## PRESS RELEASE



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## Open House Set for New American AgCredit Stockton Office

~ Local officials to cut ribbon on Friday, Feb 6

(STOCKTON, CA) – American AgCredit, the nation's seventh largest Farm Credit Association, will celebrate the opening of its new office in Stockton at 2345 E. Earhart Avenue, adjacent to the Robert J. Cabral Ag Center near the Stockton Metropolitan Airport.

Set for Friday, Feb 6, from 11:30 am to 3 pm, the event will begin with an official ribbon cutting, followed by appetizers and refreshments. Invitees include local officials, agricultural business representatives, and other dignitaries. Dennis Goldstrand, President of the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, will lead the ribbon cutting.

This new office will provide agricultural financing for dairies, wineries and vineyards, field and row crops, livestock, and other specialty tree crops located in San Joaquin, Amador, Sacramento, El Dorado, Calaveras, Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

"American AgCredit had a shared vision of a consolidated ag campus in San Joaquin County," said Senior Vice President William "Bud" Bensley. "We are happy that the vision has become our reality and we are well-positioned to continue to support this vital agricultural region."

Situated on 1.22 acres adjacent to the newly-opened Robert J. Cabral Ag Center, the facility is 14,692 square feet, with 26 offices, a patio, conference and gathering areas, as well as extensive parking space.

Constructed within the expansive Ag campus, the new office sits next to the San Joaquin County Ag Commissioner's Office, Office of Emergency Services, and the University of California Cooperative Extension. American AgCredit is the first non-County development on the Ag Center campus, setting the standard for other businesses.

The new office was designed by the Belli Architectural Group and built by Nordby Construction. The circular design – with offices on the perimeter and common areas in the core of the building – was created to allow extensive views of the surrounding area, and minimize the need for artificial lighting. The foyer features a painted mural by artist Elizabeth Brownrigg.

## About the San Joaquin County Ag Center

San Joaquin County's Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center officially opened September 12, 2008. The \$29 million, 55,000-square-foot Center was named after the late county supervisor and former director for the San Joaquin Farm Bureau.

The Center hosts a 9,400-square-foot conference center, seats up to 500 people, and was built to be environmentally friendly. American AgCredit will be celebrating its Annual Customer Appreciation Dinner at the new conference center on Thursday, March 12, 2009.

## About American AgCredit

Founded in 1916, American AgCredit is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System, and is the nation's 7<sup>th</sup> largest Farm Credit cooperative. American AgCredit specializes in providing financial services to agriculture and rural customers throughout California and Nevada, as well as to capital markets customers in 27 states across the nation.

Financial services provided by American AgCredit include production and mortgage financing, short and long-term loans, real estate loans, equipment and vehicle leasing, lines of credit, and a Young, Beginning and Small Farmer Program. In addition, the organization provides interest-free loans for qualifying 4-H and FFA AgYouth programs, as well as college scholarships to young people interested in agriculture.

For more information about American AgCredit's financial services, call 800-800-4865 or visit the website at www.agloan.com for a listing of offices by region.

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DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 99: Arch Road exit west. Left on Pock Lane.