**Veterans Encouraged to Register for the Two-Day AgriFuture Educational Institute Conference**

**May 17-19**

Albuquerque/Embassy Suites Hotel (1000 Woodward Place NE)

**(ALBUQUERQUE)—** Veterans interested in working in the agriculture industry are encouraged to attend the AgriFuture Educational Institute May 17-19 in Albuquerque at the Embassy Suites Hotel, located at 1000 Woodward Place NE.

This is a unique opportunity to learn from and network with professionals from a number of different fields in the agriculture industry. The conference kicks off with a farm-to-table reception hosted by *New Mexico–Taste the Tradition* Chef/Ambassador Rocky Durham.

One of the topics to be discussed is *Opportunities for Veterans and Military F**amilies* on Wednesday, May 18. This session features a panel of representatives from Not Forgotten Outreach/Homegrown by Heroes, New Mexico State University’s AgrAbility Program, Horses for Heroes, and USDA Rural Development.

Other session topics focusing on agriculture as a career include:

• Future of Agriculture • Financial Management • Generations of Agriculturalists: The Louis Family from the Pueblo of Acoma • Experiences with Using Agencies • Food Hubs • Marketing Your Agribusiness • Transition and Land Succession •Stress Management

• Opportunities for Getting Started

“Veterans play an important role in the New Mexico community, so we encourage veterans interested in getting involved in the agriculture industry to take advantage of this great opportunity,” said New Mexico Agriculture Secretary Jeff Witte. “AgriFuture is an incredible event that can open a number of doors for veterans to become new agriculturalists.”

**Pre-Registration Required**

For individuals new to the agriculture industry, the registration fee is only $50 and includes the conference, meals and a two-night hotel stay. The registration deadline is Thursday, April 7. To register, go to<https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/agrifuture>. The first 150 registrants will receive a copy of the book Connectable: How Leaders Can Move Teams From Isolated to All In by Steven Van Cohen and AgriFuture keynote speaker Ryan Jenkins.

For more information, please contact New Mexico Department of Agriculture Director of Public Affairs Kristie Garcia at krgarcia@nmda.nmsu.edu or 575-646-2804.