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***Agriculture, Sustainability and the Environment***

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# MABA Honors Agrium, Hahn as Outstanding Manufacturer, Member

*Winners represent leaders in an industry that is driving Michigan's economy*

LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association** has awarded its Outstanding Manufacturer Award for 2008 to **Agrium**, the largest agronomy retailer in Michigan and the leader of CropLife Magazine's Top 100 agronomy retailers. Agrium is a leader in agriculture, manufacturing, advanced fertilizer materials and more.

“Agrium is a major force in world agriculture and it has been a key partner in driving Michigan's economy forward,” MABA President **Jim Byrum** said. “In fact, Agrium has clearly been a dominant force in changing the face of production agriculture – probably more so than any other company in the history of this retail agronomy. From liquid and dry fertilizer blends to site specific agriculture, seed, service and crop protection materials, and now advanced crop fertility materials, Agrium has changed the way we think about agronomy, and especially the retail agronomy industry.”

MABA presented its Outstanding Member Award for 2008 to **Mel Hahn**, a veteran of Michigan agri-business who has been a past MABA board chairman, and former member of the fertilizer committee and board of directors.

“Mel Hahn has been an innovator, engineer, leader and friend to everyone in Michigan agri-business,” **Byrum** said. “Mel's a fixture in the agri-business world. He knows everything about agri-business, from local development authorities and special projects to issues in the industry, what we need to do to strengthen it and leadership across the business.”

*NOTE: Attached are photos of the winners of the MABA awards, and cutlines.*

**(Photo 1)** Left to right: Michael Wilson, Agrium CEO; Ron Restum, Agrium Advanced Technologies; Jennifer Vincent of Michigan Farmer; and Keith Paige, Brad Rivers and Spencer Harris of Crop Production Services; with the MABA Outstanding Manufacturer Award 2008.

**(Photo 2)**: Mel Hahn receives the 2008 Outstanding Member Award from Janelle Brose, Farm Director of the Michigan Farm Radio Network.

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