

Senator Bennet honored

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, has been named a recipient of the American Farm Bureau's "Friend of the Farm Bureau" award and the National Farmers Union's "Golden Triangle" award for his work on agriculture policy and legislation supporting rural communities.

"Colorado's farmers and ranchers are enduring one of the toughest growing seasons in decades because of severe drought conditions that have hampered crop and livestock production. Yet they continue to work day in and day out to provide our country with a safe and reliable food supply," Bennet said.

"Over the past two years I spent countless hours learning from farmers and ranchers from all corners of Colorado as we worked together on the 2012 Farm Bill. The result was a bill that reflected the values and priorities of Colorado's rural communities. It is an honor to be recognized by the American Farm Bureau and the National Farmers Union. I look forward to continuing to stand with you and fight for Colorado's rural communities—beginning with a call for the House to pass the Farm Bill."

The "Friend of Farm Bureau" award is given at the end of each Congress to members of Congress who were nominated by their respective state Farm Bureaus and approved by the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors.

This award is based upon voting records on the Farm Bureau's priority issues established by the board of directors, number of bills that a member has sponsored and co-sponsored, specific leadership role for Farm Bureau on priority issues and how accessible and responsive that member is to Farm Bureau members and leaders.

The National Farmers Union presents the Golden Triangle award annually to members of Congress who have demonstrated leadership and support policies that benefit America's family farmers, ranchers, fishermen and rural communities. This year's Golden Triangle recipients were selected for their leadership on a variety of issues, including early discussions for the next farm bill and protecting agriculture from even deeper cuts during budget negotiations earlier this year. This is Bennet's third Golden Triangle award.

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