The Gar-Lin Dairy in Eyota, Minnesota was awarded the 2017 Dairy Appreciation Award by the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota. It recognizes Gary and Linda Allen and their children, Dean Allen and Dana Allen-Tully for their outstanding contributions to the dairy industry and for supporting the education and research missions of the College. They are the owners of Gar-Lin Dairy which was founded in 1971. The Gar-Lin Dairy Farm employees 44 full-time employees and 5 part-time employees. The dairy consists of 1,950 cows. It has a rolling herd average of 32,458 pounds of milk, 1,191 pounds of fat and 974 pounds of protein.

The College of Veterinary Medicine has worked with Gar-Lin Dairy for 14 years on faculty research as well as providing opportunities for student learning. Gerard Cramer, Associate Professor from the College of Veterinary Medicine, worked with the farm on a hoof trimming research project and Les Hanson, Professor, of the University’s Animal Science Department collaborated with Gar-Lin Dairy as part of a crossbreeding study for nine years. Many veterinary students have helped become better prepared for careers in the dairy industry through the real world training they received on the farm.

Involvement with the College of Veterinary Medicine is also a benefit to Gar-Lin, Dr. Dana Allen Tully says. “Our association with the vet school means that we’re involved in new discoveries and have the opportunity to learn a better way of doing something as we interact with the faculty and help the students,”.

The University of Minnesota greatly values its relationship with Gary and Linda Allen, Dean Allen and Dana Allen-Tully and the entire staff at the Gar-Lin Dairy and is pleased to present them with the Dairy Appreciation Award.