



## Wilbur-Ellis Celebrates 100th Anniversary By Giving Back

### \$1 Million Gift from Wilbur Family Helps Protect the World's Oceans and Promotes Sustainable Fishing

In 2021, family-owned Wilbur-Ellis marked its 100th anniversary. As the culmination of a year-long celebration, the Wilbur family celebrated the milestone by giving back.

The family is making a \$1 million charitable contribution, to be divided between Global Fishing Watch, which promotes sustainable fishing, and Rare, a leading ocean conservation organization.

The gift honors Brayton Wilbur Sr., who founded Wilbur-Ellis in 1921, and his wife, Dita, who actively supported the civic and cultural life of their communities. Brayton and Dita Wilbur set the example for subsequent generations of the Wilbur family, who have made grants of nearly \$6 million to organizations involved with water availability, food sufficiency, farmworker support, youth tutoring and writing centers, and education in Asia.



### \$25,000 to College Team with Innovative Idea for Feeding the World

As part of the 100th anniversary celebration, the company launched the Wilbur-Ellis Innovation Award, which invites student teams from U.S. colleges and universities to propose new and better approaches for providing food for more people – a critical imperative, since the world population is expected to increase by 2 billion people by 2050.



*"It's very clear. A world where people have enough to eat is a safer, more secure world," said John Buckley, President and Chief Executive Officer. "Since Wilbur-Ellis was founded 100 years ago, we've worked with our customers and suppliers to put food on tables around the world. So, it's appropriate that as a legacy of our 100th anniversary, we're engaging the next generation in this important work."*



Registration for student teams to participate in the Innovation Award is underway now. After the competition is completed in 2022, a \$25,000 award will be presented to the team that submits the best proposal, and \$5,000 honorable mention awards may also be given. To learn more, please visit the Wilbur-Ellis website at [www.wilburellis.com](http://www.wilburellis.com) and click on Innovation Award, or use the QR code to the left.

In looking back at the company's history – and its position today as a leading international marketer, distributor and manufacturer of agricultural products, animal nutrients and specialty chemicals and ingredients – Executive Chairman of the Board John Thacher talked about giving back.

*"As a family-owned company, I'm proud that our 100th anniversary celebration is making a lasting contribution," said Thacher, who is also a former CEO and grandson of company founder Brayton Wilbur Sr.*

*"When my grandfather founded Wilbur-Ellis 100 years ago, he wanted to build something that would last ... that would improve people's lives. In our business, this is what we strive to do every day."*

