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GARBACZ RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE

LINCOLN – Stan Garbacz, the Agricultural Trade Representative for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA), has been awarded the James A. Graham Award for Outstanding Service to Agriculture. The award was presented to Garbacz late last week during the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) annual meeting in Vermont.

"All 50 states have the opportunity to nominate a candidate for this annual award, so the James A. Graham Award is quite an honor," said NDA Director Greg Ibach.

Garbacz has developed trusted relationships on behalf of Nebraska farmers and ranchers worldwide, including China, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom, Argentina, Mexico and many others. Ibach said Garbacz's work in these markets has benefited Nebraska's agricultural economy and resulted in the attraction of additional business to the state.

"Stan has been instrumental in the expansion of existing agricultural markets and the development of new markets. His efforts through the years have literally meant the movement of millions of dollars of Nebraska agricultural goods into domestic and foreign markets, on behalf of Nebraska's farmers and ranchers," Ibach said. "He is well-deserving of this award."

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Garbacz began his career at NDA in 1979 as a Budget, Finance and Personnel Officer; in 1987 he became the Administrator of the Ag Promotion and Development Division, until 2006 when he became NDA's Agricultural Trade Representative.

NASDA represents state departments of agriculture on policies and programs to promote the American agriculture industry, while protecting consumers and the environment. Nebraska is a member of the organization.

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MEDIA: A photo of Mr. Garbacz with the James A. Graham Award is available. To request the photo, please email christin.kamm@nebraska.gov.