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FACT SHEET

Jefferson Farm & Gardens

Who: The Jefferson Institute is building a new educational farm on the southeast edge of Columbia, Mo. The institute is a nonprofit dedicated to agricultural education and research.

What: **Jefferson Farm & Gardens** will be a multi-purpose facility that showcases contemporary Midwest farming and gardening. It will emphasize educational programs for new or current farmers, school children and the general public. It will also serve as a base for research and marketing programs carried out by the Jefferson Institute.

Current estimates project over 30,000 visitors annually, including 10,000 school children.

Attractions: a Visitor Education Complex with exhibits, a reading room, classrooms and a teaching greenhouse; a lake; children's garden; children's barnyard, demonstrations fields of common and alternative crops; and demonstration gardens, including: a Jefferson Garden, genetic diversity garden, native plantings, fruit and vine crops, and other ornamental areas.

When: The farm is currently under development and is expected to open to the public in 2009. It will be open year-round.

Where: The farm is located one mile east of U.S. Highway 63 on the south side of New Haven Road next to the University of Missouri Horse Farm. The address is 4800 New Haven Road.

Why: Jefferson Farm & Gardens will promote understanding of modern agriculture.

1. Unlike living history farms, the farm will focus on contemporary agriculture.
2. It will likely have the greatest diversity of economic plants grown on a single U.S. farm.
3. Where feasible, we will use agricultural products and energy sources (eg., biodiesel) on the farm, along with other renewable products and energy sources.

Funding: The farm is currently funded by a variety of governmental and charitable foundation sources.

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