For Immediate Release

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Agrium, Crop Production Services Double Support of Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® Program Through 2013

PAF receives $600,000 over three years, second substantial long-term commitment from major program sponsor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 17, 2010 — Agrium and Crop Production Services (CPS) are teaming up to double their annual sponsorship of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program. The increase in donation will total $200,000 each year through 2013, and make invaluable farm safety and health education programs possible for thousands of rural youth in the United States.

“We believe in supporting the communities in which we live, work and play,” explains Mike Wilson, Agrium president and CEO. “In this spirit, we actively support youth, culture, health and environmental opportunities that make our communities better places. Through programs such as Safety Days, we’re able to keep our youth active, encourage critical thinking and, foremost, keep them safe.”

“This is the second long-term commitment we’ve received from a major Safety Day sponsor for coming years,” says Bob Marshall, president of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF). “It is through contributions such as these that our sponsors demonstrate their unyielding commitment to the Safety Day program. They recognize the importance and success of the Safety Day program, as well as the true value it brings to rural America. None of what we have achieved would be possible without their help.”

Both organizations’ commitment to the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program extends far beyond financial contribution. Matt Smith, senior director of Environment, Health, Safety and Security (EHS&S) with Agrium Inc., is in the midst of a three-year term on the Progressive Agriculture Foundation’s Board of Directors. He was recently elected as the Foundation’s secretary/treasurer for 2010–2011.

In 2011, CPS will further its local involvement with the Safety Day program. CPS retail personnel will host 12 new Safety Days and provide support for one more additional event. These Safety Days will take place in the following communities: Clarkson, Ky.; Fancy Farm, Ky.; Finley, Ky.; Sedalia, Ky.; New Roads, La.; Brownsville, Tenn.; Clarksville, Tenn.; Huntingdon, Tenn.; Milan, Tenn.; Ridgely, Tenn.; Union City, Tenn.; and Idalou, Texas.

Not only do Agrium and CPS promote safety education and awareness, but they also live by it. A safety-first mentality is the cornerstone of daily operating practices and procedures. This safety-conscious mentality starts with top organization leadership and extends to all employees. Both companies regularly evaluate
and eliminate workplace hazards and are steadfastly committed to providing employees with superior training and equipment to keep them safe in the workplace.

As the Safety Day program strives to teach children to apply the lessons they learn at a Safety Day to their everyday lives, Agrium and CPS hope their employees take safety lessons learned at the workplace to their families and communities.

Since 2002, nearly $500,000 has been contributed to Safety Days by Agrium and CPS, making the program possible for more than 38,000 children. Both organizations are strong supporters of Safety Days, and believe strongly in its mission to keep rural youth safe. This additional funding will make the program accessible to more than 46,000 additional youth, exposing them to lessons that could save their lives and, ultimately, reduce farm-related injuries and deaths.

Safety Day is a program dedicated to making farm and ranch life safer and healthier for all children through education and training. These one-day events teach children safety and health lessons that can keep them and those around them safer and healthier at home, or on a farm or ranch. Some of the topics explored include bicycle, farm equipment, food and weather safety, to name a few, in addition to 30 other topics for which the PAF provides curriculum and coordinator training.

Agrium is a major retail supplier of agricultural products and services in both North and South America and a leading global producer and marketer of agricultural nutrients and industrial products. Agrium produces and markets three primary groups of nutrients: nitrogen, phosphate and potash, as well as controlled-release fertilizers and micronutrients.

Agrium is the parent company of Crop Production Services, which has been committed to the industry for over 147 years. Crop Production Services provides not only the products farmers require — fertilizer, seed and crop protection products — but also offers many valuable agronomic services farmers need to succeed. Crop Production Services’ rich agricultural heritage helps it understand and meet the needs of progressive farmers by providing diversified services.

The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program is the largest rural safety and health education program for children in North America and a program of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation. The Foundation’s mission is to provide education and training to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities. In 2008, PAF was awarded the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance National Charity Seal, demonstrating its commitment to accountability and ethical practices. Safety Day applications are due each July 15 for Safety Days that will be conducted the following calendar year.

Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® is a registered trademark of Progressive Agriculture Foundation.

Editorial Note: The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® logo and Safety Day photos are available upon request by calling (888) 257-3529.