsylvania on land owned and operated by the exhibitor and tabletop - cut trees must be 36” maximum height and tabletop - containerized trees must be 30” maximum height from soil line to top of tip.

For more information, contact the PCTGA office at 717-238-9765 or via e-mail at info@christmastrees.org. You can also visit the organization’s website at www.christmastrees.org for general information about the association, its members, and Christmas trees.

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