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**CYPRESS GROVE CHEVRE RECEIVES GREEN ENTREPRENEUR AWARD  
Cheesemaker Recognized for Support of Local Family Dairies and Land Preservation**

**ARCATA, CA** – (March 1, 2008) Northern California cheesemaker Cypress Grove Chevre (<http://www.cypressgrovechevre.com>), America’s leading goat cheese producer, has a new reason to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary: the company recently received recognition for its sustainable business practices with a Green Entrepreneur award from SAFE-BIDCO, a California organization that recognizes companies that champion sustainable business practices and are committed to environmental stewardship. Cypress Grove was nominated for the award by California Assemblywoman Patty Berg, whose nomination letter noted the company’s “deep commitment to local environmental sensitivity” and the fact that much of its goat milk “comes from small, local pasture-based family farms, preserving open space, and sustaining the livelihoods of small goat dairies.”

Cypress Grove founder and cheesemaker Mary Keehn started making cheese in 1983 after buying a small herd of Alpine goats to provide the healthiest milk for her children. She soon had a surplus of milk and began experimenting with cheese, which quickly led to a winning chevre recipe and demand from Northern California’s best chefs and retailers. “We’ve always believed in being a community-based business and are passionate about preserving the small farms and healthy land that produce top-quality milk,” said Keehn. “I guess you could say that we’ve been a green business since the beginning, 25 years ago.” Assemblywoman Berg presented the prestigious award to Keehn at a luncheon ceremony in Sacramento on March 26. The SAFE-BIDCO Green Entrepreneur awards, which are in their sixth year, support its mission to cultivate economic development through programs for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

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