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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Your checklist for a successful Expo visit**

TULARE, Calif.— Traveling to the Central Valley of California to attend the world’s largest agricultural expo will be an adventure for all who attend. Following are tips designed to make attendees’ visits as smooth as possible.

***Use time wisely***

World Ag Expo offers agriculture’s best equipment, technology, products and services from more than 1,600 exhibitors. You will see a wide variety of exhibits, seminars and agricultural innovations at this one-stop shopping place – World Ag Expo – in Tulare, Calif.

***Save time...advance tickets***

You can avoid standing in line at Expo by purchasing tickets through the International Agri-Center prior to Jan. 31. Tickets may be purchased by credit card from the website at [www.worldagexpo.com](http://www.worldagexpo.com) or by calling 800-999-9186 for specific details.

***Act now for hotel reservations***

Early hotel reservations are encouraged because rooms in the Visalia and Tulare area are in short supply. If hotels in those two communities are already full, check vacancies in Fresno to the north, or Bakersfield, to the south. Both Fresno and Bakersfield are approximately a one-hour drive from World Ag Expo in Tulare.

***Hours, admission***

Hours for the 40<sup>th</sup> annual World Ag Expo are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 13 and 14, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15. Admission is \$9. A three-day pass is available at the discounted rate of \$24.

***Directions by car***

The Expo site is located just off Highway 99 in Tulare, midway between Fresno and Bakersfield. Traveling north on Highway 99, exit Avenue 184 or Avenue 200, and follow the signs. Traveling south on Highway 99, exit at Paige Avenue or Avenue 200, and follow the signs. Those traveling from the Porterville and Visalia areas may use the new entrance off Turner Drive on the east side of the Expo grounds.

***Parking or quick Park and Ride shuttle service***

Free parking is available on the Expo grounds, but attendees are encouraged to utilize the free, off-site parking services. Fast shuttle service directly to the grounds is available at:

- Horizon Outlet Center at the Prosperity Avenue exit off Highway 99 in Tulare

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- Tulare County Fairgrounds on K Street in Tulare
- Mid-Valley Cotton Gin on J Street and Cartmill in Tulare
- Tulare's Mefford Field, at the Avenue 200 exit off Highway 99
- Visalia Mall at Walnut Avenue and Mooney Boulevard

A free shuttle bus will travel from each of these locations to the International Agri-Center every 15 minutes, except for the Visalia Mall location, which will depart every 30 minutes. Attendees can purchase admission tickets at the parking area to avoid standing in line at the Expo grounds. Shuttles operate from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Handicap parking and free wheelchairs are available on the grounds. RV parking with no hookups or dump station is available on the Expo grounds at \$7 per night.

### ***Emergency road service***

The Automobile Club of Southern California provides free emergency road services daily during World Ag Expo. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Services include assistance with changing tires, jumpstarting dead batteries, emergency supply of fuel, lockout service and minor mechanical first aid. If you are in need of service, look for the blue and white Auto Club Event Support unit in the parking lot or call 559-688-3896.

### ***Travel by private aircraft***

Airfields are located in Tulare, Visalia, Bakersfield and Fresno. Due to safety regulations, please contact the airfield before planning to arrive by private airplane.

Private aircraft can land at Mefford Field in Tulare. FAA tower frequency is 126.4. Temporary ground tower truck frequency is 121.05. Jet A and 100 LL fuel are available. For information, call 559-684-4310 or fax 559-685-2323.

Mefford Field is located three miles southeast of downtown Tulare. Transportation: Free shuttle service to and from Mefford Field is available during World Ag Expo. Taxis: Dial-A-Ride, phone 559-688-5706.

### ***Helpful tips for everybody***

- Dress casually. Be prepared for the possibility of occasional rain.
- Information booths are located along the East and South Greenbelts and near Gate 16. Each booth will have a computer with a searchable database. Volunteers will assist you in searching the database and locating company exhibits.
- You won't go hungry at World Ag Expo. Food booths offering a wide variety of delicious fare are located along the Greenbelt, which forms a "U" shape on the grounds. Booths are operated by local non-profit organizations.
- ATMs will be available on the show grounds (locations to be determined.)
- Special barbecue for early arrivers on Monday evening, Feb. 12. Open to all World Ag Expo visitors and exhibitors, the annual Kiwanis barbecue will be at 5 p.m., at the Tulare Veterans Memorial Building, 1771 E. Tulare Ave., just a short drive from the exposition grounds. Tickets cost \$10 at the door. Exhibitors receive two complimentary tickets in their packets.

*The 40<sup>th</sup> annual World Ag Expo is Feb. 13 – 15, 2007. The Expo will celebrate 40 years of innovative agriculture and the role it has played in serving farmers, ranchers and industry exhibitors as they work together to farm for the future. For more information call 800-999-9186 or 559-688-1751 or visit [www.worlagexpo.com](http://www.worlagexpo.com).*