## **NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## NEW HIRES FOR AJCA HERD SERVICES TEAM

*Reynoldsburg, Ohio, May 1, 2015*—Neal Smith, Executive Secretary and CEO of the American Jersey Cattle Association, announced today that Hannah L. Pierce, Columbus, Ohio, and Jody Williams, McConnelsville, Ohio, will join the organization's Herd Services team to provide key services and customer support to Jersey cattle owners both in the U.S. and worldwide.

"We are pleased to have hired these well-trained, knowledgeable young women," Smith commented. "Both have extensive hands-on animal care and record-keeping experience plus strong computer skills that will help them assist our members and customers with their identification, parentage qualification, and genotyping needs."

Hannah Pierce joins the staff on May 4, having completed a B.S. degree in animal science and equine business management at the University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio. She worked with not only the university's horses, but a range of livestock from dairy and beef cattle to swine and sheep, plus llamas and alpacas. In the summer of 2014, she interned at the Ohio Wildlife Center, receiving and caring for injured wildlife and entering data into the center's information systems. Hannah has also worked for a local horse trainer and in food service and childcare. She is a marathon runner, having participated in eight events since 2012.

Jody Williams will begin her responsibilities May 6. She is slated to graduate in August from the Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute, Wooster, with an Associate degree in agricultural commerce. In addition to being a student Ambassador since the fall of 2013, she has worked in the admissions office. Last summer, she was an interpretive guide at The Wilds, the largest wildlife conservation center in the U.S. that manages 30 species, some of them rare or endangered. Jody grew up with Jerseys at Williams Jersey Farm, assisting with daily herd management and general farm work. She is the treasurer of the Ohio Junior Jersey Breeders Association, and previously served as president of Morgan FFA and the Morgan County Junior Fair Board. She received the American FFA Degree in 2014.

The American Jersey Cattle Association, organized in 1868, compiles and maintains animal identification and performance data on Jersey cattle and provides services that support genetic improvement and greater profitability through increasing the value of and demand for Registered Jersey<sup>TM</sup> cattle and genetics, and Jersey milk and milk products. For more information on the association's complete line of services for dairy business owners, visit the website at www.USJersey.com or connect at Facebook.com/USJersey.