



Schafer Names Members to the Mushroom Council

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 16, 2008 -- Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer appointed three members to serve on the Mushroom Council. They will serve three-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2009 and ending on Dec. 31, 2011.

C. Gregory Sagan, Region 2, of Plymouth, Minn., is a newly appointed member. Reappointed members are: Greg McLain, Region 1, Gonzales, Texas, and Hank VanderPol, Region 5, Blenheim, Ontario, Canada.

Authorized under the Mushroom Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of 1990, the Mushroom Council administers a national promotion, research and consumer information program to maintain and expand markets for fresh mushrooms. The council is composed of fresh market producers or importers who average more than 500,000 pounds of mushrooms produced or imported annually. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service monitors the operations of the council.

More information about research and promotion programs can be found at www.ams.usda.gov/fv/rpb.html.