



June 22, 2008

## **Pilgrim's Pride Corporation Honored for Outstanding Service to Darden Restaurants**

PITTSBURG, Texas, June 22 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (NYSE: PPC), the nation's second-largest poultry company, was recently honored by the world's largest casual dining restaurant company with its top supplier award.

Darden Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE: DRI), which owns and operates more than 1,370 Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Bahama Breeze, Smokey Bones Barbeque & Grill and Seasons 52 restaurants, recognized the poultry producer for helping develop new marinated jerk-flavored chicken breasts for Bahama Breeze. Pilgrim's Pride was one of only nine of Darden's 2,000 suppliers to win the award.

"We are pleased to be recognized with this important award," commented O.B. Goolsby, president and chief executive officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation. "This achievement reinforces our commitment to quality and highlights our company's mission of 'outstanding customer service ... every day.'"

Darden's Distinguished Supplier Awards, in their ninth year, are presented annually to Darden suppliers whose innovative solutions significantly contributed to Darden's growth during the previous year and provided the company's guests with outstanding dining experiences. The award is named for the company's late founder and restaurant industry icon, William B. Darden.

### About Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation is the second-largest poultry producer in the United States and Mexico and the largest chicken producer in Puerto Rico. Pilgrim's Pride employs more than 40,000 people and has major operations in Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Mexico and Puerto Rico, with other facilities in Arizona, California, Iowa, Mississippi, Utah and Wisconsin.

Pilgrim's Pride products are sold to foodservice, retail and frozen entree customers. The Company's primary distribution is through retailers, foodservice distributors and restaurants throughout the United States and Puerto Rico and in the Northern and Central regions of Mexico. For more information, please visit <http://www.pilgrimspride.com>.

### About Darden Restaurants, Inc.

Darden Restaurants, Inc., based in Orlando, Fla., employs over 140,000 people and records annual sales of \$5 billion. For more information, please visit <http://www.darden.com>.

### Forward-Looking Statements:

Statements contained in this press release that state the intentions, hopes, beliefs, anticipations, expectations, outlooks or predictions of the future of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and its management are forward-looking statements. It is important to note that the actual results could differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements include: matters affecting the poultry industry generally, including fluctuations in the commodity prices of feed ingredients, chicken and turkey; additional outbreaks of avian influenza or other diseases affecting the production performance and/or marketability of the company's poultry products; contamination of our products, which has recently and can in the future lead to product liability claims and product recalls; exposure to risks related to product liability, product recalls, property damage and injuries to persons, for which insurance coverage is expensive, limited and potentially inadequate; management of our cash resources, particularly in light of our leverage; restrictions imposed by and as a result of, our leverage; currency exchange rate fluctuations, trade barriers, exchange controls, expropriation and other risks associated with foreign operations; changes in laws or regulations affecting our operations or the application thereof as well as competitive factors and pricing pressures; risks associated with the acquisition of ConAgra Foods' chicken division including possible unknown liabilities assumed in connection with the acquisition and loss of customers of the acquired business; inability to recognize the anticipated cost savings and anticipated benefits in connection with our turkey division restructuring; and the impact of uncertainties of litigation as well as other risks described

under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

SOURCE Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

**Media Contact**

Cameron Bruett  
Communications

Phone: +1 970.506.7801 | Email: [cameron.bruett@jbssa.com](mailto:cameron.bruett@jbssa.com)